



District PTO Meeting Minutes

Jan 11, 2023

10-11am

In Person: District Office Conference Room or [Zoom](#)

Attendees:

Lisa Leali, Amy Connell-Donahue, Wendy Engelland, Rae Dobosh, Josh Fox, Nicole Elliott

Superintendent Update: Dr. Lisa Leali

Administrative team is discussing how to bring back the importance of assessments for buy-in by the community, parents, and children. Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) is what the district is judged upon so it is important that the kids take the tests seriously. IAR is based on common core standards. MAP scores are interim assessments that are purchased by the district for actionable data. The kids are not motivated to take all of the standardized tests. This is a focus of the administrative team to determine how to balance the need for tests/data and the overload of tests.

Musical (Mar) and Washington DC trips are coming up (Feb)

100th Anniversary of the Board of Education. Having a celebration and trying to collect pictures. There will be an exhibit at the LB History Museum.

District will have a new website that will be rolled out over the summer.

Dr. Leali emphasized that she is excited to have parent talks.

Starting strategic planning and need parents to help. There will be about 3 meetings/intensives.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Teegarden

1. Bank Balance 12/30/22: 222,529 (222,136 as of yesterday)
All bank statements and financials are located here: [LB 2022/23 Monthly Financials - Google Drive](#)
2. Dec22 P&L
 - a. 7,538 Income (4.7k relating to teacher appreciation donations)
 - b. (14,686) Expense due to teacher appreciation gifts/events, 2,240 paid to engineer on MS Sport Court)



- c. = 7,148 Net loss for month
- 3. YTD P&L
 - a. 80,318 Income
 - b. (112,713) Expense but 62,554 is capital projects (courtyard)
 - c. = (32,395) net loss but +30,159 profit when excluding capital projects
- 4. Courtyard
 - a. \$60,314 spent against \$65k budget through 11/30/22.
 - b. Team to confirm if any Dec expenses should be coded to courtyard.
- 5. Budgets & Forecasts - Google Drive
- 6. Yearbook Income
 - Steve following up with Jay on income PTO is due since last transfer Jul22.
 - PTO to take over the process in May (extract from school's registration).

President Report: Nicole Elliott

Approval of [Nov 2 Minutes](#): Motion to approve by Rae and Josh.

- Teacher/Staff Gifts-Gave 100% of parent/guardian donations to all MS teachers, all staff and administration within D65 (LBES teachers received classroom gifts). \$63 in cash was given to 120 people.
- LBMS: Sport Court Update
 - Architectural Review Board Meeting: Dec. 6
 - Result: Recommendation for Approval
 - RIO/PCZBA Meeting: Dec. 15
 - Result: Recommendation for Approval
 - Village Board Hearing 1: Jan. 23
 - Village Board Hearing 2: Feb. 13
 - *Will seek permit following Jan. 23 meeting, if successful and will work towards a spring installation.
- Spring Adult Social?
 - Due to significant sponsorships, we would like to have a social event to further promote sponsors and allow for an adult service + social opportunity. Will work on ideas by the next meeting.
- Tax Letters for Sponsors
 - Template tax letter was sent to Josh who will work to get out to sponsors by the end of the month for tax purposes.

Fundraising/Community Partners: Josh Fox

- Will work to get out tax letters to sponsors by the end of the month for tax purposes.



LBES Update: Megan Hadler (via text update due to illness)

- Winter Break Bingo - we had almost 200 submissions! Megan is working on prizes, etc. All LBES students went home with cocoa packets & a bingo board before break.
- Winter parties went so smoothly! Thanks to Melissa & Kelly. Great job!
- Coordinating with Fill a Heart 4 Kids to plan our Spring Service project. Hoping to do a cash collection and then pack backpacks with food items for kids who don't have access to food over the break. Dates TBD
- Upcoming Events:
 - 1st grade social (kids): 1/26 3:30-4:30 @ LBES - park & cocoa
 - 3rd grade social (kids): 2/3 6-8pm @ LBES - dance & games
 - Valentines Day parties 2/14

LBMS Update: Allyson Perry

No update; no meeting in December.

Teacher/Staff/Administration Appreciation: Lauren Hirsh/Alex Benz

- Sweets table for holidays at both schools. Worked well to do it the Thursday before break; LBES gave boxes to bus drives too; will consider using Uline cookie boxes next year.
- Will do a meal for parent teacher conferences in February.

Communications: Rae Dobash

Will be doing next update in January

New Families: Kristi Helmer

No update

Bluffer Activities Updates: Melissa Wussow

- Virtual Report provided in advance:
- Tacos El Norte was only \$44- but I think that was just a day that had too much going on. Diego would love a repeat soon; working with them for alternative dates.
- Gus'- Dina reached out to me to set up a night with them.
- Too close window on Milwaukee Pretzel Company for Super Bowl- but super promising fundraiser- going to keep in pocket for next year when I can plan further ahead
- Talking to Daves Coffee Cakes about a sale that falls around Easter weekend. Will keep you posted as I have more details.

**Alliance Update: Megan McIntyre**

Needs to transition her role due to work schedule; seeking new representative.
Thank you for your help, Megan!

Spirit Wear Update: Wendy Engelland

Spirit wear sales brought in \$660 for holidays, but did have to build some inventory to meet minimum requirements, which cost approximately \$300. It was decided to donate the excess inventory to the middle school so that the items could be given as awards or borrowed if a student needs a sweatshirt, etc. Mr. Blackmer was extremely grateful and said the items were needed.

APT Update: Amy Connell-Donahue

Dr. Lenart spoke and there were about 4533 conferences were booked, which was up. Still doing virtual, which has positive feedback. Did Veteran's day celebration. Dr. Lenart has grade advisory meetings (4-5) students from each grade. Theme is inclusion. The idea is to find something extracurricular for everyone. There are about 95% of students that participate in something. There will be speakers for the students. How to bring students in who don't feel part of a group. School report card LFHS was graded as an exemplary school; however SAT scores fell as they did everywhere. IAR is also being used to judge high school performance, but the kids don't take this seriously either. Good Gobble grant—thank the teachers at the high school. Pat Sassen (Dir. of Ed. Support Services) spoke about career connections. Open Doors is in Feb, which is a day that offers job shadowing opportunities. There is a Career Fair in Mar for kids looking for summer jobs. Scout intern program also exists. Professional seminars—speakers regarding careers that people can sign up for. There is a technology center at College of Lake County (where Lowe's was in Gurnee) that focuses on Clean Manufacturing and can be witnessed by those who are thinking about manufacturing job.

May 6 is prom and it will be off campus

Hot chocolate Fridays, candy in the commons, Paws for Patrick, April is smoky meats and coaches bbq and serve the students. May 15 is Wellness Walk and there are different senior events in the second semester.

There is a huge referendum that will be voted on April 4, 2023.

105.7M dollars: Electric, plumbing, HVAC, lab renovation, West facilities, etc.



1st phase of improvements occurred from the existing budget but needed for the 2nd and 3rd phases. Redoing the support services area so that it is not in such an obvious location and can offer more services. It would be cheaper to completely rebuild; however the historic status of the building prohibits that.

Since much of the funds are desired for needed infrastructure, there is general support; however, a counter argument is that the district has been not as fiscally responsible as they could have been.

For both East and West campuses. For more information:
<https://www.lakeforestschoools.org/Page/1463>

End of Meeting: 1/11/2023 @ 11:18 AM; Minutes taken by Nicole Elliott