



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

November 13th, Meeting

Red Cedar Library

In attendance: Karin Polischuk (President), Jason Weller (Treasurer), Kim Roland (Secretary), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Mrs. Daryl Longstreth (3rd Grade Teacher), Mrs. Tiffany Talamonti-Burgee (3rd Grade Teacher), Kim Steed-Page, Jen Pace, Kate Burch, Josh Vincent, Victoria Solomon, Shannon Torres

Absent: Kristin Bellar (Vice President)

Meeting called to order at 6:41 p.m.

Introductions

Teachers' Report (Mrs. Longstreth & Mrs. Talamonti-Burgee – 3rd Grade Teachers):

- Big Zoo Lesson – November 26th-30th
 - Cost per student is \$30. Requesting \$15 per child from each child with a line for scholarship request. Asking \$690 (or less) from the PTO. There is already \$750 budgeted for the third grade.
 - They go to the zoo for five days and the teachers are teaching there. Each student is assigned an animal for the week to observe. The zoo keepers are around to do lessons and hand-on activities. For months after the zoo lesson they work on books and publish those in the end. This is the best week ever!
 - For the teachers, this is a tremendous amount of work. This is quite different than a field trip.
- Thank you for the teacher/staff luncheon! The PTO is asking if there are there any suggestions for different themes. Potato bar and taco bar are always good. Pretty health conscience staff overall so fruits are always good too.
- Thank you for the donations to Safety Patrol. There are about 30 kids in this group. They will be beginning to get hot chocolate soon.
- Keep in mind for M-STEP that the PTO can help round up translators. Will need a Lao translator this year. Mrs. Bungard and Mrs. Longstreth will get a list together as we get closer to the M-STEP dates. There is sometimes a large influx of new students in January and March. A volunteer will need to be pretty confident in both languages. We will be working hard on this in March for our April/May tests. It is very comforting to hear the instructions for a test in your native language.
- 3rd grade has started keyboarding lessons already this year. Short answer is required on both the Reading and Math M-STEP.

Principals Report (Lorraine Ware):

- Plans were finalized for the all school NCG movie field trip. This will be Friday, December 21st and is a tradition. For some kids this is a novelty because it may be something they've never done before. Mary Poppins will be just coming out two days prior to the trip. The PTO has budgeted to help with bussing.
- Talent Show – Mrs. Bridge and Mrs. Ware are starting to finalize plans for this. Letters will be going out on Friday. Auditions are on December 11th and the show will be the evening of January 24th. Students in grade 2 through 5 may audition.
- Student Leadership Team – Started last week. Bigger and different than last year because it's more of a committee structure. There are six committees and teachers are helping head these. Selected students that can grow their leadership skills. Because 4th and 5th don't eat lunch together, meetings will take place during the PM recess period. The entertainment committee has already met and is preparing for the December Movie Night.
- Special Person's Day – The staff met and decided to revamp this year's Valentine's Day program. There will still be a music performance (open to parents), however, details for the social portion of the event are still being determined. Information regarding this February event will be shared in December. Do still count on a music assembly on Friday, February 15th!

Financial Report (Jason Weller):

- Taxes are filed and we don't owe money. Haven't yet got notice that they are accepted.
- Good that teachers are talking about spending money because we have lots of money in our accounts.
- Lots of activity on PayPal. This is being used to pay invoices too.
- Right now the spreadsheet only accounts for money in bank, so kind of have to "pretend" that the PayPal money is also in the bank account.
- Have had handful of teachers that have turned in receipts over \$100. For example \$107. Would we want to just go over their budgeted amount and cover the full \$107? Sure since we have a healthy budget!
- We have incentive to keep money moving because our taxes situation would be different if we reach \$50,000.
- Reiterate that we like to spend what we earn in the year we earn it so it stays with the families who raised it.

Spirit Wear (Karin Polischuk):

Order Forms are going home soon. We have some leftover stock and are fine with offering this as scholarship if a student would really like one and it would make them feel nice. The t-shirts seem to be running on the big size. Will also attach the form to the PTO newsletter.

Late Start Assistance (Karin Polischuk):

- The Superintendent is looking into some breakfast options for children who need breakfast on late start days. There are probably about 25-30 kids who eat breakfast daily. Some of this may be need and some may be for convenience. For the kids who get the weekend survival kits, maybe we can put together something to send them home with the night before. There are

currently about 10 students. The PTO can help with this, but Mrs. Ware would have to be involved since we don't know who these students are. This is a really nice idea.

- For the concerns about the morning child care, we're not really sure if there's anything the PTO can help with.
- For these late start days, the teachers and staff are all busy across the district with training.

Emergency Subs (Lorraine Ware):

- Each school now has an emergency sub. We have had ours, Kim Burns, for about 4 weeks now and have probably had to use her every day except 4. This has been fabulous because we often have subs cancel on us. When the teachers have training days throughout the year, they often need subs. We can borrow from one of the other schools if we are in need of two emergency subs. This sub can work in any room in the building and is getting to know the school, teachers, and kids.

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

- Upcoming Dates
 - November 29- Science Night – Pretty much all planned and set and just need to get the word out so families come.
 - Dec 14- Movie Night (Student Leadership Team) – PTO can help with baked goods or cotton candy during the day. SLT is hoping to raise money for additions to the big blue blocks. These are still all the rage for the kids and we will be moving them to the gym for the winter.
 - Dec 10-14 - Book Fair – Will be set up in the library, The last day will be movie night and we'll be open during movie night
 - Jan 24 - Talent Show (Student Leadership Team)
 - Feb 15 - Special Person Day
 - February 19th - Math Night
 - March 8 - Book Bingo (4th Grade)
 - April 10 - Taste of Glencairn
 - May 10 - Festival of Cultures
 - End of May/early June - Field Day, Picnic

Slush Fund Spending Idea (Josh Vincent):

The school could rent out Edru Roller Skating Rink and let the kids enjoy a night of activities there. Other schools do this and they have pricing for schools. Karin will look into this.

October 9, 2018 Minutes approved. Motion by K. Roland, seconded by J. Weller. Approved.

Proposed Boundary Changes (Karin Polischuk):

- We noted a high turnout at the School Board meeting last night.
- 1855 Place families met ahead of time to organize.
- School Board is still taking feedback and emails. There is also one more feedback meeting on the 26th.

- Very concerned about the students and want to be supportive of them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.