

GSA Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2015 Meeting

**GSA Regular Council Meeting, held in the Library at Glencairn School, 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Sarah Holden (President), Cathy Foster (Co-Vice President), Amy Moeder (Co-Vice President), Jana Dean (Co-Treasurer), Jen Zeman (Co-Treasurer), Kate Burch (Secretary), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Nell Kuhnmuensch (School Board Representative), Mignon Valdespino (5th Grade Teacher), Becky Roberts (Parent)

Fun Run 2015: (Becky Roberts) It costs \$500 to reserve a spot for next year's Fun Run through the Get Movin' Crew. Last year, our school goal was to raise \$8500, but we were able to exceed that goal and raise \$11,069 with a total net of \$8800 after expenses/fees. We need to decide what next year's earned money will go towards. It was decided that instead of trying to do something on our own, we should continue with the Get Movin' Crew despite the extra expense, because of the website component which will be difficult to replicate. Most of the money earned this year, was raised through online donations, not through money brought to school. Jana motioned to approve the \$500 for next year's Fun Run, that was seconded by Amy and all were in favor. Becky is willing to help organize again for 2015 and she will work with Lorraine to pick a date for next year. They may pick an afternoon time slot instead of the morning, due to the wet playground. They will try to pick an early to mid-October date.

Teacher Report: (Mignon Valdespino) Currently, the fifth graders are doing a stem genetics program research study with MSU. They are trying to figure out "why plants of the same species look different?" They started this last week for science, and have been watching videos and planting. On May 8, 2015 the fifth grade classes will be taking a field trip to Greenfield Village. They will need to charter one Greyhound bus to transport both classes. It will cost roughly \$1800 for tickets and the bus. They are thinking that money earned from the Little Caesars Pizza fundraiser will pay for all or most of this. They would also like to take a trip to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum's Mission to Mars. For this trip, they could take a school bus as it falls during school hours. She will get more information as to the cost of this trip and whether they will need assistance from the GSA.

Principal's Report: (Lorraine Ware) Playground Update: The zipline and swing set have not been moved yet, because the sandbox needs to be moved and the ground needs to be leveled. The cost to move the zipline and swings is \$3500. The students took a vote and voted for a climbing structure to be purchased. The one chosen costs \$18,500 with a 30% installation fee. Once this is done, there is a "Phase 2" plan of purchasing an additional climber for \$20,000 with a 30% installation fee. Summer Minnick and Julie Fisk are working together to get materials to send out to families as well as the surrounding neighborhoods regarding the playground fundraiser. The school district is unable to contribute to the playgrounds, therefore donors are needed. Seth will work with businesses to hopefully secure larger donations. There is a "square" account set up for online contributions.

The Student Leadership Team (this month's 10 members) are hosting a movie night on Friday, January 30. Lorraine purchased a movie license for \$400 which will cover the cost of certain movie purchases for one year. The students voted to watch *Night at the Museum*. The students on the Leadership Team will work the event, selling pizza and popcorn. Pizza will be served at 6 PM with the movie following at 6:30. All proceeds will go into the playground fund. Jen moved for the GSA to pay for the popcorn and oil, Kate seconded, all were in favor.

The "Golden Boot Award" has been started now that the snow is here. If the boots in the hallway are tidy, the classroom earns a ticket which will go into a drawing each Monday. The winner gets to keep the Golden Boot in their classroom for that week. The students are loving it and it's a great incentive to keep the hallways tidy.

School Board Report: (Nell Kuhnmuensch) There have been some changes to the school board since the election this fall. Nell is acting as President, Nate Lake is the Vice President, Hilary Henderson is the Secretary and Kath Edsall is Treasurer. Many committees have been formed to take a closer look at Finances and Academics in the district. Kate Powers is the new ELEF liaison, Nate is the new ISD liaison and Kath and Hilary are the Facilities liaisons. A sub-committee was formed to look at the Red Cedar facility to make decisions as to what if anything should be moved there. Hilary is the chair of this sub-committee and will work with Karen Hoene and Nate. One of the School Board's main goals is to involve the East Lansing community members more. Many East Lansing residents do not have students in the district, but could still play an integral role in

bettering the district or giving insight. It was brought to Nell's attention that the teachers at Glencairn are having a difficult time utilizing the ipads at the school because an entire cart of 30 must be checked out at once. Teachers would rather have a small number of ipads in each classroom to do differentiated learning, small group work, or to help the English Language Learners. Per text from Hilary Henderson, Christian does not want Parent Associations to purchase ipads for schools without checking with administration first. Nell, will check into this issue and report back.

Treasurer Report: (Jana Dean and Jen Zeman) A decision needs to be made as to how much money the GSA wants to be left with at the end of the school year. Also, we need to decide how much money we want to contribute to the Playground Fund. We started the 2014-2015 school year with \$8400. Jen suggested that any unused money that was allotted for other things this school year, be put towards the playground.

**The Presidents Report and information about the Book Fair, Mileage Club and School Directory was tabled until next month due to time constraints.