



Glencairn Elementary Community Council

Quarterly Meeting

November 14, 2023 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85641358696?pwd=zgT6b755SoMoqu6uFTMjJ9bCR6bd5Q.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85641358696?pwd=zgT6b755SoMoqu6uFTMjJ9bCR6bd5Q.1)

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Meeting ID: 856 4135 8696

Passcode: 209199

Attendee Roll Call / Introductions

Erin Cazal

Present: Officers – Erin Cazal, Shannon Torres, Jen Pace, Karla Forrest-Hewitt, Lara Hewson; Parents – Mary Murray; Staff – Ms. Biedenbender, Mr. Smith, Ms. Valente, Mr. Mack, Ms. Teszlewicz, Mrs. Ware

Approve Minutes

Erin Cazal

Moved by Jen, Seconded by Shannon; Approved

Teachers Report

Mr. Mack – Great field trip to Fenner Nature Center in October connected to science unit about animals and habitats. Lots of parents came to support. Mr. Mack also shared about a grant application to present about Morning Celebration at a conference in the spring.

Ms. Teszlewicz – Her class will be meeting their 4th grade buddies this week to do some activities. They are hoping to schedule more field trips to Planetarium, Meridian Historical Village, and Impression 5 – all tentative at this point.

Ms. Valente – In art, they are wrapping up drawing and collage, beginning sculpture unit. There is a goal to have clay objects for K and 5th ready to take home before winter break. Reviewed some of the artworks the different grades have completed. Through partnership with police department, the kids will be creating holiday cards that will be distributed to local seniors in the community.

Mr. Smith – Recently playing a lot of soccer due to high demand from students. In younger grades, the focus is on activities that encourage locomotion skills. In older grades, learning pirate ball game to work on teamwork and friendly competition. They also created a Four Square video. After the break, they will move on to basketball.

Mrs. Biedenbender – Fifth grade morning celebration team has been working on coordinating the music. Next week, 3rd grade students will be sharing a song at Morning Celebration. Fourth grade will share in December and 5th in January. There will also be songs shared by K-2nd at Morning Celebration in May as well as the talent showcase for 3rd-5th graders. The ELHS Marching Band also came and played in October for Glencairn in the parking lot. Mrs. Biedenbender is looking at possible musical assemblies or field trips that could work for the school. All East Lansing elementary music teachers are working together to share their original music and work together at a conference in the spring.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Ware

The staff also participated in creating a Four Square Video with Mr. Smith to learn about the rules and sportsmanship to help support the kids during recess. There was a retirement party for Ms. Dunn tonight who retired over the summer. During professional development, worked together to problem solve and think together about how to work through difficult situations. Some of this has been presented at Morning Celebration, such as a role play about how to deal with not being included in birthday invitations. Morning Celebration has been a very useful avenue to address these issues within a quick timeframe. The Four Square video presented at Morning Celebration was also really helpful to address unfriendly interactions around the game and has really made a difference in how the game is played at the school. Older students have been taking over more and more responsibility in Morning Celebration to give them more leadership skills.

Last month the new playground equipment was installed and it has been a hit! So many students are enjoying it every single day.

Many teachers participated in the ELEF grant applications and winners will be announced Friday.

All of the stairwells have been decorated with decals on the risers that teach math concepts like fractions, multiples, and multiplication tables.

Officer Reports/Committee Business

Volunteer Updates

Jen Pace

Math night was big success. The bake sale made almost \$500. The Book Fair will be coming up the first week of December. Mrs. Ware made a suggestion about signage to publicize the fair and Jen agreed to look into with the chair. Shannon mentioned that in a past year the Book Fair aligned with Movie Night so a lot of parents shopped during the Movie Night.

The next teacher appreciation luncheon is tomorrow and they have all the things they need.

Science Night

Shannon Torres

Rebekah Mosci and Shannon Torres are planning Science Night and trying to add more contacts to reach as many as possible. They will be reaching out after Thanksgiving and planning to have it in the beginning of February. There was a question on using some of the budget on Mr. Jim from Nature Discovery Center because it is a higher cost but it is very popular. Most supported bringing Nature Discovery Center; Karla also offered that there may be alternatives if it becomes cost prohibitive.

Treasurer report

Karla Forrest-Hewitt

We currently have a little more than \$18,000 in the bank, which is about \$400 less than budgeted assuming all items are claimed. Erin wanted to confirm that another donation from Techsmith was coming related to the Fun Run. Based on past experience, not every budget item gets claimed as budgeted, so we will likely be fine if the goal is not reached.

New Business

Erin Cazal

Mrs. Ware shared that she participates in fundraising by selling parking spots for Spartan Games at Red Cedar. They have raised about \$6000 and she is planning on getting another set of Big Blue Blocks, but the cost is a little more than expected. Discussion about doing a family movie night to fundraise additional cost and partner with GECC to do it. The needs would include bringing baked goods, working the bake sale, etc. Erin expressed interest especially to cover the budget gap we currently have. Discussion on whether it could be organized in time to coincide with the December 8th book fair – Mrs. Ware recommended a January date. Erin and Jen will coordinate to start to plan with Mrs. Ware; Mrs. Ware plans to spearhead and work with Morning Celebration team to do much of the planning work.

Mary made a suggestion of selling spirit wear at the book fair and the movie night.

Erin brought up the healthy snacks allotment – wondering about how we can stretch the budget for the snacks. Jen mentioned the possibility that students are choosing to get the community snack instead of bringing/eating their own because the snacks brought in are better. Discussion on what snack would be less desirable and create less demand; suggestions of graham crackers and fruit.

Erin brought up a fundraising suggestion through Minted – she will pursue this and provide an update.

Lara shared an update on the GotSneakers fundraiser – we got over 50 pairs the first week and will continue to collect through the end of November.

Adjournment

Erin Cazal

Shannon moves to adjourn, Karla Seconds. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.