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SUBJECT: 2022.10.04 - Mt. Lebanon High School PTSA Newsletter [MTLPTA]

October 4, 2022

High School PTSA Announcements



PTSA Meeting

The next PTSA Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26 @ 1pm in room D-205.



PTSA 2022 Membership Drive

Welcome back to a new school year! As part of our annual "back to school" process, it's time for you to review the information we have for your family and become a member of our Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA).

This year, we are again using a software system called Membership Toolkit for our membership, directory, bi-weekly newsletter, e-blasts, and dues/donations. It's easy to join and donate, as well as create (and update) your listing in the PTSA Directory.

- If you were registered with Membership Toolkit last year at the High School, Mellon or Jefferson Middle School, you'll use the same login information.

- If you are new to the district, just create a new login and you will be directed to the same membership pages.
- ***If you are a faculty or staff member, you should have received an email explaining additional options to join as a PTSA Partner. You do not need to sign up using this link.***

[www.mtlebanonhsptsa.membershiptoolkit.com](https://mtlebanonhsptsa.membershiptoolkit.com)

1. Confirm your family contact information.
2. Confirm your directory display preferences.
3. Purchase membership for parent and/or student and make a donation. You can pay membership dues and tax-deductible donations online by credit card (through PayPal) or send a check to Bonnie Dougherty at 271 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15228.
4. Please make sure to sign everyone up with valid email addresses - each member will be automatically signed up for our newsletter and e-blasts.

Some good news - you will not be asked to fundraise for PTSA. Many student clubs and sports teams at the high school organize fundraising sales to support their organizations. To avoid overloading parents with fundraisers, we instead ask for direct donations. Our programs and services are funded solely through the portion of your dues that we keep (part goes to National PTA, State PTA, and Mt Lebanon Council PTA) and through the generosity of your tax-deductible donations. In the upcoming school year, we plan to continue providing support to several different initiatives within the high school, including:

- Classroom enrichment via Teacher Wish List requests
- Student Activities office for grade-specific activities
- Library enhancement
- Health Office support
- Angel Fund in collaboration with the Guidance Office
- Arts in Education/Reflections contest

If you have any questions related to PTSA membership at the high school, please contact Bonnie Dougherty at bonnie_dougherty@hotmail.com.



Volunteer Clearances

The PTSA is always looking for volunteers! In order to volunteer for various activities, you may need your clearances. Most volunteer positions require program volunteer clearances.

Volunteers should submit their Program Volunteer clearance(s) to Dana Martin (danamartin@mtlsd.net) prior to the event or activity that they are assisting with at the high school. Clearances must be updated every five years.

All events through the A.O. require the following:

- [PA Criminal History Record Check \(Act 34\)](#)
- [PA Child Abuse History Clearance \(ACT 151\)](#)
- [FBI Fingerprinting Federal Criminal History \(Act 114\)](#) OR the [Resident of Pennsylvania Affidavit](#) if they have resided in Pennsylvania for at least 10 years. The Resident of Pennsylvania Affidavit must be signed annually.

These requirements can also be found through [the District website](#). It is helpful to post this information in the PTSA Newsletter and wherever volunteers are able to sign up.



Volunteers Needed - Homecoming

There are two volunteer opportunities for this year's Homecoming Celebration!

Six volunteers are needed to help with our annual **Homecoming Parade**. The parade occurs prior to the start of the football game on 9/30/2022. Volunteers are to arrive at 6:00pm and the tasks will end by 7:00pm.

Volunteer tasks include pinning boutonnieres on the male Homecoming Court members, giving bouquets to the female members of the Court, assisting with lining up the students as they walk from the parking lot to the stadium and/or greet the students after they walk across the field from the Visitors side to the Home side. This event will occur even if it is raining!

We also need volunteers to chaperone our annual **Homecoming Dance on 10/15/22**.

Duties include helping to assist with the check in of clothing items and electronics that the students bring to the event, confirm purchase of a dance ticket, collect tickets, serve refreshments, and to monitor the hallways throughout the event. Volunteers will rotate their tasks throughout the night. School administrators, faculty members and Mt. Lebanon Police officers will also chaperone. Parents do not need to assist with cleaning up the Center Court area after this event.

