



Glen Cairn Public School

182 Morrena Road
Kanata, Ontario
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GLEN CAIRN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 – 7 p.m.
Library

AGENDA

- | | |
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| 1. Welcome and Call to Order | Shauna |
| 2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting of Jan/15 | All |
| 3. Principal's Report | Will |
| 4. Staff Report | Teacher rep |
| 5. Chairperson's Report | Shauna |
| 6. Financial Report | Diana |
| 7. New Business: | All |
| 8. Adjourn | Shauna |

Date of Next Meeting – March 10, 2015

Attendance

Shauna Spearman-Chair	Stacey Shea
Will Maloley-Teacher Rep	Diana Brunke-Treasurer
Catherine Scott-Secretary	Paul Warner-OCASC Rep
Allison Trudeau	Wendy Clee

Shauna called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Paul moved that we accept the minutes from last meeting, Diana seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Principal's Report & Teacher Report-Will Maloley

- The Breakfast Club is up and running and serving 20-25 students per day. It is student run with the assistance of EA Tara Boal. Students are invited to stay and chat rather than eat and run. It is a supportive environment and students are invited to bring a friend if they are apprehensive.
- The charity volleyball tournament was a great success. Students raised \$1200.00 for the Royal and \$700.00 for DIFD (Do it for Daron)
- The first trip to Pakenham happens this week. There is approximately 70% participation this year, which is lower than last year. Students staying at school will have a regular school day with an outdoor component incorporated into phys-ed class.
- Boys and Girls basketball teams have been selected and intramurals are underway as well.
- Spiritwear and Gradwear is on sale right now.
- The school website now has an online tool so that students can report bullying anonymously. Staff follow up on reports. The Student Advisory Council has been promoting this tool. One direct consequence of this tool has been the formation of a Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) in response to the reporting of homophobic slurs. 17 students went to the first meeting of the GSA.
- Tradanza will be coming February 27th. They present cultural dance workshops in English and French. The cost will be \$9.00 per student and Shannon has requested that School Generated Funds be used to subsidise \$4.00 per student.

There were questions/issues from parents arising from the Principal/Teacher Report:

- How do we know the right kids are being targeted for breakfast club? By observation of students.
- One parent shared that her child would like to see a basketball themed DIFD fundraiser. Students organized the volleyball one so this will be up to students.

- Were students excluded from participating in Pakenham Trip for financial reasons? Is this why participation was lower?

School was able to help financially on a case by case basis. Not sure why participation is lower.

Chair Report-Shauna

Shauna reported on the Trustee meeting.

- Bell time changes have been firmed up. As of September 2015 GCPS will start at 8:30.
- The school year calendar for 2015/16 has been set. First day of school is September 8, Christmas Break is December 21-January 1. March Break is March 14-18. Last Day of school is June 30, 2016.
- 3 high schools are running proms this year on a trial basis. It is hoped this will lead to more in the following years.
- Parents should look to the Board website for a wealth of information.
- OCDSB Speakers Series takes place at Sir Robert Borden High School at 7:00 PM
 - February 19-CHEO Experts Discuss Eating Disorders: Anorexia, Bulimia, Body Image
 - April 15- Teaching kids about Financial Literacy
 - April 29- Developing Creative and Critical Thinking Skills
- There are changes coming to the Congregated Gifted Program at the Elementary level. It will be more difficult to get into it.
- Stephen Leacock will be hosting an evening on children's mental health called "How Do I Know It's More Than a Bad Day" on April 16th.
- Catherine had to step down as Vice-Chair as she is now an employee of the Board and thus is not permitted to be Vice-Chair.

Treasurer Report-Diana

Our current balance is \$4,341.92 (Financial Statement Attached)

OCASC Report-Paul

- There were questions regarding record keeping. What needs to be kept and for how long?
- There was a suggestion that calendars be shared between principals and schools.
- There was a presentation on Healthy Schools 2020 which spoke to the connection between nutrition and school performance.
- Paul will be attending the meeting on March 5th as part of his role on the steering committee on Technology.

Year End Picnic-Paul

- More information on this is forthcoming.

New Business

There was a round table discussion regarding communication between teachers and parents.

Parents understand that by this grade level students need to be taking responsibility for their own work, but parents can help if they have all the information. Will mentioned that they are looking at building learning skills (like organization) into the time table next year.

One parent was concerned because her child received an “I” grade on her report card and this was the first indication she had that there was an issue. It was suggested that she address her concerns directly with the teacher.

The school is also looking at consolidating homework communications on one platform. Leaning towards using Desire to Learn, which is what they use at AYJ so by the time students get there, they will be used to the platform.

Parents mentioned that they find weekly email updates from teachers very helpful in keeping them up to date on classroom goings on. It doesn’t need to be long, just as couple of line stating what they are working on, what projects are on the horizon and any deadlines coming up.

Will suggested that a better question than “Have you got any homework?” to which kids invariably answer “no.” Is to ask “what are you working on these days?” as a conversation starter.

There was a question regarding the Baking Club...do parents need to send in supplies? Answer: No.

There was a question regarding the Leaving Ceremony Committee. The first meeting was held in December, but there are no further meetings scheduled. Shauna will ask Shannon about this. It was generally agreed that the Leaving Ceremony should be low key.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Next meeting March 10, 2015 in the Library.

Future Meetings:

April 14, 2015

May 12, 2015

June 9, 2015