



Glencairn Elementary Community Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022

Zoom Meeting @ 6:30pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 4th at 6:30pm

Attendance

Council Members: Jessi Kauppi (Co-President), Olivia Kurajian (Vice President), Natalie Bertoia (Secretary), Karin Polischuk (Co-Treasurer/Fun Run Coordinator)

Committee Members: Jen Pace (Volunteer Coordinator)

Parents/Caregivers/Others: Matt Walker, Cassie Walker, Mary Murray, Leah, Ann, Jasmine King

Glencairn Faculty: Lorraine Ware (Principal), Danielle Fournier (Social Worker), Stacie Criswell (Interventionist), Kaitlyn Bibb (Paraprofessional)

Unable to Attend: Cassie Thornburg (Co-President), Karla Forrest-Hewitt (Treasurer)

Meeting Start at 6:33pm

Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome/Introductions**
- **Teacher Report**

Ms. Fournier (Social Worker): Explained her role as the Social Worker for the students includes:

- Working with a team to develop the IEP (Individualized Education Program) for each student who needs special education.
- Assisting with Community Resources and Clothing/Food needs for students.
- Creating K-5 curriculum focused on Bullying Prevention lessons. October is Bully Prevention Month.
- Parent Mary Murray requested if additional lesson information could be shared at home.

Ms. Criswell (Interventionist): Explained her role as the Interventionist for the students includes:

- Working with a team to develop the IEP (Individualized Education Program) and supporting each student who needs IEP assistance.
- Helping staff with testing and assessments for the students and will review and discuss with others on how to best address student needs.
- Collecting benchmark data three (3) times per year on students; working on wrapping up the initial fall assessment data.

- **Principal Report (Mrs. Ware)**

- Very exciting first few weeks of school!
- We have welcomed many new staff members – Kaitlyn Bibb is a new Paraprofessional, along with three new general education teachers. Staff is working collaboratively together. Teachers have been going over Glencairn procedures and policies with the students.



- Morning Celebration is back! Usually last from 8:50am-9:10am. We have had two Morning Celebrations so far – the first since Covid.
 - Morning Celebration is a way to bring everyone together. Research shows that the school climate and environment is the number one factor in a student's success. We want to build a community where students feel connected to everyone.
 - Students get a chance to say the pledge of allegiance, or how to respectfully refrain if they choose to.
 - Staff spends significant time introducing themselves and connecting with students through ice breakers. For example, staff shared what they're afraid of with students and it showed vulnerability with the staff and students to feel connected.
 - Plan to incorporate teaching sign language at these celebrations.
 - Future Morning Celebrations are scheduled for Mondays and Fridays, with plans to include parents and caregivers at a Morning Celebration sometime in October.
- Morning Meetings – these are separate from the Morning Celebrations. Morning Meetings has been a district-wide implemented morning meeting time for each teacher to hold with their students.
- District has added 45 minutes a day to the curriculum for PE, Music and Art. Students get this 1-2 days a week depending on the rotation.
 - **Gym** – Mr. Smith is using this time to review with students all the rules on how to play various games outside.
 - **Music** – Ms. Biedenbender has discussed plans for outdoor drumming.
 - **Art** – Ms. Valente has discussed plans for outdoor art.

● **Treasurer Updates/Budget Review (Jessi Kaupi filled in for Karla)**

- Our initial goal was set at \$1000 for sales in spirit wear to cover our upfront expenses. We have achieved this goal, and anything sold moving forward will be profit. We still have plenty of merchandise left so we will make a good profit.
- Hoping to raise \$10k through Fun Run for playground equipment.
- New Fundraiser - Blaze Pizza. This is first Monday of each month.
- Please remember to select Glencairn when shopping through Amazon or at Kroger; Glencairn receives a portion of the sales.
- Field Trips – The big zoo trip happened this week; since these trips are part of the curriculum the district has paid for buses and the trip; we do not need to set aside funds for these trips.
- Jen Pace motioned to Accept the Budget; Karin Polischuk seconded. Unanimous Yes. Budget has been accepted for the year.

● **Committee Updates**

Fun Run Coordinator Update (Karin Polischuk):

- Fun Run is scheduled for Friday, September 30th.
- The Fun Run is the big fundraiser for the year. We don't do sponsorships and primarily rely on donations from friends and family.
- Goal is to raise \$10,000 with all donations to fund new playground equipment, such as new basketballs, soccer balls, soccer nets, carts of blocks for students to play with during the winter months and rainy days.