[Please click HERE if you are interested in volunteering for either or both of these events!](#)

Reflections - 2022

Are you an artist?

A composer?

A writer?



A dancer?
A photographer?
A movie-maker?

Then the 2022-2023 Reflections Competition is for YOU!

National PTA has a long-standing commitment to arts education. The Reflections program provides opportunities for recognition and access to the arts which boost student confidence and success in the arts and in life.

Each year, over 300,000 students in Pre-K through Grade 12 create original works of art in response to a student-selected theme. This 50+ year-old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

Submitted by Jason Yevin, from Salk/MacArthur PTSA in New York, the 2022-2023 Reflections theme is **Show Your Voice!**

For more information on how to enter, contact our 2022-2023 Reflections Chair, Ben Dougherty, at bdougherty60@mtlstudents.net.



Volunteers Needed - Fall Blood Drive

We are seeking several volunteers to help with the Fall Blood Drive on October 21.

Responsibilities include: greeting the donors and assisting them with Vitalant's online registration, assisting the student(s) with going and coming on the elevator and possibly walking with the student(s) to his/her classrooms and getting the blood donors a beverage, a snack, and monitoring them before they return to class.

[Click HERE to volunteer!](#)



College Greeters - Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the College Greeter Program. Parents of sophomores, juniors and seniors are welcome to support this activity. Volunteers will assist one day a week (or more if available), either periods 1-3 or periods 7-8 from September 19th - November (please note, November tends to have fewer appointments). Volunteers will greet the College reps, take attendance of students, and be present at the session.

Please fill out [this form](#) to indicate your interest and participation in the program.

An informational meeting, for volunteers, will occur in the counseling office in early September.

Volunteers are required to have all 3 Program Volunteer Clearances.

Below is the link to access the clearances.

<https://www.mtlsd.org/families/volunteer-clearances>

Feel free to contact Beth Schneider (eschneider@mtlsd.net) or Emily Sinar (emilysinar@verizon.net) with any questions.



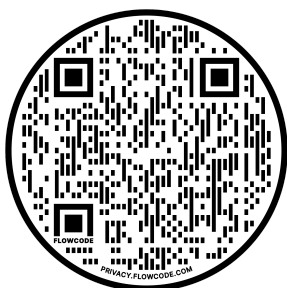
Volunteers Needed for Halloween Door Judging

Eight volunteers are needed to judge the Homeroom doors that the students have decorated. This is a great Mt. Lebanon tradition - one that our students look forward to every year!

A rating sheet will be distributed and the volunteers will judge the decorated doors as they walk through all of the school's buildings, including the Athletic building. All volunteers should consider wearing very comfortable shoes!

[Click HERE if you are interested in volunteering for this event!](#)

PTA Council News



Follow PTA Council on Facebook

The Mt. Lebanon Council PTA is comprised of members from the ten local unit PTAs in the school district. Council PTA is a member of the [State PTA](#) and the [National PTA](#).

Council PTA provides support for all Mt. Lebanon School District PTAs, including training for local unit PTA officers. Additionally, Council PTA provides programs for the district including a district-wide parent education program, and a scholarship program for high school seniors. Please check each school's web page for more information about their PTA unit.

Scan the QR Code to visit our Council Facebook page, where you can learn more about upcoming events throughout the district, and information about PTA initiatives on the local, state and national levels.

School District News and Programming



MTLSD HIRING ACTIVITY SPONSORS

The Mt. Lebanon School District is seeking a paid program director for the Academic Games team. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).

The AG team welcomes student participants ranging elementary through high school.

Learn more about the Academic Games League of America by clicking [HERE](#).

