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SUBJECT: [TEST] Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs Update



January 2024

Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs News



PTA Council Meeting

The role of a Council PTA is to bring together the individual Mt. Lebanon school district PTAs. Council PTA offers support and leadership to the individual units. Council is the umbrella organization over the other 10 independent PTAs in Mt. Lebanon. We bring one voice to all the PTAs in Mt. Lebanon. Click [HERE](#) for more information about PTA Council.

[Click HERE to view the 2023-2024 PTA Council Budget.](#)

[Click HERE to view the 2023-2024 Standing Rules.](#)

The next PTA Council Meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Washington Elementary School.

Visit our Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs website to view information about our officers, committees, meetings and budget!

Information about upcoming events and programs in our Mt. Lebanon Community can be found on the COMMUNITY FLYER page, listed on the left hand side of the webpage.

PTA Council Webpage



Click [HERE](#) to follow us on Instagram!



Click [HERE](#) to follow us on Facebook!

News from our Community Partners



Guest Speaker: Representative Dan Miller

Thank you to Representative Dan Miller for attending our meeting and sharing news regarding his work in Harrisburg!

Mental health is one of Representative Miller's priorities, and he is focused on getting rid of the stigma and reducing the length of wait lists whenever possible.

Representative Miller also shared that financing for education is another issue that he has prioritized. A recent court case (June) regarding vouchers and state funding for special education found that the state does a poor job supporting and funding education. Districts become reliant on property taxes because the state is not paying enough. This will be a big issue fight for money for public education not just vouchers.

Representative Miller thanked parents who are active in the PTA for doing so for the kids whose parents cannot. It really can make a difference in a child's education.

[FLYERS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS THROUGH REPRESENTATIVE MILLER'S OFFICE](#)



School Board Report

The DEI committee is meeting monthly and is currently made up of 16 students, 12 staff and 9 administrators. The largest group of student volunteers hails from the middle school level, which is great because they will be with us for a longer before they graduation. The committee is looking at the goals that were set in 2021, and working to set a vision statement and mission. The committee will be presenting at the March school board meeting.



Mt. Lebanon Fire Department

The department responded to 199 incidents in December, with two vehicle fires and one small kitchen fire. In 2023, we responded to 2,214 incidents, completed over 1,200 fire inspections, 400 fire safety education classes, and close to 200 community outreach activities.

If there is still a live tree in your house, it's time for it to go outside. A dried tree can burn up in 30 seconds. You can see how fast they burn by going to: <https://youtu.be/26A-49Wb2F4?si=JNamA41o8RcFHATn>

As we get into the colder months, if you are using a space heater, please use them safely. Plug them directly into an outlet—not a power strip or extension cord—and keep anything that can burn 3 feet away. Space heaters need space!

We are continuing smoke alarm installations and fireplace inspections in residents' homes. You can go to www.mtlebanon.org/fire or call 412-343-3402 to schedule an appointment or find out more information.



Mt. Lebanon Public Library

There are new WINTER reading clubs available for children and adults at the library! Stop by to learn more about the great prizes you can win by participating!

During Jan and Feb Sunday the library will be hosting "Funday Programs" for all ages.

- 1/21 - Fairytale STEM
- 1/28 - Patterns at Play

Visit the library website for more information!

Watch for information about our annual Peep Diorama Contest coming in March!



Mt. Lebanon Police Department

In November and December, the Community Outreach Unit completed over 100 lessons in the Elementary and Middle Schools. More mature topics were covered in the Middle Schools, including Vaping, ALICE, Dating, Alcohol, Digital Footprint and

Internet Predators. We are stressing social media awareness and how it could impact their future.

Within the MLPD, we now have an Officer assigned to the Traffic Services Unit. Expect a greater presence in the school zones and other areas of town. The goal at first is education to correct behavior.

A new School Resource Officer for Mt. Lebanon High School was identified and will be announced soon. The Officer will be starting at MLHS in early February. The current SRO, Officer Bryan Henley, is scheduled to retire this summer. He will assist with training the new SRO.

SAFETY TIP: Plan for the inevitable slow drop off/pick up routine due to the higher volume of students riding to school. If your students are still walking, ensure they have reflective materials on their jackets/shoes/bags. Make sure they are taking their time as well to offset the danger associated with slippery sidewalks from ice/salt.



Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education

MLFE is a group of community members whose purpose is to award grants to teachers for innovative programming.

We awarded 4 grants in Dec. Winners will be notified soon. Stay tuned for announcements regarding the teacher grants that were awarded in January! We can't wait to share information about the new programming that will be provided!

We are starting the Spring fundraising drive and the new [MLFE Store](#) is up and running! Fundraising includes t-shirts, sweatshirts, stadium blankets, note cards with designs from our art teachers and tribute gifts. Tribute gifts are a great way to honor a retiring faculty member. Payment is easier now. Thank you to Kelley insurance for their sponsorship!



Outreach

Thank you to Foster PTA and families for organizing the thoughtful donation of art supplies! Thanks to the generosity of this donation, counselors can use the supplies to teach positive coping skills and emotion regulation to our clients. It will also provide our counselors with some great self-soothing and relaxation activities in-between clients.

QPR Gatekeeper training-Just as people trained in CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver help save thousands of lives each year, people trained in QPR learn how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to question, persuade, and refer someone to help. If you'd like to schedule a training, please reach out to Maggie Zangara at mzangara@outreachteen.org or 412-763-3715.

We have new counselors available to see individuals/family/parents! If you are looking for services, please

contact 412-561-5405. You can also put in a request online under Contact-Intake Inquiry Form.

Outreach is offering a social skills group! The age range is currently for 11-13 year olds. The one-hour group will run for five weeks with a scheduled sixth week makeup session at our Outreach office. We currently have a waitlist for this cohort. To register for future sessions, please complete a group intake form on our website at outreachteen.org.

Project Towards No Drug Abuse (TND) is Outreach's new evidence-based Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention program. Our Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor is offering a 3-week group to teach high school students ways to stop or reduce the use of drugs, learn about the consequences of use, and gain positive behavioral and emotional coping strategies. There is also a parent component to learn how to support your teen. Stay tuned for official dates in 2024!

Outreach will host a Murder Myster Dinner at the Crowne Plaza on January 27, 2024 from 5:30-9pm. The title of the event is "Dial M for Mother"- it's Psycho without the shower. Tickets are \$85. This would be a fun date night or girls' night out. Fun night out for friends or date with partners! Purchase tickets online at www.outreachteen.org, click on events, and then Murder Myster Dinner. Get your tickets today!

Connections Gala – Wonderland, April 26th at the Pittsburgh Renaissance. Tickets will be going on sale in March. We are celebrating 50 years of service to our community's youth and families and their mental health and well-being. If you would like to be a sponsor or to donate an item or two for our Silent Auction or our raffle baskets, please contact Tracy London, tlondon@outreachteen.org, and she will send you a donation form. Also available on our website.

Thank you for the PTA's ongoing donation of lottery tickets! They are a very popular item!



Mt. Lebanon Municipality

The new trash and recycling contract started Jan1. Please note that recycling is every other week whole town recycles on the same week. Check our website about trash interruptions as we are no longer sending Lebo Alerts for changes in the trash schedule. Although curbside glass recycling is back we recommend that you continue to take it to collection containers by Kohl's. Taxes are still supporting that bin and a higher percentage of glass that goes into those bins is recycled.

There is a new fee for trash services - \$290 per household. It will be billed like storm water fees. Taxes will go down now 4.19 mils down from 4.5mils

The Tree City USA celebration will be held to commemorate Arbor Day at Foster Elementary School this year.

The Residents Academy has 30 people who have registered. Thank you to Dr. Davis and the school district for continuing to

support this program- we are looking forward to our behind the scenes look at how the school district operates in a few weeks.

The Commission recently approved the 10 year Comprehensive plan for the township.

Do you know someone who volunteers for the Mt. Lebanon community that you'd like to see recognized for their efforts? Nominations for the Community Service Award are due Feb 2.

Mt. Lebanon City Council of PTAs

President - Becki Campanaro

1st Vice President - Jean Thomas

2nd Vice President - Priya Sukumaran

3rd Vice President - Melissa Friez

Secretary - Kelly Latona

Treasurer - Denis Skorskiy

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Immediate Past President: Bonnie Dougherty