

Lunenburg PTO Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2017

In Attendance: Alix Lind, Ami Powers, Carrie Millier, Heather LeClair, Julianna Hanscom, Tim Santry, Maribeth Ford, Melody Hendry, Meredith Weiss, Karen Chow, Sarah Call, Kristen Wright, Corinne Jones, Jessica Frank, Sarah Coronella, Andrea Moore, Jill Blaisdell, Brian Spadafino, Allison Melvin.

I. Principal Updates:

LPS Principal Blaisdell

- a. Money gifted from the PTO covered the entire field trip bus fees last year! The kindness rock project and new tables for the 2nd grade are well liked and appreciated from the RFF money given by the PTO last school year.
- b. Over 50 Veterans were in attendance at LPS's Veteran's Day Assembly! Mrs. Swenson did an amazing job preparing the children with songs. The school is very proud at how respectful and well behaved the students were.
- c. Emotional intelligence curriculum is continuing. Staff and students are using the language and implementing techniques into their daily classroom discussions.
- d. A preliminary budget has been submitted for review. The request for a sixth 2nd grade teacher is included in this budget proposal. Keeping class sizes low is a priority.

THES Principal Champagne

- a. It was a positive turnout for open houses. New staff and new teacher teams have had a chance to settle in.
- b. Penny Wars fundraiser earned over \$6,000!!!
- c. Girls on the Run program went well this fall. A program that promotes self confidence in girls. They are preparing for the upcoming 5k they will be attending. This program will hopefully be offered again next fall.
- d. Sixteen security cameras have been installed. The software company is working out a system glitch.
- e. Students have been using the Aimsweb testing program to gain practice with online test taking. The new MCAS are taken on computers. There is concern because THES does not currently have enough Chrome Books for an entire grade to take MCAS.

f. To clear up any confusion resulting from term 1 report cards. Grades and comments from special's teachers are only given at 2nd and 4th term report cards. Special teachers were available by appointment during parent-teacher conferences.

LMS Principal Santry

a. The year's focus has been somewhat of a 'Passion Push'. LMS is working hard to provide students with opportunities to try new activities. There are over 200 students involved in after school activities. Science Olympiad, Ski club and photography club are some of the more popular ones to mention.

b. Starting in December 6th graders will participate in a TaeKwonDo class once a week.

c. Money given by the PTO last school year went towards the computer program IXL. Students can utilize this program in school and at home, it leads the student through four subjects at his/her level.

d. A preliminary budget for next year has been submitted. Discussion for future 1 to 1 technology initiative in grades 7 and 8 has begun. With students currently utilizing Chrome Books in class and at home it would be beneficial for the student to have continuous access.

LHS Principal Spadafino

a. Fall athletic teams and marching band were all successful this year. Thanksgiving eve football game will wrap up the fall sports season.

b. Controversial ruling with LHS female golfer brought attention to LHS. It was a lesson to all how a situation can take off when social media is involved. LHS is proud at how well the student conducted and represented herself. They plan to challenge the MIAA regarding future policy changes.

c. Homecoming...looking for ideas or suggestions on ways to change the day up a bit. Maybe have sport teams, other than football play as well.

d. The ROAR initiative was well attended and a great conversation starter. Also served as a strong reminder that signs of mental illness should not go unnoticed or ignored.

e. Officer Sean Zrate of LPD is the school resource officer. It has been a successful relationship between LHS and LPD.

(LHS cont.)

f. Accreditation is up for renewal in 2020. It is now a three year process, starting with year one of self-reflection followed with a growth plan to improve the school leading up to accreditation.

g. A career fair will be held around January. It will be mostly student planned and run, but LHS is looking for volunteers to help with speaker procurement.

JULIANNA HANSCOM-DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

a. At October's PD day teachers participated in training regarding restraining and de-escalation tactics for the classroom. Teachers from different grades and schools have been working together while focusing on how to make transitions easier for students.

b. English Language Learner (ELL) program currently has 28 students in district. There are three families who have relocated to Lunenburg from Puerto Rico since Hurricane Maria. There are procedures in place anticipating more relocating families.

PTO HAPPENINGS...

Currently have a estimated 280 members.

Idea for PTO publicity would be to submit an article to the Lunenburg Ledger about what the PTO has done and what is coming up (similar to Principal's Corner).

TaeKwonDo fundraiser for grades K-5 will be pushed via social media and email. The flyer cannot be distributed through the schools, due to the fact that it is felt to be direct marketing to the students.

Fundraising idea: Shutterfly (Corinne will look into).

Next Meeting December 11th 7pm