News from the Student Activities Office

MT. LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL

OUT OF THIS WORLD

HOMEcoming

TICKETS ON SALE FOR \$15
THROUGH OCTOBER 7TH

★ PRICE INCREASE TO \$20
OCTOBER 8-15

DANCE AGREEMENT
REQUIRED WITH TICKET
PURCHASE

WHERE: CENTER COURT
WHEN: OCTOBER 15 8-11PM
SEMI-FORMAL EVENT

NOTE: STUDENTS MUST
ARRIVE BY 9PM TO BE
ADMITTED TO THE DANCE

A dance agreement is required and can be found in the Student Activities Newsletter.



Follow us on Instagram!

@Lebo_AO



[Stay up to date! Visit the AO website!](#)



Blood Drive

The first Blood Drive of the year is Oct. 21 during periods 1-6 in D205. We need both donors and PTSA volunteers to help. Adults are welcome to donate blood if they are parents or legal guardians of a current MLHS student. Volunteers for the event can sign up using the PTSA Sign-Up Genius. Donors can email saprea@mtlsd.net or stop by the A.O. for the pledge and permission slips. More info is in the [Student Activities Newsletter](#).



Community Service

Visit the brand new COMMUNITY SERVICE web page for more information on where to volunteer, changes to the program and how to submit your hours!

<https://sites.google.com/mtlsd.net/mtlhscommunityservice/home>

2022-2023 Student Activities Calendar

Good News from the Classroom

Sponsor The Devils Advocate!

Ms. Dawn Davenport, faculty advisor to The Devil's Advocate, would like to share the following link in case anyone may be



interested in sponsoring the school newspaper: [Devil's' Advocate Sponsorship Form](#).

Class of 2026 Officers

Mr. Kuskil is pleased to announce the Freshman Student Council (class of 2026) Leadership Group:

- Presidents: John Anderson and Kat Walters
- VPs: Eleanor Schulte-Albert and Scarlett Sweeney
- Secretaries: Audrey Heim and Liv Meyer
- Treasurers: Ainsley Schmitt and Michelle Yang

AP Government Classes

Mr. DiNardo shares that guest speakers came to share their experience with AP Gov students. Mr. Tom Chidiac, Lebo class of 2008 and now foreign service officer for the State Department, spoke about his experiences in Italy as well as his life path to get to his current job. He shared a similar talk after school with Model UN kids.

Dr. Alex London, father of senior Josh London and professor of Philosophy at CMU spoke about ethics and policy. Students were given an article he assigns to first year students, and though they found it challenging, they embraced it and Dr. London's talk. He was very well-received and inspired a two-day follow-up discussion applying the UN Declaration of Human Rights to the United States.

Bands In Review Concert

The Mt. Lebanon Blue Devil Marching Band, the Mt. Lebanon HS Concert Band and the Mt. Lebanon HS Wind Ensemble will be holding their annual Bands In Review concert on Thursday, October 20th.

The Blue Devil Marching Band would also like to thank all of the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who have joined us in the stands for the football games in September. Special thanks go out to the elementary and middle school band directors! Our HS band members loved reconnecting with you!

We hope to see you at the Bands in Review concert!



Community Flyers

Visit and bookmark

<https://www.mtisd.org/families/pta/community-flyers> to learn more about what programs are offered throughout the Mt. Lebanon community for our kids! From the Public Library to the Rec Center to Mt. Lebanon Sports and Scouts - we want to help you find opportunities in Lebo for your kids.

Fundraisers K-12

Did you know that PTA Council maintains a fundraising webpage for all school related fundraisers throughout the district? Visit our page at <https://www.mtisd.org/families/pta/fundraisers> to see how you can support our students at all grade levels AND to see how your school club/team/activity can share news about your upcoming fundraisers!

Mt. Lebanon High School PTSA

President - Jean Thomas - jauro@aol.com

1st Vice President - Bonnie Dougherty - bonnie_dougherty@hotmail.com

2nd Vice President - Lauren Ganoe - lauren.ganoe@yahoo.com

3rd Vice President - Colleen Frank - colleenbreckerfrank@gmail.com

Secretary - Kelly Latona - kellylatona@verizon.net

Treasurer - Allison Carey - acarey336@verizon.net

Historian - Natalie Kukla - nats98@yahoo.com