



# 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 December 12, 2017, Meeting Glencairn Library

**In attendance:** Karin Polischuk (President), Erin Black (Treasurer), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Terah Chambers (School Board), Lauren Schefke (4th grade teacher), Mark Finger (4th grade teacher), Shannon Torres (parent), Kristin Bellar (parent), Elizabeth Guerrero-Lyons (parent), Emily Guerrant (parent)

**Absent:** Kim Roland (Secretary)

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

**November 14, 2017 Minutes approved.**

**December 12, 2017 Agenda approved.**

### **Teachers' Report (Mrs. Schefke and Mr. Finger, 4th Grade):**

- Discussed upcoming Book Bingo event, which will be held in March. 4<sup>th</sup> graders will need parents to help get donations of auction items. The money raised goes to fund a field trip to Meijer Gardens and PJ Hoffmaster State Park in Muskegon. The event also goes along with an in-class economics unit.
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are implementing an individualized spelling program using Words Their Way. Kids do an initial test, and an algorithm breaks down where their strengths and weaknesses are and what skills they need to focus on in their spelling. The teachers have found it helpful to meet kids where they are and challenge each child. These teachers will share their experience with this strategy with the other teachers in the spring.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers also discussed their collaborative approach and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade-1<sup>st</sup> grade buddies program.
- Wish list: glue sticks

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

- Movie Night was a big success (raised about \$700 net). The Student Leadership team did an excellent job, and the Treasurer and Secretary of the Student Leadership team will present their budget and proposal for what they will do with the funds in the coming weeks. It was decided to support the funding of the Big Blue Blocks from Imagination Playground!
- The Student Leadership team will also be planning a Spirit Week for next week.
- Our school was also approached by WILX to be interviewed about the Healthy Schools Initiative. The Student Leadership team President and VP practiced for the interview and did a great job. The segment will be aired in the next couple weeks.

- Mrs. Ware provided an overview of the Healthy Schools Initiative at Glencairn, which has included classroom movement breaks, active recess, healthy smoothies for birthday celebrations (last year) and during breakfast and lunch (this year), and in-class healthy celebrations. This year we will be participating in the Step Up for School Wellness Program, and coordinating a 5K run for 300 runners.
  - Related to this discussion, Karin Polischuk raised that a Marble elementary parent is starting a program for boys called Let Them Run, which is similar to Girls on the Run. Our school could form a team if there is parent/community interest in running it. It begins March 19<sup>th</sup> and practices are 2 times a week, with a 5K at the end. Mr. Finger noted that we should try to keep the cost down, as other similar programs are quite costly for participants. He thought we could consider something more informal to avoid high costs of national program.
- The district obtained an extended learning time grant to tutor small groups of K – 3 kids after school (second semester) in connection with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading law. More information about this after-school initiative will be coming soon. We do have interested Glencairn teachers who will apply to work in the program.
- Mrs. Ware is planning for the move to Red Cedar next year and will be discussing with the school community in January.

#### **School Board Report (Terah Chambers):**

- The Board recently passed resolutions related to 1) when and where ICE can access students and buildings, 2) the open-carry gun bill that passed the state senate.
- The Mental Health Advisory committee reported to the Board that services should be expanded in the high school.
- The Board heard the results of the recent community survey regarding school start times. The survey indicates that the community may be in favor of a later start time at the high school level, but there are many scheduling considerations. The district will be working on this going forward.

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

- We brought in \$1400 less than expected on the Fun Run but Amazon and Kroger rewards were \$180 higher. Lightspeed may bring in extra money.
- \$250 for STAR program may not be needed this year.
- Big Zoo project was under budget by about \$325.
- Emergency taxi funds were also not used up last year.
- Will make \$200 or so more than expected on shirt sales.
- Karin Polischuk moved to allocate playground and other “PTO” funds to buy the Imagination Playground and 2 carts to store them, and all present voted in favor.

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

- Looking into possible fundraiser through Whole Foods.

- Kristin Bellar is planning for Taste of Glencairn and coordinating with volunteers. Need PTO to inform parents, and Cassie to email the SignUp Genius.

Dec. 11-15 – Book Fair (winter)

Dec. 14 – 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade Winter Wonderland Concert

Jan. 24 - Math Night

Feb. 7 – Taste of Glencairn

March 2 – Book Bingo

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**Next meeting: 7 p.m. January 9 at the school.**