

Glencairn Parent Teacher Organization Minutes

Oct. 13, 2016, Meeting

Spartan Village

In attendance: Cat Schwartz (President), Karin Polischuk (Vice President), Shannon Schokora (Treasurer), Brian Wheeler (Secretary), Alison Alfredson (At-Large Member), Lorraine Ware (Principal), Nell Kuhnmuensch (School Board Representative), Emily Dunn (Second-Grade Teacher), Ebonia Williams (Second-Grade Teacher), Andrea Besley, Shannon Torres, Beth Drexler, Fatimat Adebisi.

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Principal's Report (Lorraine Ware): The Fun Run was a success this year, with many parents involved as volunteers or spectators. Teachers said in a survey that this year's event was just as good or better than last year. Suggestions included better tape around cones on the course, more advance information to parents, a photo booth and more. The Big Zoo Lesson and Penny Challenge for Guatemala are keeping students and teachers busy, and are both going well.

Teachers' Report (Emily Dunn/Ebonia Williams): The start of the year has been focused on making sure students understand procedures. Now, they are digging deeper into curriculum and looking at specific children's needs. ELL, gym, music and art teachers have been tremendously helpful. More to come – looking at starting book clubs, and the school district is pursuing a grant to give second-graders a classroom experience at Impression 5 children's museum.

Board of Education Report (Nell Kuhnmuensch): Expect a different school board member at each month's PTO meeting, and parent councils are welcome to make presentations at school board meetings. Work continues on a district-wide bond proposal. The school board recently voted unanimously to recognize Columbus Day from now on as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Board Action: The board will vote to change the organization's name from Glencairn School Association to Glencairn Parent Teacher Organization to provide more clarity to parents and the community. Moved by Schokora, seconded by Wheeler. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (Shannon Schokora): The Fun Run reached its \$9,500 fundraising goal. Fundraising from Popcorn Fridays looks good.

President's Report (Cat Schwartz): The PTO is focusing its fundraising efforts this school year on the Fun Run, Popcorn Fridays and dining out at local

restaurants, which provide a portion of their proceeds to the PTO. That reduces the need to ask parents and the school community for contributions through additional fundraisers. Upcoming school events include Science Night on Nov. 17 and Taste of Glencairn in December. Also being considered is a suggestion to create a cookbook of recipes from Taste of Glencairn.

Parent Comments: Andrea Besley provided an update on her work with teacher Julie Bungard to create a group for international parents.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Next meeting: 7 p.m. Nov. 10 at the school