

## Lunenburg PTO meeting minutes

October 17, 2016

In attendance: Karen Chow, Meredith Weiss, Sherry Nolan, Sue Soukamneuth, Ami Powers, Lisa Stone, Maribeth Ford, Michelle DellaValle, Corinne Jones, Sarah Call, Alix Lind, Sarah Coronella, Andrea Moore, Lisa Harrison, Allison Melvin.

Karen Chow stated how pleased she was with the Miles for Myles event held on 10/16/16. Everyone worked hard and the day went smooth.

I.

- a) Superintendent Calmes reported that she also enjoyed the MFM event, she felt it was a great community building event and went very well. She also felt that the September PTO social was a great way to bring more community members together too. All the schools again this year are working on strengthening the school-community bond by working together. With a very large focus on identifying and helping students and staff members with mental health issues.
- b) Ami Powers asked how the later start time is being received? Superintendent replied that she felt that there was a positive energy and attitude throughout the buildings, but at this time no official data has been collected.
- c) October 22, 2016 is a day full of community events
  - 11:00 open house to the new LMHS. All major spaces will be open
  - 12:00 homecoming parade. Float theme is Steven Spielberg movies
  - 12:45 dedication ceremony for the LMHS
  - 2:00 football game
- d) Paul Richards from the SHINE Initiative was introduced next. This program services Central Massachusetts mostly with children and young adults on the Middle and High school levels with ways to identify and then cope with mental health and addiction issues. Through education they want to stop the stigma of mental illness.
  - SHINE has introduced the idea of S.W.A.T (Student Wellness Advisory Teams) to many schools. This is a student run program that encourages students to be able to understand that #1 Mental illness is an illness of the brain and #2 Be able to identify signals and ask others if they are ok and need help. Superintendent Calmes said that LHS is working on creating their own S.W.A.T.
  - SHINE offers an in-depth "Mental Health toolkit". It is a booklet filled with specifics regarding mental illness and how to get help.
  - Much more information and the "Mental Health toolkit" can be found at [www.shineinitiative.org](http://www.shineinitiative.org).

- II. Membership: Ami Powers reported we currently have 267 members. \$4,045 in membership fee's while \$1,038 is in donations.
- III. Finance: a) A gifting budget discussion will happen at a later meeting.  
b) Allison Melvin has filed the annual report with the state of Massachusetts regarding non-profit organizations.
- IV. Fundraising: Sarah Call and Corinne Jones reported the following
- Trolls movie is 11/6, 96 tickets sold as of now.
  - Barnes and Noble fundraiser in December. Date tbd.
  - Sarah Call has spoken with the owners of Inspire fitness center about a possible fundraiser sometime in early 2017.
  - Idea's for next meeting's agenda: family BINGO night, adult trivia, movie geared towards an older audience.
- V. Publicity: Sherry Nolan reported the following
- Troll's movie flyers all set to go out to the schools.
  - Blurb about Troll's set to go to the Ledger
  - MFM "thank you" to go to the Ledger with photo
- VI. School Committee: Meredith Weiss reported the following
- JV football is including 8<sup>th</sup> grade players for some of the season's games.
  - Ballot question #2 continues in an ongoing discussion.
  - Parking lot of the LMHS will be completed after homecoming.
  - LMHS greenhouse should be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - MCAS results from spring 2016 are in. Most area's went up, overall happiness with the results.

**Next meeting November 14, 2016**