



Glencairn Parent-Teacher Organization

1110 Narcissus Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823

Nurturing Each Child
Educating All Students
Building World Citizens

Glencairn Parent Teacher Organization Minutes

October 9th, Meeting

Red Cedar Library

In attendance: Karin Polischuk (President), Kristin Bellar (Vice President), Jason Weller (Treasurer), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Ms. Ebonia Williams (2nd Grade Teacher), Ms. Emily Dunn (2nd Grade Teacher), Terah Chambers, Shannon Torres, Victoria Solomon, Chris Martin, Kate Burch, Maria, Maryam Abbasi, Jessy Gregg, Mamoon Shaafaey, Yan, Heather Robertson, Josh Vincent

Absent: Kim Roland (Secretary)

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

September 11, 2018 Minutes approved. Motion by K. Bellar, seconded by J. Weller. Approved.

Introductions

Teachers' Report (Ms. Williams & Ms. Dunn – 2nd Grade Teachers):

- Delivered thank you notes written by the 2nd graders to the PTO/Fun Run coordinators.
- Thanked the PTO for the funds for the Fenner Nature Center field trip which will be tied in with a non-fiction unit.
- Booked Impression 5 to come to the classroom twice during the year.
- Art teacher Ms. Valenti would like 2nd graders to create a monster with a partner to send to ELHS fiber arts program students, who will make the monster come to life. Students will then write a story about their monster.
- Class numbers are 23 (Ms. Dunn) and 24 (Ms. Williams) students.
- Everyone is well transitioned to the new school. Will keep transition strategies in mind for next year.

Principals Report (Lorraine Ware):

- Staff concluded a data day, looking at grade level data. Teachers have completed running records and AIMSWEB assessments (reading & math) and the information was displayed on a data wall. This data was used to determine which students will receive supplementary reading support.
 - The school Interventionist and Mrs. Ware planned a schedule for the specialists based on the data.
 - The reading specialist is only at the school in the afternoon about 2 ½ hours per day. This is a decrease from last year as Glencairn did not qualify for Title I status this year.
 - Student assessment data will be shared with parents at conferences.

- Parents will be receiving a letter if their child qualifies for additional reading or ELL intervention support.
- Special area teachers have one period a day in which they provide intervention support within the general education classroom.
- Assessments will occur throughout the year to check student progress and changing needs.
- Halloween – ELHS band will come for a performance, followed by the costume parade and classroom parties.
 - Mrs. Ware is currently introducing The Second Step Bullying Prevention lessons in the 5th grade classrooms. Goals of this program include; helping kids understand the difference between bullying and arguments or conflicts (which may still need adult help to resolve); helping kids recognize, report and/or refuse bullying; understanding what bystanders can do to stop bullying; and empowering kids to take action. Mrs. Ware is currently teaching the Second Step bullying prevention lessons in both 5th grade classrooms. The program will be taught this year at all grades.
 - Teachers are also teaching using the Second Step program to help kids learn how to manage and understand their emotions, develop empathy for others and positive and effective conflict resolution skills.
- The school has experienced some problems with watches that record video and/or take photos. Mrs. Ware is concerned about students recording/photographing other children, and staff have reported that the devices are a distraction in classroom. Mrs. Ware asked parents for input regarding setting restrictions on students bringing recording devices to school. Attendees at the meeting advised that she should prohibit the watches in the classrooms, similar to how cell phones are treated.
- The school needs 2 lunchroom monitors! The jobs have been posted on several sites. If anyone can help she would greatly appreciate it.
- Glencairn@Red Cedar will not have jump rope or hoop troop teams this year, however, there will be other enrichment opportunities for students.

Financial Report (Jason Weller):

- The PTO's Certificate of Good Standing was filed with the appropriate state office.
- Jason will file Form 990 with the IRS.
- Budget is looking good.

Fun Run, Popcorn, and Box Tops Update/Recap (Karin)

- Fun Run total is close to \$7,675 pre-expenses. Didn't quite hit the goal, but still accepting donations.
- Popcorn has raised about \$2,000.
- Box Tops – already raised more than last year.
- Families are still encouraged to sign up for Kroger rewards and Amazon Smile.

School Board Updates (Summarized by Terah Chambers who is here as a parent, but is on the School Board):

- Bond is on track.
- ELPS Superintendent will unveil her proposal for district boundaries on October 22. After that, there is expected to be time for public comment, and the school board will take up the plan. Then future programming at Red Cedar will be addressed.
- 2 important millages are expiring, and the replacement millages are on the ballot. Neither is an increase; both are decreases. #1 (Operating Millage) is non-homestead. #2 (Sinking Fund) is a reduction as well, and the money can be used flexibly (including on school security). It is very important that they pass.

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

- Upcoming Dates
 - Oct. 10- Walk to School – meet at 1855 at 8:20 am
 - Halloween – watch for info from your teachers. Teachers should think about projects for parents to do in between band performance and parade
 - November 29- Science Night- date changed from Nov. 28
 - Dec 14- Movie Night (Student Leadership Team)
 - Dec- Book Fair
 - Jan 24- Talent Show (Student Leadership Team)
 - Feb 15- Special Person Day
 - February- Math Night
 - March 8- Book Bingo (4th Grade) - MSU Spring Break?
 - April 10- Taste of Glencairn
 - May 10- Festival of Cultures
 - End of May/early June- Field Day, Picnic

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.