

Livonia PTSA Council Executive Board Meeting

April 20, 2022

In attendance: Andrea Malenfant, Mandy Gerstenbrand, Kara Clarke, Lynda Scheel, Nikki Watson, Mike Testa, Nicole Dant, Laura Ulaszek, Debbie Yates, Dan Willenborg, Chris Chmura, Kellie Dummer, Sara Bennett, Tracey Scherk, Jon Wennstrom, Andrea Oquist

In attendance via Zoom: Robb Drzewicki, Annie Wilk, Karlee Kerr, Sara Pelletier, Liz Biddle, Kelly Leciejewski

Meeting called to order: 6:08 p.m. by Mandy G.

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Motion by Lynda Scheel, 2nd by Chris Chmura. Addendum noted. Minutes unanimously approved.

Superintendent Report - Andrea Oquist

- Livonia Fine Arts Festival at Civic Center Library until April 27th showcasing students' art.
- Frost Robo Falcons and Livonia Warrior Robotics groups at World's competition in Texas.
- BOE being honored as an Honor Board. Awards of Merit presented to Liz Jarvis and Madeline Acosta.
- Waiting on School Aid Funding Budget from the government. Hopeful to get it by July 1st
- Summer information coming soon for LPS Fun Fridays and summer camps again this summer.
- Presented BOE with renovations plans for 5 schools
- Bounce Back to School event is on! August 24th at Riley.

Elementary Report – Jon Wennstrom

- Jon dyed his hair blue in April for Reading Month because Buchanan met their reading goal.
- Kindergarten information night was well attended.
- PLC next Wednesday afternoon. Students attend in the AM only.
- M-step testing in its 2nd week right now.

Secondary Report – Dan Willenborg

- PSAT done
- Livonia Career Tech Center held Fashion Show last night.
- Middle School Spring Fling happening this Friday for all 3 Middle Schools.
- High School Plays happening this weekend. Seusical, Kodachrome, Anastasia.
- Proms coming up. May 26th for Franklin and Churchill. May 27th for Stevenson.
- PLC next Wednesday. Students attend AM only.
- In process of hiring 2 new athletic directors. Will present names of candidates to BOE on May 2nd.
- Mr. Willenborg retiring in June.

NEW BUSINESS

PAC Presentation – Kara Clarke (has been with WPAC since 2016)

- The WCPAC exists because of the law (IDEA and MARSE)
- Made up of parents and guardians of children with disabilities - PAC Representatives "shall consist of parents of students with disabilities" (Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education {MARSE} 2018).

- Min of 1, max of 2 reps per district/charter.
 - Detroit, due to size has up to 5 reps.
 - Term for each rep is 3 school years, no term limits
 - WCPAC members actively participate in the development and/or modification of the Wayne County Plan for Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services and provides input on matters the committee deems appropriate for the improvement of special education services in the county.
 - Information source for other parents, staff members and interested individuals in their respective communities. Some also serve as education advocates (not a requirement).
 - Meet monthly – 2nd Thursday of every month Sept-June at 6:30 p.m.
 - Each meeting includes a parent training/presentation related to topics that have been identified by WCPAC Members. Meetings are open to the public.
 - Currently meeting via Zoom. When meeting in person, meetings are held at Wayne RESA.
 - To become a WCPAC – prospective members are nominated by their local school board/district. That nomination is sent to RESA and presented to the WBOE. 3-year term begins on the day of approval by the WBOE.
 - We utilize the Remind system to keep our members and members of the community informed about meeting dates and any urgent matters.
 - Like the WCPAC, the LPAC exists due to rules in the MARSE.
 - LPAC Led by Dr Pat Mies, principal at the Western Wayne Skills Center
 - There is parent representation from the schools in LPS and meet bi-monthly. Each meeting consists of a training or education piece related to students with disabilities and that all parents are welcome to attend.
 - The next meeting for both these groups is on Thursday, May 12th. LPAC meets at 6p and the WCPAC at 630p.
 - The LPAC will be an open forum, so we are able to find out what topics people would like covered next year.
 - WCPAC will have an OT from LPS presenting on picky eating. She presented last year, and it was one of our most requested and attended presentations.
 - Last meeting of the year in June will have a few different districts and organizations presenting on post-secondary transition.
 - May 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., WCPAC Special Recognition Ceremony. Celebrate and honor those that have made a positive impact on/for students with disabilities throughout Wayne County. Some amazing Livonia educators will be honored.
- For more information: <https://www.resa.net/teaching-learning/special-education/parent-advisory-committee>

IEP/504 Binder Organization Workshop Presentation – Andrea Malenfant

- Proposing a new event/workshop that Council would make available to all LPS families, especially families with special education students.
- This workshop would provide families with the materials and information needed to help them keep IEP/504 information organized and ready when they need it. It will also provide an organized way to collaborate with teachers and their IEP team.
- Materials needed would be a three-ring binder, six tabbed section dividers, pre-printed forms.
- Would like the pre-printed forms always available on Council’s website for families to download and print when they need additional copies.
- Would request the presence of special education representatives from the district as well as other district members, to explain their role and answer any questions.

