

Lake Braddock Secondary School

PTSA Board Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2026, 7pm on Zoom

Attendees: Lydia DiCola (President), Oksana Yoon (Treasurer), Connie Coffee (2nd VP/IT), Roman Vad (Webmaster), Sara Sousa (Third VP), Eileen Patterson (Communications), Betsy DeSouza-Wyatt (Teacher Rep), Lindsey Kearns (Principal), Hannah Cahalan (Student Rep), Maltiana (Fundraising Lead)

Absent: Dwight Hampton (First VP), Vicki Clewell (Membership Chair), Alejandra Pena-Ulloa (LBSS Family Liaison), Annika Sypher (Teacher Rep), Aubrey Maher (Reflections Chair), Aubree Burnside (Student Rep), Bernice Sudarth (ANGP), Xavier Markels (Student Rep), Scott Darwin (Associate Principal), Sophia Coffee (Student Rep)

Agenda Item	Discussion Highlights
1. Call to Order/ Comments (Lydia)	
2. Financial Update (Oksana)	Oksana reviewed the reports she sent. Numbers are missing the latest sales because they have not been deposited to our bank account yet. Need to find a replacement for Oksana as treasurer, with Lydia emphasizing the importance of training a successor soon. No replacement yet. Connie and Eileen to push out ads.
3. Admin Update (Connie/Roman)	Connie provided updates on the website and communication efforts, including the use of an AI chatbot and email newsletters. The group discussed challenges with email delivery and the potential need for more visible promotional efforts. Roman mentioned increased workload at his job, which might affect his availability for PTA tasks next year.
4. Lindsay's Update	Lindsey discussed staffing challenges - may be losing some APs because of budget cuts. She also discussed the need to re-engage with the original sculptor for Bear project. The group also addressed the return of \$20,000 to the PTSA and agreed to proceed with a letter of confirmation. Assessments for performing arts starting as well as spring sports. Dr. Reid doesn't like sports with cuts so she is looking at intermural.
5. New Business	

<p>a. Mulch Sale/ ANGP</p>	<p>Lydia introduced a discussion on the mulch sale's decline, with Sara presenting reasons such as decreased sales, higher delivery fees, and volunteer shortages. The group considered transitioning the mulch sale to the senior class in the future but decided to make a final decision closer to graduation. Sara is sharing her concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mulch sales are sharply declining by the thousands.2. Delivery fees being charged by the vendor3. Mulch has increased in price. We increased our price and are in the middle of the price range.4. Lack of volunteers <p>The group discussed the transition of the all-night grad party (ANGP) to the senior class, with Oksana advocating for a direct handover while Eileen and Sara expressed concerns about the financial and logistical challenges. Eileen highlighted the stress of the current mulch sale fundraiser and questioned the senior class's engagement, suggesting that the event might be better phased out. The group agreed that the senior class needs to form a committee of parents to organize the event, with PTSA providing support through knowledge sharing and financial platforms. However, Eileen emphasized the need for a significant fundraiser by June 15th to secure the venue contract, leaving the decision on whether to proceed with the event or not until then.</p> <p>The group discussed the timeline and logistics for planning next year's graduation party, with Eileen emphasizing the need to finalize decisions by June 15th. Lindsey clarified that while the senior class cannot directly fundraise for their all-night grad party through school finances, PTSA can run the fundraising on their behalf. The group agreed to involve junior class SGA representatives and class reps in upcoming meetings to discuss the party's future, with Lydia suggesting that the PTSA could serve as the host organization while delegating the day-to-day planning to a dedicated committee.</p> <p>The group discussed fundraising challenges for the all-night grad party, with Eileen expressing concerns about last-minute ticket sales and financial pressures. They agreed to form a new ANGP Fundraising Committee of 5 members and implement a ticket deadline, with exceptions only for spring sports competitors. The committee decided to communicate with junior parents and students through both in-person and Zoom meetings, with Betsy-Ann suggesting a staggered</p>
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	<p>approach involving different class levels. They also considered canceling the upcoming mulch sale and discussed the need to secure commitments from parents for fundraising responsibilities.</p> <p>The PTSA discussed the future of the All-Night Grad Party (ANGP) and the need to contact parents and students about fundraising challenges. They decided to hold a meeting on April 14th, both in person and via Zoom, to discuss the ANGP's future and gather input from students. The group agreed to use the library as the meeting location due to its larger capacity. Eileen will start advertising the meeting tomorrow, and Lydia will make an announcement at the upcoming TikTok panel meeting. The PTSA clarified that while they will continue to support the ANGP by handling tax deductions and organizing things like yard signs, they are no longer taking on the primary role of fundraising and organizing events.</p> <p>The group discussed fundraising challenges for the all-night grad party, with Eileen noting that raising ticket prices to \$150 could cover expenses while potentially reducing attendance. They agreed to set a ticket sales deadline in mid-May to simplify planning, though Eileen expressed concern about student awareness of deadlines. The discussion also covered communication challenges, with Lydia noting that many students and parents don't access information through the PTSA website or social media channels, making it difficult to spread awareness about events and deadlines.</p>
b. Scholarships,	The group discussed several key topics including PTSA scholarships, SAT prep partnerships, and the upcoming Marketplace event. They confirmed they could provide the same amount of PTSA scholarships as last year, with Julie coordinating the process.
c. New Fundraising Chair	Maltiana was introduced as our new fundraising lead and is going to help us advertise, etc. Her background is in real estate.
d. Teacher Appreciation Breakfast	In the past we provided breakfast burritos. Are we able to provide the breakfast this year? We have \$3k put aside for it. Lydia will tell Julie yes.

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e. SAT Prep partners	<p>Connie reported on a meeting with Novastar, who offered to provide QR codes for student recruitment and may be able to provide refreshments for the April 14th meeting. College Funding Coach and Playbook are also partnering with us and want to give back to the school.</p>
f. Marketplace	<p>Maltiana will help with the Marketplace, where she will focus on improving advertising efforts to attract both vendors and shoppers.</p>
g. 2026-27 intentions	<p>The conversation ended with a request for members to communicate their intentions for the 2026-27 school year, particularly regarding any changes in their roles or if they plan to leave the organization.</p> <p>Connie and Oksana are leaving because their youngest children are graduating.</p> <p>Vicki C, our membership chair, is leaving.</p> <p>Let Lydia know your intentions for next year.</p>
6. Adjourn	