

Lebanon Borough School

PTA Meeting

6/2/25

Attendance: Heather Berg, Kristen Abeles, Mike Pepe, Tammi Sarnoski, Ruth Karavidas, Danielle Valliere

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

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

CSA Report (delivered by Mike Pepe)

Academic Programs & Testing

- NJSLA state testing has been completed for all grades 3-6 in ELA, Math, and Science
- Our Special Education monitoring review resulted in excellent feedback from the state monitor, with praise for our systems and procedures

Student Activities & Field Trips

- Grades 3-6 enjoyed their educational field trip to the Morris Museum
- K-3 classes visited Fairview Farm for hands-on learning experiences
- Preschool and kindergarten students explored nature at Echo Hill Park
- 2nd Grade successfully held their Colonial Day celebration with parent attendance

6th Grade Transition

- Clinton Public School counselors visited to meet with our 6th grade students, bringing LBS alumni to share their experiences and answer questions about middle school
- 6th graders attended a Somerset Patriots game with their future Clinton Public School classmates as part of transition activities
- This evening parents will have their orientation at CPS (which is where I am)
- Tomorrow our 6th graders go over to CPS for their orientation. They meet with their classmates and do some activities together before having lunch and returning to LBS.

Staff Appreciation

- Thank you to the PTA for organizing an outstanding Staff Appreciation Week with daily treats, supplies, and a special gluten-free lunch from Bensi that accommodated our staff's dietary needs

Upcoming Important Dates

- June 4: Early Dismissal - Inservice
- June 4: 6th Grade Promotion 6:30pm
- June 5: Spring Concert/Show - 6:30pm
- June 6: Field Day
- June 9: Field Day Rain date
- June 10: Early Dismissal
- June 10: 4th Grade Poetry Cafe 11:00am
- June 11: Early Dismissal - Last Day of School
- June 11: 6th Grade Clap Out - 12:35PM
- June 11: Water Ice on the blacktop - 12:45PM
- June 17: BOE Meeting 6:30PM

Field Trips

- Fairview Farm - Tammi Sarnoski reports that the Fairview Farm field trip was not as successful as in previous years. She says the children would have benefitted from a more hands-on experience. Perhaps the lack of organization was due to the unexpected rain cancellation.
- Echo Hill Park – The Pre-K and Kindergarten classes had a wonderful time at Echo Hill Park. It was fun and well-organized. As usual, the opportunity to play in the water was a group favorite.

Treasurer's Report

- Currently we have \$3652.88 in the account, including the following:
 - Reimbursement from the last field trip.
 - \$275.00 in donations to the PTA
 - \$75.00 contribution to the Sixth Grade Promotion
 - \$75.00 payment to the Parks Department for their presentation at the Scholastic Book Fair
- **Danielle Valliere will replace Brandon Borzelli on the PTA checking account. Brandon's name will be removed and Danielle's name will be added.** Ruth Karavidas notes that this change must be handled in-person at the bank.
- Tammy Sarnoski mentions that there is one Scholastic box remaining since last year's sale. Kristen Abeles will contact Lynn Francisco, the organizer of the sale, to make sure the PTA has not been charged for the extra box.

PTA Board

- The PTA Organization needs an officer list. We need to find out in the bylaws whether another formal vote is necessary, or if we are operating on 2-year terms.

Old Business

- Mrs. Petty followed up about the Sixth Grade's request for the PTA to contribute toward a new water fountain. The PTA can donate \$250.00 for this. Heather Berg will send an email to Mrs. Petty to confirm. Additionally, the PTA also offers to allow students to fundraise for this cause at PTA-sponsored events.

Upcoming Events

Field Day

- The PTA will provide pizza lunch, ice and snacks for Field Day.
 - Kristen Abeles will provide ice and a cooler, as well as ice pops.
 - Heather Berg will purchase and slice watermelon and bring it to school on Thursday evening at the Spring Concert.
- Mike Pepe reports that the Student Council will be hosting a Family Feud game during Field Day.

Taste of Lebanon Event

- This event has been moved to October due to conflicting priorities at the end of the school year; this will allow more time for planning.

Italian Ice Celebration for the Last Day of School

- Heather Berg suggests reaching out to the Maglione family to see if they can donate Italian Ice for this event.

Popsicles in the Park Event

- Heather Berg suggests a Popsicles in the Park event, tied to Kindergarten orientation, as a way of welcoming new families. Someone from the PTA could then speak at orientation and introduce the PTA to new families.
- Tammi Sarnoski says that presently there are 10 students currently enrolled in PreK that will be moving to Kindergarten next year.

Miscellaneous Items

- Tammi Sarnoski compliments the PTA on its work this year. She hasn't heard of any suggestions from the staff as to what we can do additionally.
- Mike Pepe mentions school trips are a great place to invest PTA funds. They are as valuable as assemblies, and not as expensive. All present agree.

- Heather Berg likes the idea of an author visit next year. In particular, Mike Cicatello and Mike Dawson do hands-on graphic novel sessions. They are affordable and NJ-based. Additionally, we could collaborate on this with another school to reduce costs. Kristen Abeles will put this on agenda for next year.
- County Park Department programs are always great and affordable options for the 25-26 school year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm by Heather Berg.