

ELHS Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Committee/Meeting Name	East Lansing High School Parent Council				
Date	11-15-16	Starting Time	6:30	Ending Time	7:00
Location	East Lansing High School Media Center			Recorder	Tom Meyer
Members Present	Ellen Ives, Tom Meyer, Heidi Dempsey, Kayla VanDyke, Wendy S. Rowan, Judy Schmidt, Byron Lane, Erin Graham, Jen Novello, Jon Novello, Donna Kaplowitz, Lisa Rutkowski, Christine Gentilozzi, Coby Fletcher				

Topics	Discussion, Information	Action to be Taken, Decision, Recommendation, Timeline
Agenda	The agenda was submitted and discussed.	The agenda was approved with minor changes.
Minutes	The minutes of the 10-25-16 meeting were submitted.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Principal's Report	Principal Coby Fletcher addressed the group, advising that the restorative justice program was working well, and that East Lansing High School was in a partnership of equal opportunity schools. This is a national program involving selected schools, the cost of which is paid half by the schools and half by industry donations. This program looks at inequalities in programming. As part of this, students are surveyed to identify any barriers to equity in AP programming.	

	<p>Coby also noted that the AVID program is now in its second cohort .</p> <p>Coby said that emotions had run very high amongst the students regarding the presidential election but that he thought that everyone had handled it well.</p>	
Brief Updates	<p>Donna Kaplowitz reported on Student Reactions to Elections, saying that 40-50 students had gathered at her home on the evening after the election and that another group of students and adults had gathered there on that Saturday. Donna said that many of the students were very , very concerned about the effects of the presidential election on themselves and their friends and families. Students voiced concerns about continued medical care, their parents' jobs, LGBT issues and several minority students feared that harm might come to them.</p> <p>Kayla VanDyke reported on the Financials of the Council, noting that there had been some significant donations , now totalling \$2,185. She also noted that there would be another donation solicitation in December.</p> <p>Wendy Sylvester-Rowan gave an Internation Families Update, stating that she had received a list of 20 international students but that only 8 of those were new to the district.</p>	
Decision Item	<p>Lisa Rutkowski said that the East Lansing Education Foundation had reached out to the parent councils through the District Parent Council, asking for donations for recognition bags which would be given to nominated teachers.</p>	No action was taken on the request.
Report from School Board.	<p>East Lansing School Board member Erin Graham told the group that the Board had a meeting the previous evening and that the presentations to the Board were available on-line. She also mentioned that the Board was forming a mental health advisory committee and that the Board's bond committee would have a meeting on Thursday, November 17th. Erin said that the Board would have a meeting on November 28th to receive the committee's recommendation and that, due to the expected large turnout, the meeting would be held in the high school's student union.</p>	

	<p>The meeting ended at 7:00 and was followed by a program: “Adolescent Mental Health; What’s Normal, When to Worry and How to Help” presented by Jon and Jen Novello.</p> <p>The Council’s next meeting will be Tuesday, December 13, 2016 from 6:30-8:00 in the ELHS HUB and will be solely a business meeting.</p>	