

Glencairn Parent Teacher Organization Minutes

Nov. 10, 2016, Meeting

Glencairn Elementary School

In attendance: Cat Schwartz (President), Karin Polischuk (Vice President), Brian Wheeler (Secretary), Alison Alfredson (At-Large Member), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Kate Powers (School Board Representative), Daryl Bean (Third-Grade Teacher), Tiffany Talamonti-Burgee (Third-Grade Teacher), Andrea Besley, Fatimat Adebisi, Kim Ringlever, Erin Black

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Principal's Report (Lorraine Ware): After conducting 40 interviews, the school has formalized its Student Leadership Team. The team will provide a voice for the students. It has been a busy fall, with various activities and a new teacher evaluation tool that is being put to use. About 100 students are taking part in Glencairn STAR (Students Taking Active Roles) Teams after school on Mondays, enjoying such activities as dance, debate, STEM, sports and knitting. The school will run more sessions in the winter, in hopes of providing more students with their first choice of activities.

Teachers' Report (Daryl Bean, Tiffany Talamonti-Burgee): Twenty-five students are part of the school Safety Patrol. They receive hot chocolate twice a month and will have a pizza party in January. The Big Zoo lesson took place Oct. 11-14. While there are challenges doing the lesson early in the year, but it's providing opportunities for students to build on what they learned. There have been some challenges with invoices from bus service for class field trips.

Board of Education Report (Kate Powers): The community bond committee will present its recommendations to the school board Nov. 28, which could be approved in December. That would put the school district on track to put a measure on the election ballot in May. A new Student Mental Health Committee is looking for community members.

Financial Report (Cat Schwartz): The Fun Run has surpassed its \$9,500 fundraising goal, but revenue from the Pizza House fundraiser (\$318) was down from last year. Another fundraiser at Woody's Oasis is slated for January. Several unaccounted-for yearbooks have been found and will be returned, providing the PTO with unexpected revenue.

Parent Comments: Andrea Besley said the first meeting of group for international parents was successful, with 25-30 parents in attendance Nov. 7 at Spartan Village.

The only issue was providing enough child care. She is developing a resource packet that could be posted online. The next group meeting has not been scheduled yet.

President's Report (Cat Schwartz): A reminder to all to attend Science Night on Nov. 17. Taste of Glencairn is planned for Dec. 15, with Beth Peck as chair. She is still looking for volunteers to help plan, so please contact her at bethpeck@uadv.msu.edu if you want to help. The committee is also considering a cookbook this year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Next meeting: 7 p.m. Dec. 8 at Spartan Village. A coffee and social time with the PTO will take place at the school at 9 a.m. Dec. 9.