

GLEN CAIRN PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday, September 26, 2017  
7:00pm  
Glen Cairn Public School Library

## **Agenda**

1. Welcome and Call to Order	Shauna Spearman
2. Dissolution of the 2016-2017 school council	All
3. Election of the 2017-2018 school council	All
4. Principal's Report	Shannon Smith
5. Vice-Principal's Report	Sadhana Lad
6. Staff Report	John Saschenbrecker
7. Chairperson's Report	Shauna Spearman
8. Treasurer's Report	Kari Keays
9. New Business	All
10. Adjourn	Shauna Spearman

## 2017-2018 Glen Cairn Public School Council

Shauna Spearman	Chair
Denise Nap	Vice-Chair
Kari Keays	Treasurer
Christine Lindsay	Ottawa Carleton Assembly of School Councils (OCASC) Representative
Stephanie Siddall	Secretary
Jackie Bertrand	Member at Large
Lisa Brownstein	Member at Large
Wendy Clee	Member at Large
Michelle Farquharson	Member at Large
Catherine Scott	Member at Large
Kathy Warnholtz	Member at Large
Laurie Wells	Member at Large

# Minutes

## Present:

Shannon Smith – Principal	Shauna Spearman – Chair
Sadhana Lad – Vice-Principal	Denise Nap – Vice-Chair
John Saschenbrecker – Staff	Kari Keays – Treasurer
	Christine Lyndsay – OCASC Representative
Tina Barbera	Stephanie Siddall – Secretary
Nicole Bohm	Jackie Bertrand – Member at Large
Kristian Bohm	Lisa Brownstein – Member at Large
Amal Mohamed	Wendy Clee – Member at Large
Kathryn Tranter Abt	Michelle Farquharson – Member at Large
	Catherine Scott – Member at Large
	Kathy Warnholtz – Member at Large
	Laurie Wells – Member at Large

## Regrets:

Jean-Ann Reid-Flieler	
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Shauna called the meeting to order at 7:05pm to allow for all to arrive before forming the 2017-2018 Glen Cairn Public School (GCPS) Council.

Denise moved we disband the 2016-2017 GCPS Council. Motion passed.

Shannon proposed that the GCPS Council increase the usual cap from 10 members. There were no objections. All 12 positions were declared by acclamation. Council will be reviewing the constitution and making amendments to allow for a greater number of members at large.

## Principal's Report: Shannon Smith

- Please find Shannon's report at the end of the Minutes.

## Vice Principal's Report: Sadhana Lad

- Since Orange Shirt Day (Every Child Matters) falls on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> this year, the board proposed schools mark the day on September 29<sup>th</sup>. However, Glen Cairn's event is organized for October 2<sup>nd</sup> so as not to conflict with our Terry Fox Day. A representative from the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre will be visiting the school and delivering a 1 hour presentation on how Orange Shirt Day came to be as well as on Inuit culture. They will then visit classrooms to share Inuit games. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, they will return to the school to share Inuit art with the grade 7's.

### **Staff Report:** John Saschenbrecker

- School Photo Day will be held on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Funded by the HST rebate from last year's outdoor education trip, the school has just received a large physical education equipment order consisting of both standard and smaller sized basketballs and volleyballs. This equipment will be split between gym use and outdoor use.
- Cross Country will take place on October 11<sup>th</sup>
- Football will take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> for the two boys' teams and October 24<sup>th</sup> for the two girls' teams. Each team consists of approximately 14 students.
- Glen Cairn will continue to field two boys' teams and two girls' teams in other sports to give more students a chance to participate.
- This is a priority; more funding must come from the school budget to cover the cost of the occasional teachers who replace the staff required to support the sporting events. (Shannon Smith)
- Current inter-mural sports include volleyball and open gym activities.
- School activities are posted on the announcement board next to the office.
- School Council might consider fundraising to support an outdoor volleyball court.

