



# Glencairn Parent-Teacher Organization

939 Harrison Avenue  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Nurturing Each Child  
Educating All Students  
Building World Citizens

## Glencairn Parent Teacher Organization Minutes

April 10<sup>th</sup>, Meeting  
Glencairn Library

**In attendance:** Karin Polischuk (President), Kim Roland (Secretary), Erin Black (Treasurer), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Melissa Swales (1<sup>st</sup> Grade), Tami Teszlewicz (1<sup>st</sup> Grade), Terah Chambers (parent), Robin Vallender (parent)

**Absent:** None

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

### **Teachers' Report (1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Ms. Swales, Ms. Teszlewicz):**

- Thank you to the PTO for your support. We've been able to use funds for books and field trips. We went to the Meridian Historical Village for example. Also, for the economics unit we raised \$700+ for the Humane Society. In January, we went to the hospital for a "Healthy Me" unit. In March we had mystery readers and also explored many books that have authors from around the world. Now that we're back from Spring Break, we've been focusing on expectations and are beginning to talk about organisms and life cycles. Hoping to go to the butterfly house for that unit.
- In lieu of the end of the year EL Aquatics water park field trip, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers are exploring alternative options for a field trip. Last year, the Kindergarteners stayed back at the school and had a water day. This year both Kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders will either stay back at the school or plan an alternate activity.
- Questions to the teachers regarding packing for Red Cedar:
  - ...what would be the most helpful to you? From last move, putting together and taping boxes was frustrating, but this time the boxes are different. Parents could help with the book rooms and general areas. A heavy lifting "Dad Day" to move bigger items around could be an idea. Teachers may want to pack their own rooms so that they can stay organized since this is only a one year move.
  - ...when can this packing even start? We are going to have to wait until very close to the last week of school so that we can continue teaching, etc? We will have two weeks after the last day of school to be done.
  - ...how to organize this? Two hour blocks for parent volunteers at a variety of times. Teachers may even appreciate some childcare help. Also, we should be thinking ahead to plan for help in August?

**School Board Report (None present, but summarized by Terah Chambers who is here as a parent, but is on the School Board):**

- School Board decided last night that they would no longer be attending Elementary PTO Meetings. They will be attending school events instead.
  - Terah plans on being at most of our PTO meetings as a parent, so she can give us short updates.
- Red Cedar should be done in about 10 weeks. They just did the ceremonial ground breaking. The building is looking in good shape already.
- There are School Board discussions happening regarding teacher contract negotiations, school start day, and school start times. Start day is a school board decision, but school start time is part of negotiations. They should be making an announcement about start date in the next meeting or two. There is a new, more collaborative bargaining process that is being used for the union negotiations.

#### **Principals Report (Lorraine Ware):**

- M-STEP starts for 5<sup>th</sup> next week. The teachers have put a fair amount of time helping the kids learn how to use the online test format. We are in good shape there. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> will start in May. 5<sup>th</sup> grade is the most comprehensive. They are expecting it to take less time than in the past.
- 1<sup>st</sup> ever talent show is on Thursday. This is being hosted by the Student Leadership Team. The talent is impressive! Pizza will be for sale starting at 6:00 and talent starts at 6:30. Will be talking to the teachers about having an encore presentation Friday morning.
- March is Reading Month Photo Contest photos have been steadily arriving. There are some really fun ones. The staff is also participating.
- Milage Club starts on Friday. The PTO has helped with sign-ups to get parent help. Football and soccer is coming back to recesses on Wednesday also. Working with the students to promote friendly game play so that there are fewer disagreements. The little house village is also opening. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders can sign up to be supervisors.

#### **Financial Report (Erin Black):**

- Raised about \$300 more than planned. About \$7500 on the budget hasn't been spent yet.
- We won't be spending the STAR program budget this year. We'll reassess that next year.
- We need to remind teachers to spend their money by the end of the year. Let's give them a date to have receipts to us by.
- Mrs. Ware will be asking for March is Reading reimbursement.
- Teacher Appreciation is coming up.
- Milage Club – Should we do water bottles? Mrs. Ware will have the Student Leadership Team do a survey to see what prizes the kids would like to be able to earn.
- Pizza with Principal, healthy snacks – Mrs. Ware has receipts
- Also we should remember 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Caps and Awards, Building Transition, Student Leadership Team
- Kim Ringlever was asking about scholarships for Year Books, maybe we need about 10-15 extra. The PTO can buy 15 using the scholarship fund.

#### **Calendar Review and President's Report (Karin Polischuk):**

- Milage Club has some more slots open if you know anyone that can help. The penguin backpack will chime as students run past with their assigned RFID tag bracelet. Jen Pace has found three parents to help with the data entry from the penguin computer. The PTO has not begun helping with anything for the 5K yet, but the route is going to be close to the school. The date for the 5K is June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Teacher Appreciation is in May. The PTO can spread some communications and ideas about this event. Maybe encourage the kids to write a nice letter to their teachers.
- End of the Year Picnic – We're not selling food, we'll format this more as a potluck and put out donation jars (that the PTO will match) with proceeds going to purchase more big blue blocks. There are a couple parents chairing this event, but there is no firm date yet.
- Track and Field Days – There are chairs for this event and planning has begun (self-filling water balloons have been purchased!)
- Upcoming Dates
  - April 12 – 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Talent Show
  - April 14 – Walk and Roll Safety Day
  - April 26<sup>th</sup> Kindergarten Music Performance
  - May 10 – Festival of Cultures
  - May 30-31 – Track and Field Days (4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>)
  - June 5 – Field Day
  - June 7 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip
  - June 8 – All School 5K
  - June 13 – 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Water Park

**March 13, 2018 Minutes approved.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

**Next meeting: 7 p.m. May 8<sup>th</sup> at the school.**