

GSA Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2015 Meeting

**GSA Regular Council Meeting, held in Melissa Swales Classroom at Glencairn School, 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Sarah Holden (President), Cathy Foster (Co-Vice President), Amy Moeder (Co-Vice President), Jen Zeman (Co-Treasurer), Kate Burch (Secretary), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Nell Kuhnmuench (School Board Representative), Suzanne Rojas (Parent), Julie Bungard (ELL Teacher)

-Approved Minutes from March 21, 2015 Meeting; Motioned by Sarah Holden, Seconded by Jen Zeman, all in favor.

-Approved this meetings agenda; Motioned by Kate Burch, Seconded by Jen Zeman, all in favor.

Principal's Report: (Lorraine Ware) The school grounds clean up on Saturday, April 18th was a huge success. Jen Lathom (a Glencairn parent) lead the cleanup which involved families and MSU students. The staff wrote thank you cards to send out to the families that helped. Mileage club is going well. A letter went out to get more students to sign up online. The Student Leadership team met with Sarah and Shannon to talk about mileage club and is very excited to be a part of it. Sarah and Lorraine worked together to pick out the colors for the new climber that was ordered for the playground. They chose to stick with the color scheme of green and tan to match the equipment that is already on the playground. There are currently 5 lunch monitors and they are all very helpful and great with the kids.

Teacher Report: (Julie Bungard) There are 85 ELL students at Glencairn this year. Julie would like for the GSA to be more collaborative in involving the ELL families in school activities and groups. She would like us to consider having some GSA meetings at Spartan Village next school year so that more families can attend. She suggested possibly having an initial GSA meeting at Spartan Village to explain what the GSA is and to help them understand the parents role in American schools. Julie is planning to hold parent meetings during the next school year to introduce the families to American school. One recent area where ELL families were particularly helpful was at the Big Zoo Lesson where a few mothers aided with chaperoning and interpreting.

Treasurer's Report: (Jen Zeman) There is currently \$6,400.00 in savings in the GSA account. There is \$4,300.00 in checking (we are still waiting on teacher reimbursements). The playground account is at a little over \$9,000.00 with the money from Lightspeed (the Lightspeed promo has been extended through May 15th, and we have already received \$3,900.00 from them) and the \$1,000 donated by Biggby. \$16,000.00 was taken out of the playground fund to purchase our first big piece of equipment. \$5000-\$6000 is still needed for installation. Alison Alfredson (a Glencairn parent and artist) has offered to paint a mural in the Glencairn library/music room. She will donate her time, but we will need to purchase the paint. Jen Zeman will contact her to come up with an estimated amount needed for paint.

School Board Report: (Nell Kuhnmeunch) There have been many presentations given recently at the School Board meetings including a presentation from the Robotics class at McDonald Middle School and a presentation by the Science Olympiad Team (this is the first year that East Lansing had participants). The middle and high school music programs are also getting awards and recognition. Lorraine is being recognized with a Global Education Award this month by the ELEF. The recent reproductive health issues in the district are being addressed. Nell has spoken with Dr. Thompson and the members of the School Board about it, but there hasn't been a scheduled meeting since the issue was brought to light. In the elementary schools, the teachers deliver the reproductive health instruction and parents are able to opt out.

Additional Items:

*Additional fundraising opportunity: (Cathy Foster) Cathy will get information to Lorraine about the Kona Ice

Truck which would come to Glencairn and sell icee's for \$2-\$5 a piece. Glencairn would receive 25% of the total dollars taken and it might be a good fundraiser for field day.

*Field Day: (Sarah Holden) Field day will be June 2nd this year. We need a facilitator to get volunteers. Jen will create a sign up to get help, we will need 2 parent volunteers per classroom. The Student Leadership Team will work to come up with ideas for activities that day.

*Teacher Appreciation Week: (Kate Burch) Teacher appreciation week is May 4-8. Dr. Thompson is providing a staff breakfast on Thursday, May 7th. Kate proposed having the GSA provide breakfast on Monday, May 4th and having the 4th graders provide a Cinco de Mayo luncheon on Tuesday, May 5th and the 5th graders bring in baked goods on Friday, May 8th. Lorraine will do something for the teachers that Wednesday. Jen Zeman has scheduled a masseuse to give massages to the staff that week as well.

*Mileage Club: (Sarah Holden) Do we want to continue using Sparrow for mileage club next year? It makes the tracking more difficult because there is a lot of paperwork, but saves money. We would need approximately \$800 for water bottles and toe tokens if we didn't use Sparrow.

*GSA Board Elections: (Sarah Holden) Sarah emailed people who expressed interest in serving on the GSA at the beginning of the school year, but has not gotten any response. A letter also went out with Lorraine's eblast of school-wide emails. We should be voting in new officers at next months meeting.

*Festival of Cultures: Suzanne Rojas asked if there is any interest in having it videotaped again this year as it was last year. Lorraine will send out a description of Festival of Cultures so that everyone is aware of what the event is about.