- A power point presentation would be shown on how to organize the binder and distribution of the binders.
- Will use a Google Doc to make this an RSVP event.
- Stated that Andrea would seek donations and maybe Council holds a fundraiser at Shake Shack to fund this. Andrea Oquist stated that she would like to take this proposal to her Chamber Colleagues to see if they would fund this. Andrea M. will provide a proper proposal.
- Unanimous agreement on moving forward with this event. Discussed holding it in October of 2022.

YMAD – Nikki Watson & Debbie Pline

- Celebration will be next week on April 28th at Churchill.
- Have over 400 participants.
- Getting the word out about the event needs to be done by unit chairs. Nikki will send a reminder to all unit chairs and boards.

Election of LPTSA Council Executive Board for 2022 – 2023 – Lynda Scheel

- Slate presented by Lynda S.
- There were no nominations from the floor for any of the positions.
- Motion to nominate the slate as presented by Lynda S., 2nd by Nicole D. Unanimously approved with quorum.
- **Elected officers for LPTSA Council 2022 - 2023:**
 1. President – Andrea Malenfant
 2. VP 1 – Sara Bennett
 3. VP 2 – Mandy Gerstenbrand
 4. Treasurer – Debbie Pline
 5. Recording Secretary – Kellie Dummer
 6. Corresponding Secretary – Mike Testa

Officer Training – Mandy G.

- May 18th at 6pm.
- Sent email to Franklin principal to reserve Franklin LMC.
- Agreed to make breakout sessions longer.
- Have the group session focus on Parliamentary Procedures.
- Offer snacks again.

National PTA Bylaws Updates – Andrea Malenfant

- NPTA will be voting to amend their bylaws at their National Convention in June.
- One of the Proposed amendments states:
- Article VIII – Elections and Appointments Section 2. Officers and Board Members
 - A. Eligibility
 - 1. No member of the nominating and leadership recruitment committee shall be eligible to be slated or self-nominated for election until at least one calendar year has passed following the end of their term on the committee.**
- This could prove problematic in the future not only to Council, but to units as well. It may make the creation of nominations committees more difficult.
- Lynda S. recommends sending a letter to MI PTA regarding these concerns as some of them will be present at the NPTA convention and can pass on the concern.

OLD BUSINESS

Founder's Day – Kellie Dummer

- Kellie has created a spreadsheet and list for future planning of Founder's Day. If anyone has suggestions to add, let her know.
- Mandy G. suggests not printing as many programs as many were thrown out. Maybe do a QR code at tables to scan for the program with a few paper programs scattered at the table.
- RSVP for dietary needs also suggested.

Reflections – Debbie Yates & Andrea Malenfant

- Awards ceremony was on April 12th and went well.
- 4 state winners, 2 of which are advanced to the National competition. Expecting results by May 1st.
- The State celebration will be during the MI PTA Convention.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Nicole Dant

- Total Deposit of \$6,085.00 from Founder's Day, Donations, and YMAD (LEADS)
- Check #'s 294 – 301 for admin fees, Founder's Day, Churchill Music boosters, Reflections program printing, YMAD Printing of certificates totaling \$4,423.38.

2nd VP Report – Kellie Dummer

- Email sent from LPS Education Foundation to all unit Presidents about any donations to the Foundation they could make.
- Our Council logo is on the Frost Robo Falcons robot at World's competition!

President – Mandy G.

- Math APPs and ELVS will be sending out something soon to get volunteers per Patty.
- Mandy G., Andrea M., Mike T., and Kellie D. met Mr. Liepa before today's meeting to hear his presentation on the Michigan Learning Channel. It is a FREE learning resource that can be utilized by teachers and parents. Can be used in the classroom by teachers. Mr. Liepa will send us more information so we can spread the word and present it to LPS.

Membership – Sara Bennett

- Currently have 2,662 members. Up 400 members from last year.

PEP – Sara Bennett

- Coolidge PTA one member away from getting 250 PEP points for achieving last year's membership number.
- April 30th is the last day to get PEP points for this year.

Advocacy – Mike Testa

- Sharing from MI PTA Call to Action: "MI PTA for Safe Schools" sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation. This would train teachers and staff how to spot seizure activity in students.
- MI PTA supporting the "Decline to Sign" which would take away funds that support public schools. Petition is set up to go to Lansing.
- MI PTA supports extension of the Free Lunch Program for students.

DEI – Debbie Yates

- February through April made 16 Facebook posts on diverse topics.
- Has been a part of the Engagement and Equity Task Force which is comprised of parents and staff in the district. They meet monthly. Their main focus has been ways to communicate their wishes and concerns to the district.
- They have discussed holding an art contest related to Inclusion and Diversity.

Website – Debbie Y. & Laura U.

- Laura has joined Debbie on updating the website.

Bylaws & Policies and Procedures – Andrea M.

- Andrea M. has asked Nikki W. if she would like to chair bylaws for the following year. Nikki has agreed. Unanimous agreement from Council.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. by Nikki W., 2nd by Chris C.