



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

March 12, 2019 Meeting

Red Cedar Library

In attendance: Karin Polischuk (President), Kristin Bellar (Vice President), Jason Weller (Treasurer), Kim Roland (Secretary), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Nicole Pell (5th Grade Teacher), Robert Cawson (5th Grade Teacher), Josh Vincent, Jen Pace, Shannon Torres, Victoria Solomon, Terah Chambers, Sarah Holden

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

January 15, 2019 Minutes approved. Motion by K. Bellar, seconded by K. Roland. Approved.

Teachers' Report (Mr. Cawson & Ms. Pell – 5th Grade Teachers):

- Little Caesar's fundraiser raised over \$600. This was a 5th grade only fundraiser and in the past had been school-wide (which raised about \$900 at that time). The field trip is to Greenfield Village and Henry Ford on May 29th. This is both an exploring and learning trip. We will be using Indian Trails to get there. Thank you to the PTO for helping to fund a portion of the trip.
- Parent teacher conferences are going on now. The transition to MacDonald Middle School is on the kid's minds. May 6th is incoming MMS parent meeting. May 7th is the MMS school tour for kids. May 9-10th, MMS Principal Mrs. Martin comes to Glencairn to begin discussing scheduling. Scheduling forms are tentatively due May 16th.
- One worry that the 5th graders have about entering MMS is the combination lock on their lockers. Maybe the PTO could help with a set of locks for the students to practice on.
- From Mrs. Nordquist – Beginning to look for parent volunteers for Mileage Club. We would need a volunteer sign-up and to help with tags. The course will be around the entire playground. We will do indoor mileage club if it rains and would still need that day's volunteers.
- For 5th graduation, we will just need to get caps and popsicles. This is already in the budget. Graduation and breakfast will be June 7th and put together by the 5th grade families.
- Also at the end of the school year, the 5th grade does a picnic. They will miss using Valley Court Park, but are considering two different local park options. Bathrooms also need to be considered for this trip.
- Ms. Pell has enjoyed the year and getting to know the kids. She loves building relationships and joking around with the students.

Principals Report (Lorraine Ware):

- March is Reading Month is well under way. Each staff member has picked a favorite book to share with the students at Morning Celebration. The calendar activities are happening and Friday is Wacky Day. The Spirit Team may put together a skit to share at Morning Celebration. March is Reading Month photos can be emailed to child's teacher or hard copies sent to the school. These will be due April 12th.
- Assessments, running records, and AIMSWEB data have been reviewed. The teachers take a look at this data to determine intervention, IRIPS, and personalized instruction. They also spent some time looking at the data for kindergarten. They looked at the school-wide data to review each grade and where extra help may be needed.
- Glencairn's "Points of Pride" was shared at the School Board meeting last night.
- We started indoor recess bucket filler cards for the Walking Club. The difference in the noise level in the hall has been great! The winning card gets a reward for their entire class. These can also be earned by helping others. We were thinking that there was a line item to fund prizes, but when the Treasure Tower was taken out it looks like nothing replaced it. Could we slide some money from another category? Next year we could have a category for behavior enrichment.
- What is Walking Club? This is an option for the kids when the weather is not great. They also have the option to spend time in the cafeteria to read/write/draw. If there were more parent volunteers we could enhance this. Maybe Mrs. Ware could do a video to share more about Walking Club.
- What about the snow and ice days? Is there any word on extra school days at the end of the year? No official word from the state, but everyone is operating under the assumption that June 7th would be our last day. There are many reasons that people wouldn't want the school year extended and ELPS is in the unique situation of having to plan for moving schools.
- Victoria brought up the Styrofoam lunch trays and trying to determine how to do something different such as recycling or using trays that could be washed. Terah did bring up washable trays at a recent School Board budget meeting. Victoria brought up compostable trays. Do you need kitchen facilities to make any of this happen? Years ago, Mrs. Ware participated in a study where they piloted those red fish and chips type trays with a piece of wax paper. Everything is so grab and go now so maybe this could work. Terah suggests emailing Mrs. Leyko. Dart Container does pick up trays from Marble, but we never could get this worked out for Glencairn. The Green Team might be able to support some of this in the future.
- Lunch Room Monitors and Crossing Guards have been hard to find. Subs are also hard to find.

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

- New schools are both on budget and on time.
- We're still hoping for solar panels for the new schools.

Financial Report (Jason Weller):

- The budget is still in decent shape.
- There are a handful of items that haven't been dipped into at all and we are starting to head to the end of the year.

- Just got the expenses for the 4th grade field trip, which will be the last big one of the year.
- Moving money to fund bucket filler prizes shouldn't be a big deal.
- We are earning more in interest because we now have a \$10,000 CD. We've also been earning a lot in rewards such as Amazon Smile.
- For Taste of Glencairn, might we consider having more food available by buying from local restaurants and asking for donations? We might also need paper products.
- Should we vote on locks (\$50), behavior incentives (\$400), and Taste of Glencairn (\$200)?
 - **Motion by J. Weller, seconded by S. Torres. Approved.**

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

- Upcoming Dates
 - April 10 - Taste of Glencairn – Could the Green Team create signs and be on hand that night? Can also reach out to the Entertainment Team. This might be cultural games or music videos. The chairs for this event are currently working on this.
 - Mileage Club – Jen Pace will be working on the volunteer sign-up
 - Teacher Appreciation – Week of May 6th – Elizabeth Lyons is chairing this and the student leadership team may be available to help her. In the past there was a gift card presentation that Sarah remembers. The Student Leaderships Team is talking about interviewing teachers and showing these interviews during Morning Celebration that week.
 - May 10 - Festival of Cultures – What can the PTO help with? We know about getting flowers and Mrs. Bridge has her planning under way.
 - End of May/early June - Field Day, Picnic

New Business (Karin Polischuk):

- For the end of the year, we'll need to think about the move. A couple pods will be delivered after spring break.
- We've been talking about the board for next year and haven't had anyone ask questions yet.
- March 21st is Kindergarten Night here and it'd be good to have some PTO representation here.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.