



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 12, 2019 Meeting

Red Cedar Library

In attendance: Karin Polischuk (President), Josh Vincent (Vice President), Kim Roland (Secretary), Jason Weller (Treasurer), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Andi McGuire (Social Work), Allison Antonopulos (Speech/Language), Liz Main, Jessi Kauppi, Kate Burch, Shannon Torres, Jen Pace

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Teacher's Report (Ms. McGuire, Social Work):

- Social Workers are here 3 days/week (Ms. McGuire) + 1 day/week (Ms. Piggott).
- Lunch Bunch group – social/emotional development such as friendship, self-regulation, and friendship. Having more sessions of program to help even more children this year.
- Weekend Survival Kit Program for those in need of extra food at home. This program is confidential and forms are available in the office if needed.
- Shoe Vouchers that help children get connected with a voucher for a new pair of shoes. Forms to fill out for this program are also available in the office.
- Adopt a Family for the holidays.
- Helps families in a variety of other ways to connect them to community resources.
- If you have extra snow gear, it's always helpful to have on hand to give out to families that don't have their own.
- We should be sure the forms for these programs are on the Glencairn website. PTO will also post on Facebook.

Teacher's Report (Ms. Antonopulos, Speech/Language):

- She's here a little less than ½ time at this school, but here every day. She services the basic classroom and other eligible students. She gets to help some kids on a short basis and some on a longer term.
- Sometimes teachers refer students and sometimes parents inquire.
- For students currently receiving services at Pinecrest that will be moving over, the speech teachers would connect and work together to transition their current speech/language program to their new school.
- There is a need for a 6'x4' rug if anyone has one that they're getting rid of.

Principal's Report (Lorraine Ware):

- Safe Routes to School (SFTS) Audit is tomorrow. Meeting at the entrance of the school around 3:45 and walking the neighborhood for about 90 minutes. The goal is the check on the

walkability of the neighborhood. Then once there is an understanding of possible improvements, the SFTS group will be working on getting grant money. They have delivered a portion of the Safety Patrol vests. We will be getting 24 more at some point.

- The school is in need for another lunch room monitor. This is a couple hour a day commitment and a good way to connect with the children. PTO will post on Facebook and also look into posting with the Prime Time Senior Club at Hannah Community Center.
- Student Leadership Team is forming and applications are due tomorrow.
- There will also be Ukulele team, green team, and a couple others.
- Classrooms are looking into providing leadership opportunities as well.
- The new murals are done in the library and the office.
- Community Open House will be done after more of the exterior work is completed.
- Working on getting boot mats for near the classrooms.
- Will be getting rail strips (a strip that you can push art work or papers up into) instead of bulletin boards.

Financial Report (Jason Weller):

- Overall we're at 1st quarter end and in a strong financial position. As of the weekend, >\$23,000 in bank accounts and about \$6,000 in Paypal.
- So far teachers have only asked for about 35% of reimbursements available to them.
- Playground equipment update – be mindful that the budget includes a large line item for this. So far we've only used it for the gaga ball pit. The ultimate goal is to get a new structure, but we'd need to come up with extra money and resources for this. In the meantime, we're hopeful that we could do part of a structure in the spring and then add onto it later.
- Our Interest line item is running a deficit because our CD was renewed due over the summer and we incurred fees due to a mail snafu with the new school build.
- Discussion of pros and cons of accepting checks, paypal, or other things such as venmo or square.
- Idea of creating a scholarship fund. How do we do this? First come, first serve? Things that we have more financial control of such as spirit wear? How do we review applications? The idea came up because Whitehills does this. Also, Marble buys everyone spirit wear. We could piggy back off the grade-level t-shirt idea that the teachers came up with in September. This is a great idea for next year. For this year, we might revise our spirit wear form to include an area to select a shirt size if there is a financial burden. The idea for a book fair voucher to use toward a book is also a really good one.
 - The proposal is to have a cap of \$300 total with up to \$15 per kid for use for Glencairn Spirit Wear and a book at Book Fair.
 - All in attendance voted to approve this Scholarship Fund.
- Okemos Music Academy – They contacted us about a referral program. We'll include this in a future newsletter.

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

- Fun Run recap – The course worked out great on the sidewalks and they might use the same path for Mileage Club.

- Popcorn Friday is going good.
- December 9-13 – Book Fair
- December 13 – Movie Night – Run by Student Leadership Team, PTO will help where needed. PTO will help ask for baked good donations.
- December 20 – NCG Field Trip & Winter sing-a-long (parent help appreciated)
- January-early February – Math Night
- February – Science Night
- Late winter-early spring – Something organized by Mrs. Biedenbender
- March – Book Bingo (run by the 4th grade as a fundraiser for their field trip), Book Fair
- April – Taste of Glencairn
- May – Festival of Cultures, Field Day
- June – End of the Year Picnic

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.