

**Lake Bluff District PTO
January 20, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

meet.google.com/yro-jnok-ayw
Or dial: (US) +1 317-747-1198
PIN: 964 335 756#

9:00 AM – Superintendent Update: Dr. Lisa Leali

The administration is beginning to look at different options for next school year. The thought is that we need to still have a remote option for the next school year, if kids can't get vaccinated by the next school year. Question was asked if we can always keep a remote option for when normal absences occur. It is being discussed and could be achieved with additional technology. This is more likely to be implemented at the high school level, as there is more independent learning at that level. Concerns are that it could be taken advantage of with extended vacations, use of second homes, etc. Is there the potential to provide a continual remote option with additional funding by the PTO? An alternative view was voiced that there is the opposite desire within the community to resume synchronous in-person learning, especially for the younger children and be off the chrome books. Dr. Leali stated that for this year, we will have to stay the course to allow for contact tracing; however, the hope is to get back to more of a traditional school format next school year.

How is the district progressing in terms of academic scoring? MAP testing is not a perfect reflection of the current state, as the testing is in a different environment than the normal schooling. Math is a known area of risk and an area that the district is providing additional focus. It has been difficult for the teachers to cover the depth of the content with the limited time and virtually. The true assessment of the overall effect of the pandemic for the district as a whole and for individual students cannot take place until the teachers have the opportunity to assess the students in-person, as this is a critical element of assessment.

Is there a plan in place to help with the transition to the high school, especially for math? How is the longer-term impact being addressed? As for high school, they are used to assessing the students freshman year because they come from such a variety of schools. The longer-term impact will continue to be assessed but is widespread beyond our districts. Curriculums will be modified to address the gaps.

Another area that is tricky is Foreign Language, as that is hard grasp and learn virtually. The assessment for this area may be a bit different. However, the high school is doing a lot to prepare and the language department is actively working to address the deficits.

9:30 AM – President's Report: Carrie Steinbach

1. Approval of minutes ([District PTO Meeting Minutes 20Nov20](#)). Motion to approve by Lauren Hirsh and seconded by Allyson Perry.
2. There are open PTO positions: spirit wear chair, special events chair and treasurer. These openings will be posted online and will be shared through the newsletter. The link to the PTO meeting minutes is not working correctly. Caitlin to address.
3. PTO activities: Is there potential for spring activity? Perhaps a virtual 5K? Could we get creative by doing something outside? The spring will probably not allow for that, but perhaps in the fall. Illinois Department of Health regulations are the ultimate guidelines that need to be followed to the letter of the law insurance reasons. School cannot allow for large gatherings. Insurance may soon offer riders regarding group gatherings and Covid.
4. "Parenting Through the Pandemic" is Jan. 21. Carrie will be attending.

Treasurer's Report: Sam Beckman

There are \$5,600 net proceeds year-to-date. \$242,000 is the cash on hand in the bank for PTO expenses. The conversations for 8th grade graduation have begun and likely the events will be very similar to last year to align with current regulations. There will be the opportunity to buy Leider's flowers this year to raise funds for graduation.

The scoreboard cost \$6,000 and \$1,200 is the cost for installation. It would be ideal to install while gym not in use. There will be a sign that states donated by the PTO. Agreement was made that PTO will cover installation as there is room in the budget.

Sam would like to begin to transition the treasurer role ASAP so that we file for taxes sooner (August) rather than later (December).

LBES Update: Adrienne Murrill

The LBES meeting was pretty quick. There is a second secretary position now open at LBES. The fall bookfair made \$885, which was significantly less than the normal fairs. Will still have a spring fair with learnings implement from the fall experience to hopefully improve sales and profits.

LBMS Update: Shawn Gore

Made \$1000 from Minted. Most of the conversation was focused on 8th grade graduation, which is covered in the Treasurer's report. Shawn requested to have a Vice-chair for LBMS for next year.

Teacher Appreciation: Lauren Hirsh

Jay Kahn sent a personal thank you for the appreciation efforts, as administrators were not previously included. \$1600 was received for the sweets table and all but \$25 was used. Remainder put into the holiday fund for teachers. Elementary, Middle and District

were all given treats. The fridges were stocked at all locations. It was only \$1.50 per staff member. May need to put signs up to limit to take one, as fridges emptied quickly. The holiday fund provided more than expected, but this fund will allow us to continue to stock the fridge. Conference night meals are coming up and feedback is being sought for the meal vendor. Lauren has received many thank you notes.

Family Action Network: Jane Duncan

Register on the [FAN website](#) to get updates. There are some great upcoming events on their [calendar](#). All events are free. Jane is attending on behalf of District 65 and the district will purchase the materials. There will likely be an author night with a speaker for social-emotional growth and pandemic issues to help navigate through this year.

Bluffer Night Update: Krista Hugill

Luke's of Lake Bluff Bluffer day/night is January 21 from 10am-8pm. They will give back 30% and it must be in-person or call-in to receive the discount. Panera Bread was suggested for the next event. Will possibly do Suzi Swirl for a year end event.

New Families: Amy Donohue

Only one new family and Amy has reached out to welcome them.

Communications: Caitlin Morse

PTO in The Know will include Luke's Bluffer Day/Night and the position needs for PTO. Will also include LEAD Trivia Night ad in next issue.

Alliance Update: Ann Rieder

Alliance had the 501 3C status reinstated and it is also retroactive. A \$750 grant was provided for math kits and another \$2,500 for supervised remote learning program through the park district. Next meeting is in early February.

APT Update: Allyson Perry

At the last December APT meeting, it was discussed that LFHS is going to try to move forward with prom with modifications. Ideas are to have a gathering over the course of the weekend, with food trucks, outside, etc. Allyson will continue to keep us in the loop as plans progress so that we can try to model them for a potential PTO gathering.

End of Meeting. 1/20/21 @ 9:57 AM; Minutes taken by Nicole Elliott