

Lebanon Borough School
PTA Meeting
4/7/25

Attendance: Heather Berg, Bruce Arcurio, Brandon Borzelli, Kristen Abeles, Joyce Petty, Amy Adamaitis, Diane Doluvich, Mike Pepe, Carrie Fordham, Charlie Fordham, Fiona Fordham, Jim Fordham, Leah Driscoll, Emma Driscoll, Ella Driscoll, Ruth Karavidas

Paperwork: Agenda, Treasurers Report, Log of Expenses/Deposits

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Heather Berg.

Presentation from LBS Sixth Grade

- Heather Berg welcomed everyone and introduced Joyce Petty. Joyce Petty introduced the Sixth Grade class, saying they came up with an idea to improve our LBS community during a Civics lesson. They would like to update and restore our water fountains, and are requesting funding from the PTA.
- Emma Driscoll, Charlie Fordham and Mrs. Petty gave a presentation on this issue, in which they illustrated the need for new and improved water fountains, as well as their plans for implementing it.
 - Currently, the quality of our water is not pleasing. Many children don't come to school with water bottles, or they need to refill their water bottles over the course of the day. This issue impacts most students; addressing it will help generations of students to come.
 - Emma Driscoll introduced a signed petition with over 20 signatures from students and faculty.
 - The Sixth Grade proposed two new water bottle filling stations, which would have the option of drinking directly from the fountain as well. The cost of installing a new filling station for water bottles would be \$1500-\$2000, with an installation cost of \$300.
- The presenters then took questions from the group:
 - What would be the locations of the proposed fountains? Emma Driscoll thought one should be located near the Sixth-Grade classroom. Dr. Arcurio said that if there are two fountains, one should be placed near the gym.
 - How many fountains are proposed? Emma Driscoll stated that they would like to start with one fountain, with the option of an additional one in the future. Dr. Arcurio stated that if the aim is to start with a single fountain, it would make sense to place it outside the gym where all students are able to access it.
- The group reacted favorably to this idea, and the following comments were made:

- Mike Pepe noted that he has seen a lot of enthusiasm around this idea. Emma Driscoll clarified that there is more excitement for the bottle-filling fountains than the classic fountains.
- On the PTA funding, Heather Berg said that the PTA Board will discuss and respond to the Sixth Grade about how much the PTA can contribute. Dr. Arcurio noted that if the PTA can't fund the full amount, the petitioners could bring their presentation before the Board of Education.
- The supplement any PTA contribution, Charlie Fordham suggested that there could be a fundraising event for this. Brandon Borzelli suggested a Student Council Fundraiser, and Mike Pepe proposed a flower sale. Heather Berg suggested the Sixth Grade might set up a fundraising booth at the PTA's May event. Dr. Arcurio noted that if the Sixth Grade chose to go before the Board of Education, they would be in a more favorable position to request money if they already had some fundraising money in hand.
- All agreed that it was an impressive presentation, and Joyce Petty noted that Emma and Charlie took the lead on it. Dr. Arcurio noted that the Board would respond well to the children taking the initiative with this issue. Joyce Petty said she was impressed that the class views this as a legacy contribution, and not something they will personally benefit from.

Treasures Report

- Currently we have \$4186.88 in the account. There hasn't been much activity in the last month.
 - This includes a single mystery donation of \$37.00, and PTA dues of \$36.00.
 - Brandon noted that most years we spend about \$2000 from now until this end of the year. Last year, we brought in \$1100 at year's end. If this holds, we would have around \$3000 to start the next school year.
 - Brandon said that this would leave us some money to contribute to, but not cover entirely, the cost of the fountain.

Old Business

- There was no old business to report.

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Book Fair

- This will be held on April 28-May 2.
- Heather Berg noted that we can now spend our Scholastic dollars at our own book fair, which is an easier way to spend our Scholastic dollars. Heather Berg will mention this to Lynn Francisco, as we currently have thousands of Scholastic dollars, and we haven't spent any of them since Mandy Bowers left.

Teacher Appreciation Week

- This is happening May 5-9.
- Dr. Arcurio said that Bensi was a hit with the teachers last year, and all agreed we should do that again. Heather Berg will ask the teachers which day of the week they prefer for this.

- Ruth Karavidas asked whether it was acceptable for PTA members to cook for the staff, provided it is gluten-free. Dr. Arcurio says that is absolutely fine.

Taste of Lebanon Event

- This is currently scheduled for May 16, 6:30-8:00pm. The premise is that participants cook something, as attendees wander from table to table, taste-testing. At each table will be a donation jar, and attendees will “vote with their dollars”, adding cash to the jar associated with their favorite table.
- Heather Berg suggested requesting a donation from the Lebanon Pub for the grand prize.
- Heather also suggested looping in the water fountain fundraising somehow. Mike Pepe suggested that Student Council have a fundraising booth at this event.
- Heather Berg suggested upholding “Costco Rules”, for food safety. This means that no child will be served without a guardian present. In addition, we will encourage participants to list their ingredients.
- Heather Berg recommended a door fee to raise additional funds.

Miscellaneous and Upcoming Dates

- Our End-of-Year Ice Party will be on the last day of school.
- We are available for anything Mr. Torres needs for Field Day. Someone from PTA will reach out and ask him what he needs.
- Upcoming dates: Graduation is June 3, Spring Concert is June 5 and Field Day is June 6.

Heather Berg adjourned the meeting at 7:03pm.