- Kids will run a loop and obstacles if they choose. This year we are getting an inflatable obstacle course activity. Open to additional ideas in creating obstacles on the sidewalk.
- Kids will receive a free t-shirt in a color based on their grade.
- Karin suggested Mrs. Ware to start ordering new items such as balls and nets now since we have money in the budget.

Volunteer Coordinator Update (Jen Pace):

- Email glencairnvolunteer@gmail.com if interested in volunteering for any event.
- **School Directory** - we have 145 kids so far; Mrs. Ware will send a separate communication on this.
- **Calendar Review/Upcoming Volunteer Needs:**
 - **Fun Run** – scheduled for Friday, September 30th.
 - **Math Night** – tentatively planned for some time in November. Will need parent help to make this a success.
 - **Science Night** – no tentative dates set
 - **Book Fair** – Renee is coordinating again this year
 - **Teacher Appreciation Events** – we have a Teacher Appreciation Coordinator and several parents have signed up to be part of this committee. Primarily coordinate the monthly staff luncheons – this year we would like to also have a Snack and/or Candy Drive to help keep the lounge and mailbox area stocked with various snacks for the teachers. One suggestion from Karin is excess Halloween Candy.
 - **Snack Drive** – Teachers could always use Graham Crackers, Snack Crackers/Cheese, Cheese Sticks, Fresh Fruit, Fruit Snacks, etc for their classrooms. After Fun Run is completed, we would like to plan a snack drive for the classrooms so the teachers don't have to buy classroom snacks out of pocket.

• Old Business:

- N/A

• New Business/General Discussion:

- **Jessi Kauppi suggested name change from Glencairn PTO to Glencairn Elementary Community Council to align with the rest of the school district.**
 - Natalie Bertoia motioned to change the name; Jen Pace seconded. Unanimous Yes. Name changed to Glencairn Elementary Community Council.
- **Discussion on accepting Karla Forrest-Hewitt as new Treasurer.**
 - Natalie Bertoia motioned to accept Karla as new Treasurer; Karin Polischuk seconded. Unanimous Yes. Karla Forrest-Hewitt is new Treasurer.



- **Discussion on the new slide structure installed on the playground.**
 - Mrs. Ware mentioned this was a surprise installation of a slide recently! This slide has been on order for some time and was selected and provided by the school district. The children are enjoying this piece of playground equipment.
 - Parent Mary Murray, and paraprofessional, Kait Bibb, expressed concerns that the new slide isn't accessible for all learners and would like to see other equipment included in the playground.
 - In response to questions regarding the playground and acquiring additional equipment, Mrs. Ware suggested that parents/caregivers express their concerns in an email at the district level to Richard Pugh (Director of Finance & Operations), Dori Leyko (Superintendent), as well as the Facilities Committee members who are working on auditing the playgrounds. **Contact Information:** Richard.pugh@elps.us; dori.leyko@elps.us; chris.martin@elps.us; Elizabeth.lyons@elps.us; Debbie.walton@elps.us; Michael.stahlmann@elps.us
- **Discussion on number of students in the kindergarten classrooms.**
 - Parents Matt Walker and Cassie Walker stated they spoke at the district board meeting last night expressing their concerns about the kindergarten class sizes being too large at 26 students. The school board's sentiment was to wait a couple more weeks because they have found that some of the parents decide to pull kids who they thought were ready for kindergarten but realize they're not.
 - Parent Mary Murray expressed the same concern and was told by the district board meeting to wait another 2-3 more weeks.
 - Mrs. Ware mentioned that Glencairn has two building substitute teachers. These individuals help to support the kindergarten classrooms whenever possible; however, they are frequently needed to cover teacher substitute shortages. She suggests that parents/caregivers who are interested in volunteering, complete a background check which would allow them to volunteer in the kindergarten classrooms. Interested parents/caregivers can contact Mrs. Fromson in the office for more information.
 - Parents/caregivers who are concerned about large class sizes in kindergarten should communicate their feelings by coming to the Glencairn Council Meetings, ELPS School Board Meetings, as well as sending an email at the district level to the board members. **Contact Information:** Richard.pugh@elps.us; dori.leyko@elps.us; chris.martin@elps.us; Elizabeth.lyons@elps.us; Debbie.walton@elps.us; Michael.stahlmann@elps.us

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08pm.