

## **Livonia PTSA Council EB Meeting Minutes (Virtual)**

**November 18, 2020**

**In attendance:** Mandy Gerstenbrand, Kellie Dummer, Sara Bennett, Chris Chmura, Nikki Watson, Mike Testa, Jon Wennstrom, Dan Willenborg, Debbie Yates, William Green, Lynda Scheel, Debbie Pline, Nicole Dant, Patty Novak, Monique Cadoret, Andrea Oquist, Andrea Malenfant

**Meeting called** at 6:04 p.m. by Mandy

**Approval of September meeting minutes:** Motion to approve by Kellie D., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Debbie P. Approved unanimously.

### **Elementary Report – Jon Wennstrom**

- Transition to online learning delayed one day at Buchanan due to power outage
- Getting positive feedback from parents so far about online learning process

**Mr. Green** – Reach out if anything needed.

- If f2f pause is extended Special Education students could possibly do f2f learning for a couple hours each day like they did during safe start September. It will depend the COVID data and they will take it day by day.

### **Secondary Report – Daniel Willenborg**

- Expects an announcement regarding special education students in regards to online learning before Thanksgiving
- Parent Teacher conferences today and tomorrow for high schools. Parents received links for conferences. Still a learning curve for this.
- Microsoft Teams is what was used for conferences. Missed conferences due to technology issues can be rescheduled. Robb D. offered support if needed in order to help parents navigate Microsoft Teams.
- Athletics postponed by MHAS. Football could finish in December if we are able to return on December 7<sup>th</sup> as planned. All competitions suspended until after winter break. Spring sports and any tournaments may be delayed as well.
- Kellie D. suggests more emphasis for athletes not having after parties, team dinners, etc., which were happening. Mr. Willenborg stated that the district has sent multiple communications in regards to this.

### **Superintendent Report - Andrea Oquist**

- District continually monitoring COVID numbers and consulting with the city, county, and MDH. The pause in f2f was due to rapidly increasing numbers in the city.
- Over 450 students have been in close contact quarantine
- The district is hopeful to bring back special education students earlier; replicating the safe start September model.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Malenfant

- Contact tracing is being done internally within the district due to the county being overwhelmed. It is being done by Dr. Taiariol, Katie Dodge, Keith McDonald, and Nakia Bright.
- Parents have been doing a good job of respecting confidentiality when it comes to positive cases and are complying well with contact tracing.
- LPS is following the close contact definition of the MDH even though the CDC recently updated theirs. A difference of consecutive vs cumulative minutes.
- Jackson Center as well as all child care programs in Livonia are governed by LARA and must adhere to the CDC's updated definition of close contact.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Memberhub Training – Kellie D.**

- Really should be an in person training. Too difficult to do virtually. Hoping to set up a date when f2f resumes.

### **Founder's Day – Kellie D.**

- Going to ask unit for ideas of how they want their honorees represented and celebrated now that the original celebration is canceled.
- Have a planning meeting with the Council EB during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of December.
- Andrea M. to put information regarding ideas in the newsletter.

### **Treasurer's Report – Nicole Dant**

- Checks written for reimbursement for MI PTA Conference and for Insurance. Membership Deposits.

### **Corresponding Secretary – Robb D**

- Suggests congratulation letters to the newly elected school board trustees.
- Also suggest thank you letters to Crystal Frank and Nichole Hoskins-Goudreau and invite them to join Council.

### **Chamber of Commerce – Robb D.**

- The chamber will be sponsoring a table with hot cocoa, water etc. at Green Meade's Holiday Lights outdoor celebration on 12/5 – 12/6 and 12/12 – 12/13. The proceeds from the table will go to each organization that helps work it. Recommend Council work it.
- Chamber's Giving Tuesday is on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Putting our name in.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report – Kellie D.**

- LPS Education Foundation Distributed 15 grants in LPS to diversity related projects (Arts, libraries, resources for adults, etc.) Totaling \$20,000.
- Council liaisons for lower elementary schools should encourage their units to discuss the Competitive Edge Program for kindergarten families at their meetings. They can still sign up until the end of January on the LPS Education Foundation website.
- The time frame to collect Competitive Edge funds for the class of 2020 has been extended.
- 3 LPS High School students recently won an essay contest on diversity.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Malenfant

### **Advocacy – Mike T.**

- Recommend inviting state reps or city council members to attend one meeting a year with Council.
- Jon Wennstrom speaks with Laurie Pohutsky often and can set that up with her.
- Mandy G. suggests making it a workshop

### **Bylaws and Policies & Procedures – Andrea Malenfant**

- Motion to approve the new section on virtual meetings in Council's P&P presented in September by Andrea M. Motion approved unanimously.

### **Male Engagement – Robb D.**

- No safe way to do Chili Cook Off this year.
- Suggests a possible outdoor summer event. Grill Off?
- Suggested online auction
- Andrea M. to put in newsletter about cancelled Chili Cook Off

### **Membership – Sara B.**

- 1,997 members total so far. Low compared to this time last year. Down by about half.
- Shout out to 6 schools for having 50% of their membership from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Emerson, Frost, Kennedy, Johnson, Grant, and Webster.
- How to help units with their membership? Tip or help sheet?

### **P.E.P. – Sara B.**

- Updated PEP sheet will be in the newsletter and on website.

### **Reflections – Debbie Y.**

- Friday Nov 13<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for entries. Received 80 entries. Half of last year's entries.
- Film production entries deadline extended to November 20<sup>th</sup> due to pause in f2f learning trapping some High Schooler's entries in the school.
- Judges have been assembled
- Will have a virtual celebration

### **Website – Debbie Y.**

- Asked Mike T. if voting information still needed at the top of the page. He said no.

### **YMAD – Nikki W**

- Need chairpersons for several units
- Andrea M. to put in newsletter
- Try to create a list of COVID friendly ideas for kids to still be able to do volunteer work, but safely.

### **Next Meeting January 20, 2021**

**Meeting Adjourned** at 8:03 motioned by Robb D.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Malenfant