

Livonia PTSA Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 1/20/2021

In attendance: Amanda Gerstenbrand, Andrea Malenfant, Robb D., Lynda Scheel, Sara Bennett, Mr. Willenborg, Kellie Dummer, Jon Wennstrom, Julie Turk, Debbie Yates, Mike Testa, Debbie Pline, Nikki Watson, Chris Chmura, Nicole Dant, Andrea Oquist

Meeting Called: 6:04 p.m. by Mandy

Approval of November Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Lynda S., Mike T. 2nd. Approval unanimous.

Superintendent Report: Andrea Oquist

- Welcome back. F2f students back in school. Shout to everyone.
- District is hoping the state will be moving to stage 1B soon for vaccinations. Supply is the biggest issue. Staff have been surveyed for who wants the vaccine.
- Asking for time to speak at a Council mtg regarding the No new tax bond proposal for 2021. Council will hold a meeting on February 10th for this. Will get the word out to units.
- Debbie P. asked if Livonia Virtual is being considered for next year also by the district. Mrs. Oquist stated that it is being considered and that they have had many requests for it. They are certainly looking at it.

Elementary Report: Jon Wennstrom

- Mr. Green has been visiting all the elementary schools.
- Things are going smoothly with kids getting back into the groove of things.
- K-6 are about to start their 2nd round of i-Ready testing.
- On MLK day staff did Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training.
- Picture retakes are coming up.

Secondary Report: Mr. Willenborg

- Have been back f2f 2 days for secondary students.
- Next week is the last week of the semester. New semester starts Monday February 1st.
- Students will get their 2nd semester schedules on Monday Jan 25th.
- Fall sports has finally finished. A swimmer at Stevenson won state championship.
- Winter sports are allowed to condition but no contact. They can start competing on Feb 1st.
- Looking at a mid March start for spring sports.
- Secondary will be having virtual conferences again. It was highly preferred by both staff and parents.

NEW BUSINESS

Reflections: Debbie Y.

- We had 76 participants from 15 schools and 98 projects were submitted. 54 projects are moving on to the state competition.
- Looking to have a virtual ceremony. A video of congratulations for each school.

Founders' Day: Kellie D.

- Information about virtual celebration went out to all units.
- There was feedback on Facebook from units having issues on choosing nominees because of the unusual year.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Malenfant

- Some units want to opt out or nominate a group instead of an individual. Because of the circumstances this year, Council has agreed to allow either option for this year only. Hopefully no one opts out.
- Council will pay for signs for the unit nominees (2 signs for Elementary and 3 for secondary) from the UPS store with a quoted price of \$14 per sign.
- Council unanimously agrees to amend the budget to reflect that there will be no income in the Founders' Day budget this year, just the expense.

Nominations Committee: Mandy G.

- It's time to form Council's nomination committee.
- Robb D. volunteered and will lead the committee
- Lynda S. and Nikki W. have volunteered to be on the committee.
- The committee will meet after speaking to current officers on whether they are interested in serving another year.

Michigan PTA'S Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Document: Mandy G.

- MI PTA sent out their newly adopted document on DEI to all Councils and units in MI.
- Mandy has an email out to MI PTA on how they want us to proceed with it and utilize it.

Treasurer's Report: Nicole D.

- Made 3 deposits for membership
- Deposited Greenmeade event money under donations
- Expense check to Mandy for the Council Zoom account

Budget: Nicole D.

- As stated earlier, unanimous agreement on Founders' Day line item change to reflect expense only.

Corresponding Secretary Report: Robb D.

- Congratulations letters sent to the 4 elected BOE members from the election in Nov.
- Also sent Thank you for your service letters to those running for BOE who were not elected. Invited them to join Council if they are interested.

President's Report: Mandy G.

- Received a thank you card from Kellie D. for the basket for the passing of her father.
- Received a letter from Livonia's Save Our Youth organization about working with Council. Will invite her to speak at a meeting regarding the offer.

Advocacy: Mike T.

- Invited Laurie Pohutsky to our March meeting/workshop. She has accepted and will be giving a general update and is willing to take questions on specific topics that anyone is interested in.
- January is School Board recognition month. Asked Mandy to write up something for the January newsletter.
- Would like Council to consider an endorsement for the "No new tax bond" proposal after it is presented at the February meeting.
- Will remind units that some companies do matching donations.

ELVS: Debbie P.

- Wants to check with Amanda to see if she still wants to run ELVS. And the same with Patty for STEM.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Malenfant

Newsletter: Andrea M.

- Survey results about newsletter. 17 responses. Almost all positive. A couple people complained it was too long. Suggestion to have each board spotlighted. Maybe for next year?

Membership: Sara B.

- Current membership total is 2,153 members. Still down from last year.

PEP: Sara B.

- Changing the Founders' Day PEP points due to it being virtual.
- Units will get 100 points if they submit their Founders' Day nominee video on time (Feb 7th)
- Units will get 100 points if they submit their nominee Google doc form on time (Feb 7th)
- Current PEP standing and breakdown can be found on Council's website.

Website: Debbie Y.

- Everything has been updated.
- Added the YMAD forms
- Updated contact info

YMAD: Debbie P. & Nikki W.

- Information and forms sent to all units.
- Hopefully will know more in a month or so on how to celebrate.

Open Discussion:

- Mike T. asked if there can be a petition to the traffic commission about getting a turn light at West Chicago and Middlebelt for Emerson. Mrs. Oquist stated that they have asked for this also with a study and statistics and the commission replied saying that the district would have to fund it all. The commission stated that it was not a high priority area.
- Special council meeting on February 10th at 6pm

Meeting Adjourn: 7:52 p.m. Motion by Kellie D., Robb D. 2nd