

LHS Parent CATS

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2023

President: Megan Huber	Community Outreach Director: Vanessa Stalter
1 st Vice President: Jenny Quilty	Hospitality Director: Donna Griffin & Christine Merrild
2nd Vice President: Amy Neff	Spirit Store Directors: Megan Huber & Michelle Sieks
Treasurer: Ann Rappa	Website: Karen Cordes
Secretary: Rebecca Dobrzynski	Social Media Director: Rebecca Gaples
Activities Director: Meg Carter & Beth Kraft	GOAL: Melissa McGrory
Career Resource Center: Colleen Scopacasa	Principal: Dr Thomas Koulentes
Gym Uniform Director: Jennifer Tepper & Carina Decroes	Fundraising Committee: Trish Graditor (new)

Board Reports:

Megan Huber, President Report:

Welcomed attendees, reviewed agenda.

Grad Party and any other Graduation Matters: Looking to see if any of the Senior parents have started anything with the Grad party. This is not a school sponsored event and is not a Parent Cats led event but Parent Cats assists with outreach. The school will send out a letter with a link for volunteers. The school shares that information with who ever steps forward to lead the event. Parent Cats will do a social media post advertising and alerting Senior Parents that the letter is coming out from the school

Graduation is Thursday, May 24th.

There were some new events that were held in 2021 and 2022 to compensate for the events that students missed during the pandemic. It is up to the Senior Parents if they want to carry on any of those traditions.

Graduation Banners in Downtown Libertyville is organized by the school and will continue in 2022, Parent Cats will help with coordination, sign up and advertising.

Jenny Quilty, 1st VP report

We will be talking about Parent Cats Board for 2024. Already we know the following positions will be open: 1st VP, Community Outreach and CRC. We will also be following up with existing board members to gauge their interest in continuing their positions. We would like to have a slate by March.

Amy Neff, 2nd VP:

Directories are still available in the spirit store, some people who purchased them haven't picked them up yet and some are still available for purchase even if you didn't preorder.

Ann Rappa, Treasurer:

Highlights are:

- Money was raised for Student Treat Days and Staff Luncheons; fundraising allowed those events to be break even
- Not a great deal of activity in December
- As we do a next treat day, we will need to do another outreach campaign
- Good feedback from switch to the Square Site for making donations
- Spirit Store brought in over \$12K and that is break even as well, we will not be buying any more inventory so throughout the 2nd half we believe the profit will increase.
- Balance is getting to a point where we would like to get a wish list from LHS for things we can do to support the entire student body
- Latest budget is attached here:

<https://www.d128.org/lhs/parents/parent-organizations/parent-cats/documents-forms-and-newsletters>

Rebecca Dobrzynski, Secretary:

Minutes have been circulated and distributed at this meeting. A vote was held on November minutes and they were approved for posting.

For Future meetings we will use FAST to approve the minutes.

<https://www.d128.org/lhs/parents/parent-organizations/parent-cats/documents-forms-and-newsletters>

Committee Reports:

- **Activities:** not present, will give an update closer to the winter dance in Late February, look for volunteer sign ups
- **Community Outreach:** Not present, no update at this time.
- **CRC:** not present. New sign up is out for CRC, today's event went really well, over 65 student attendees and these will occur weekly.
- **Fundraising Committee:** Welcomed Trish as the new Committee Lead. Considering some different ideas for engaging more people in activities; including more Parent involvement.
- **GOAL Award:** Melissa was not present; no update, expect an update as we get closer to the spring; applications typically come out in February. More information is on the Parent Cats page and available on the CRC.
- **Gym uniform:** We did a social media announcement to alert parents how to purchase gym uniforms for those enrolled in gym in 2nd semester, we also asked the office at LHS to help sell as well as students come in inquiring about gym uniforms.
- **Hospitality:** Fall Teacher and Staff Fine Arts Lunch was attended by over 200 people, Community did a great job donating treats, chips, water etc. Looking for treat days for the 2nd semester. With the new cafeteria structure the price of hot cocoa went from

\$300->\$2000 so we are reworking on pricing or exploring alternatives. Cookies have also doubled in price so we are looking to some new ideas.

- **Social Media**: Present, nothing new to report
- **Spirit Store**: 8th grade LHS Orientation is January 12th, New shirt for the class of 2027.
- **Website**: Updated the website with the new Fundraising Chair.

Principle Update

- Dr. K gave an update on student course registration, Senior Graduation Party, and ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) grants have provided federal pandemic relief funding) LHS is looking for ESSER Committee Volunteers who want to be on the committee to see how we want to use these funds to address Pandemic related learning loss
- Peer Tutoring or Student Teacher assistant, sign up is available for those who want to tutor others, if a student does three or more a week, they can earn course credit or get NHS hours (one or the other) A
- Also, students can ask Teachers to be Teachers Assistant. This is agreed to on a teacher-by-teacher basis. There is 2nd semester sign up and they can speak to their counselor about making time in their schedule to do this next year.
- Sunrise Rotary is doing a fundraiser on March 11th. They are brining in Second City as part of the event. Proceeds will go to community, District 128 and District 70.
- We also reviewed newly renovated spaces in LHS where we are trying to create more contemporary learning to meet the needs of the next generation.
- Questions
 - Q: Why final semester grades no have +/-?
 - *A: Officially our grading system does not have +/-*
 - Q: Location of Graduation
 - *A: Last year we surveyed the parents, and the parents were split 50/50, Senior Students voted more for Sears Center to have their who family attend and we have a two year contract. We will reevaluate for class of 2025.*
 - Q: Workout weight rooms for teams, not fair as all don't have access
 - *A: There are supervised and non-supervised time open for the gym please contact Mr Woods to understand the schedule and address any concerns about access. We are proud of our weight room and our partnership with IBJI.*
 - Q: Military Recruiters, why don't we do more with that?
 - *A: Our program is personalized because of the low percentage of people reporting interest in the Military. 5 Seniors/10 Juniors this year. We held military Mondays and held sessions with the branches of the military the same as we do with college and university representative. We also offer the ASFAB test for those interested in military service or academy program.*
 - Q: Can we offer Junior ROTC?
 - *A: We can but there hasn't been the interest to justify this*
 - Q: How do we proactively prevent students from bringing guns to school?

- *A: Research has shown low effectiveness of metal detectors. All students enter through a door supervised by a security guard. We are extremely responsive to concerns that arise and stay tuned to chatter. We work closely with the authorities on any concerns. We have an armed Libertyville Police Department in the building every day. We also have an anonymous reporting bot for student to tell us about any concerns.*
- Q: Do we have a drug dog?
- *A: We do have a drug dog that visits the school at various times and spends most of his time in the parking lot but also goes through the school in a random fashion.*

Libertyville Connect Coalition Village is looking at brining in a Cannabis dispensary if anyone wants to discuss that please see Rebecca Gaples.

Libertyville Wellness: Next Meeting will be next Wednesday, January 18th.

Conclusion of Parent Cats Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Next Meeting Wednesday February 1st at 7pm in the library