### **Chair's Report:** Shauna Spearman

- Shauna continues to meet with Trustee Christine Boothby to discuss the issue of equity in funding across schools. Some progress is being made, specifically at the secondary school level. For example, schools not possessing auditoriums are being paired with schools that do, providing no cost access for special events such as commencement ceremonies. Please contact Shauna if you have any concerns you would like brought forward on this topic.

### **Treasurer's Report:** Kari Keays

- Our balance from last year is \$1010.03.
- Our constitution requires we carry a balance forward of at least \$1000.00.

### **New Business:**

The attendees who asked the following questions were not recorded. Unless noted otherwise, Shannon provided the answers.

#### **Q: How is the new schedule going, specifically the 20 minute periods?**

- The province has mandated that all students receive 60 minutes of math instruction every day. As a result, the evenly spaced 50 minute block schedule had to be replaced with a mixture of 20, 40, and 60 minute blocks.
- Teachers are carefully considering what their goals are for each block. For example, smaller

blocks might need to be entirely lesson based, with longer blocks set aside for class work.

- While travel time between classes is not allowed for in the schedule, students seem to be making good transitions between classes, only taking a minute or two. (John Saschenbrecker)

**Q: What is DPA?**

- Daily Physical Activity.
- DPA is taking up some of the 20 minute blocks in the time table.

**Q: When and how will the EQAO results be made available to parents of last year's grade 6 students?**

- Shannon will look into that and report back.

**Q: How is equitable access to Chromebooks ensured in the classroom? Some students are having to complete too much of their work at home since they are not able to utilize this technology in the classroom.**

- There are only 4-7 Chromebooks in each classroom. They are not meant to be utilized by individual students, but rather by groups of students working collaboratively.
- If a student is falling behind or having to complete their class work at home due to this situation, they should discuss this with their teacher.
- Shannon will investigate.

**Q: Are there enough French books available in the library for all students to sign out a French book?**

- Yes, all students are able to sign out one French book and one English book.
- The size of the English collections is greater than the French. Some money has been allocated to build the French collection.
- Classes will soon be bringing home an open-ended field trip form to allow for visiting the Hazeldean Branch of the Ottawa Public Library at 50 Castlefrank. It is a short walk across the school grounds, with no road to cross. The Hazeldean Branch has an excellent French language collection.

**Q: How much of the class work is technology driven, and how much is traditional textbook and paper?**

- Textbooks are very expensive. It is also difficult to find suitable ones. In general, they are not worth the investment.
- Most classes are using Google Classroom. Access to assignments, handouts, and other materials is readily available. It is also easy for parents to check up on their child's progress with their work.

**Q: Is there enough homework assigned to prepare students for secondary school work loads?**

- The current research does not support homework before grade 9.
- GCPS students are having success at A. Y Jackson.
- Teachers are able to give assessment of work done at school, not work done at home. (John Saschenbrecker)

**Q: Will there be a Scholastic Book Fair held to support the GCPS library?**

- Yes. One is being planned. (Sadhana Lad )
- Denise agrees to be the contact person for school council. (Denise Nap)

Denise brought the Parent Conference & School Council Training Day to our attention. It will be held on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Karyn Gordon will be the keynote speaker. Afterwards there will be breakout sessions. All are invited and there is no fee charged for the event. More information will be released in October. (<http://ocasc.ca/>) Pre-registration may be required.

Shauna moved to adjourn the meeting. Catherine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Next meeting is 7:00pm on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, GCPS library.

(see Principal's Report Following)

## **Principal's report**

- It has been a great start to the school year
- Staffing and school organization will be remaining status quo
- We will require updates be made to the principal's profile this year
- The school has recently purchased some musical instruments and is about to order some physical education materials and equipment
- Clubs and activities have started up. Students are able to find information on activities and announcements on the board outside of the office
- Our Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and we are still looking for parent volunteers to help with the run
- The school is hoping to be able to offer Arrowhead camp again this spring but there is not room for all students to attend. Currently looking at other options such as Red Pine Camp so that all students may participate.
- The EQAO results from last year are in and the grade 9 AY Jackson results are very positive. Staff at AY is reporting that our students are very well prepared when they enter grade 9.