

ISC EXECUTIVE MEETING

MINUTES

March 2, 2021 – 9-11am via ZOOM

ATTENDEES:

Sindy Agudelo-Nelson, MiniGrants Chair
Sarah Altman, Immediate Past President
Laura Banchemo, VP of Communications
Randi Berry, Member-At-Large
Shirley Clifford, Member-At-Large
Mary Cooke, Treasurer
Karen Dunleavy, Parent Education Series Coordinator
Jenia Keating, Co-President
Ali Liu-Brown, CARE Liaison
Caroline Manogue, Co-President
Cheryl Masterman, Member-At-Large
Lisa Prosnitz, Wellness Coordinator
Lou Savasani, Member-At-Large
Stephanie Tomei, Art Show Co-Coordinator
Peg Wahrman, Staff Appreciation Luncheon Co-Coordinator
Maureen O'Leary – CSE Rep

Budget Review - Mary Cooke

General Fund - \$17,137 General Fund all transportation appreciation collected and paid. Six of 10 schools paid MiniGrant dues – unpaid PW, BC (partial) and LM&HHS. Paid three minigrant reimbursements of \$559. \$2,547 for 8 grants. 5 more pending for almost \$2500, 13 of 26 grants are paid. MiniGrant Fund totals \$15,890.53

Commemorative Tree Update – Caroline Manogue

Caroline M. reported that LMSD is keen about the tree, a letter is going to Mr. Copeland today. Ed Koehler, LMSD's Head Groundskeeper, recommended a sugar maple, which is estimated to cost \$300 and the plaque is estimated to cost \$300 depending on the wording. Caroline M. asked that the Board consider donating up to \$750 to cover the cost of the tree and plaque, noting that the ISC will reimburse the LMSD based on actual receipts so the amount donated may in fact be less than \$750. Karen D. moved motioned to donate up to \$750 to the District for a tree and plaque to the District, and Cheryl M seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Plaque inscription will be:

*In Recognition of our Lower Merion School District
Teachers, Staff, Students and Administration During the
Covid-19 Pandemic 2020-2021*

Gifted by the Lower Merion Interschool Council

A ceremony to plant the tree this spring is being organized, to which the Executive Committee will be invited, date TBD.

CSE Representative – Maureen O’Leary

Inclusion was the Hot Topic last month; Jenny Knox followed up with Caroline for possible future events. Maureen O. reported that CSE has filled out [its](#) board, including Cheryl M. as Harriton HS’s rep. All schools [s](#) now have a CSE rep. She explored potential forums for the upcoming school board candidates to answer CSE’s questions, [noting that there](#) were many CSE questions at the last forum. Lisa P and she will discuss forum options.

Art Show Update – Jessie Burkhardt & Stephanie Tomei

We received 380 submissions. Jessie and Stephanie are putting together Google Slide shows for each school. They are also finalizing an invitation, will submit to newsletters, Thursday folders, and social media platforms. Sarah A. suggested we thank the teachers on the website or slide show, which would require the correct teacher names; Karen and Sarah will call individual schools to confirm names. Caroline M. suggested Jessie and Stephanie acknowledge themselves. Legal permission for reuse was granted by 99% of submitters.

HSA Presidents Update - Jenia Keating

They had a short meeting, mainly discussing 5th grade events. Later the Fifth Grade Chairs met with Laura B. to discuss “best practices” for COVID celebrations. Jenia reminded the presidents to help with Luncheon box distribution. Ali L. participates in Delta Arts, an organization that coordinates assemblies with local school districts and asked that we speak to HSA Presidents about their assemblies for next year.

Mini Grant Update – Sindy Agudelo-Nelson

Sindy A. thanked Mary C. for her help working through some [financial](#) issues this month. LMSD is now sending their reimbursement requests to us. Sindy will send more reminders to teachers for the outstanding grants. We currently have five applications for the 2021/22 cycle, with a deadline of 4/7/21. Possible dates for [the](#) review committee meeting went out.

Update on Parent Education Series – Karen Dunleavy

Karen D. reported that we are hosting an event tomorrow night with Dr. Jeannie Stanley on LGBTQ+ students’ isolation during COVID. The next event will bring Dr. Cindy Boyd on 3/23/21 to discuss self-care during [the time of](#) COVID. The April event’s topic is not set yet, and Lisa P. suggested sleep. Karen will introduce her replacement to HSA presidents and solicit their ideas in mid-April. Mary C. asked if students can attend Parent Education events [and it was noted that generally the topics are geared towards parent/guardians](#). Laura B. reported that tomorrow’s event has 12 registrants, and the next event currently has seven.

ISC Wellness Coordinator – Lisa Prosnitz

Lisa P. attended RASNC’s (Regional Adolescent Sleep Needs Coalition) meeting. LMTownship did not yet discuss Arnold Field lights; their meeting to discuss this was cancelled due to snow and was moved to 3/31. She spoke with the Greenwich CT school district regarding their issue with athletic field lights; their perspective was valuable, but their situation differs from ours.

At-Large Members – Lou Savastani, Shirley Clifford, Randi Berry

Curriculum Committee – Randi Berry: Jason Lily presented an update on the Integrative Math Year 2 program. Dr. Alexis McGloin discussed the plans for the high schools' Senior Projects 2020/21 and continued a presentation of Student Achievement.

Policy Committee – Shirley Clifford: Dr. Tara Doaty discussed “How can we embed equity into our policy work more consistently?” She touched on distributive, procedural and contextual equity. Megan Shaffer presented a draft of LMSD’s Equity Statement.

Facilities & Purchasing - Lou Savastani: The Purchasing Report included traffic signal and turn lanes for new MS, a new boiler for LMHS, building automation (HVAC controls) upgrades for Penn Wynne and Gladwyne, a roof replacement for Cynwyd, and 45 temporary shelters (tents) for numerous schools to create additional cafeteria space for reopening under COVID. LMSD is extending the contract for disinfecting services and is adding bipolar ionization to band and choral rooms at two high schools. Lou offered photos of the new middle school’s progress.

ISC CARE Representative and LMSD Board’s Ad Hoc Committee on Equity & Race – Ali Liu-Brown

Ali L. participated in a highly effective restorative practice presentation with Mike Johnson. She is trying to create a HUES group at HHS and approached their HSA, who declined involvement. She will still proceed without their involvement but solicited the committee for parental partners. She will start with a HHS newsletter featuring all equity issues in one place, similar to what LM’s HUES group is doing. For HHS, they will spotlight HHS’s DEI clubs. April’s Hot Topic will be Cultural Proficiency Across the District, possibly with Taj Byrd. Each school seems to have their own DEI committee and are working on a landing webpage of DEI resources.

ISC Luncheon/Staff Appreciation Update - Marilyn Hurst & Peg Wahrman

Peg ordered the tote bags and worked with Denise LaPera to send out invitations, asking staff to select tuna or veggie or turkey wraps.

Roundtable/Old/New Business - Caroline Manogue

The transportation appreciation banner was at LMHS and is now at HHS. Next week LMSD staff will move it to the Conshohocken bus depot.

There are many positions open for next year’s Executive Committee, and the Call for Nominations are open until 3/15/21. We will then vote to approve them during the April or May Hot Topic/General Meeting.

Upcoming Hot Topics

- March 9th at 9:30 AM via Zoom - New Middle School
 - Curriculum (K-4 and 5-8)
 - Logistics (when and which classes start there, name?)

- April 13
 - Cultural Proficiency & What LMSD Has Been Doing