

**Lower Merion Education Association  
Executive Council Meeting  
January 13, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: President A. Avellino called the meeting to order at 4:21pm.

Approval of minutes for November Executive Council Meeting: K.Cenicola ; 2nd K. Hughes

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

President: Aimee Avellino

- This is usually the time of year when we remind people to plan for the end-of-year treats on the LMEA. We've been doing this for a few years and it is always very well received. In the past, locations have used Nothing Bundt Cake, Hope's Cookies, Wawa, Chic-Fil-A to name a few. K. Cenicola and A. Avellino are more than happy to help.
- We have had a couple of questions about hosting a retirement workshop. We will connect with HR and will look into hosting another workshop for this spring. Also, as a reminder, the [Mideast Region PSEA website](#) has information for their pre-retirement workshops, too. There are PSEA workshops (virtual and in-person) on retirement scheduled for Feb. and March. Details for PSEA [will and healthcare document preparation](#) is online, too. Document preparation is by appointment only.
- There have been a few changes in Human Resources recently that have led to several transitions as staff roles change as a result of departures. During these transitions, if you need help knowing who to reach out to, please ask.
- We had a snow day last Monday and there's been some confusion about next steps. Staff had one snow day built into our calendar. Students have two snow days. We don't know what the future holds but the district will try to avoid adding days to the calendar by using virtual instruction/pd days in the event of inclement weather or emergency.
- K. Cenicola and A. Avellino attended the recent board meeting where the board approved the new interim superintendent (Dr. Mussoline) and future superintendent (Dr. Renalli). One thing to note is that Dr. Mussoline has experience in NJ and PA so that will help with the transition since Dr. Renalli is joining us after a career in New Jersey.
- With the exception of Megan Shafer, all of the individuals who received special assignments during the superintendent transition at the beginning of the year will remain in their new roles for the remainder of the school year.
- The Apple Core will be shared in the follow-up email. Please share with members in your location. It will also be posted on the [LMEA website](#).

First Vice President: Andy Thomas

- No report.

Vice President, Support: Kyle O'Brien

- No report.

Vice President, Professional: Kelly Cenicola

- No Report.

Secretary, Support: Vic Fedeli

- NEA-RA ballots for support staff have been sent out. Please vote for our own Debbie Williams.

Secretary, Professional: Karen Salladino

- No report.

Treasurer: Lauren Lapinski

- Nothing new to add to the treasurer's report shared in the meeting reminder email.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Outreach: Andria Johnson

- No report, just a reminder that we are always willing to promote an event if LMEA members need volunteers or resources. Email [johnsoa@lmsd.org](mailto:johnsoa@lmsd.org).

Constitution: Aimee Avellino

- No report.

Elections: Kelly Cenicola

- For anyone interested in attending the NEA-RA in Portland, Oregon, please email K. Cenicola.
- Also, this is the time that we begin thinking about the LMEA elections that will take place in May. Future issues of the Apple Core will share the list of open positions. If you have questions, please email K. Cenicola. ([cenicok@lmsd.org](mailto:cenicok@lmsd.org)).

Combined Negotiations Committee: Kevin Hughes

- No report.

Financial Advisory Committee: Aimee Avellino

- No report.

Health and Safety: Aimee Avellino & Gage Yezuita

- Meetings are ongoing. Please follow the proper channels if there is a health & safety concern in your location. Reach out to the head custodian first and the building admin. Once a work requisition has been entered, allow a chance to resolve and then reach out to A. Avellino or G. Yezuita.

Legislation:

- No report.

Minority Affairs Committee: Myah Hadi

- No report.

PACE: Andy Thomas

- Reminder to anyone opted into the automatic PACE deductions...those will happen during the first five pays of the calendar year.

PR&R: Kyle O'Brien

- No report...nothing new but one from 2017.

Social: Vic Fedeli, Aimee Avellino

- Retirement dinner info-personal emails.

Special Services: Aimee Avellino

- If there are retirees in your location, please be sure they share their personal email with V. Fedeli for the annual LMEA Retiree Banquet which will be held in the spring at Evviva.

Sunshine: Debbie Williams

- Remember to keep Debbie informed about life events for members. Please email [Williad@lmsd.org](mailto:Williad@lmsd.org) if there is an event for which she should reach out to the member (birth, death, etc.).

Membership: David Grumbine

- Information was shared in each location and directions given previously to be sure that we have accurate information. If you notice any discrepancies in the information from D. Grumbine, please be sure to let him know ([lmeadaveg@gmail.com](mailto:lmeadaveg@gmail.com)) and copy K. Cenicola ([cenicok@lmsd.org](mailto:cenicok@lmsd.org)).

## **REPORTS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

CARE: Jackie Gaines

- No report.

Education Foundation: Andria Johnson

- Representatives of the foundation met in December and are awaiting the new superintendent before formulating plans for the future of the foundation.

## **BUILDING AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Administration: Question about when the updated contract will be posted. Edits are ongoing. The information that you need is online. If there are questions, reach out.

Belmont Hills ES: Question about EPER payments. Mid-year stipends will be paid in the second pay in January and the rest of it will be paid in the second pay in June. Note that there are three pays in January. Encourage people to check their pay stubs regularly to ensure that there are no errors.

Cynwyd ES: No report.

Gladwyne ES: Reached out with a question about emergency closings prior to the meeting. Info about that was shared in the President's report.

Merion ES: No report.

Penn Valley ES: No report.

Penn Wynne ES: No report.

Bala Cynwyd MS: No report.

Black Rock MS: No report.

Welsh Valley MS: No report.

Harriton HS: Question about LMHS prioritizing certain families for conferences. HHS and the middle schools share a similar process. K. Cenicola noted that it is a work in progress.

Lower Merion HS: Coverages continue to be rough, especially for Fridays in December. Staffing is also tough as people have left for other full-time positions. There has been some confusion about the way conferences at the HS are scheduled so close together-November and January. There are meetings with the district planned to discuss next year's calendar and that will specifically include conversations about conference scheduling. Questions about when the extra day off for professional staff will be. The district seems set to make the last student day the last professional day as well. LMEA recognizes that there are problems with the district's current plan and concerns have been shared by the LMEA officers multiple times in multiple ways.

Building & Grounds: No report.

Transportation: No report.

At Large Reps: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: K.Hughes ; 2nd D. Williams at 5:07 pm.