



GLEN CAIRN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 9, 2024 - 6:30pm - Virtual

Minutes

In attendance:

Crystal Boutilier (Co-Chair), Julia Zuliani (Co-Chair), Patricia Fitzgerald (Treasurer), Jaime Routliffe (Secretary), Angela Chaplin (Principal), John Saschenbrecker (Vice Principal), Tracy Spear (Teacher Rep), Andrea Wills, Chris Pouliot

Absent:

1. Welcome and Call to Order - Crystal and Julia
2. Approval of Agenda - Crystal and Julia
 - a. Approved.
3. Approval of Minutes - December 12, 2023 - Crystal and Julia
 - a. Approved.
4. Chair's Report - Crystal and Julia
 - a. Apples and Cheese Donations - 13 families have completed the form and it will start this week and there are enough families until March Break - Angela will email the info again in February
 - b. Glen Cairn PS School Council page now on Facebook - 40+ followers to date, Angela will share the link for that page on the GCPS page
5. Financial Report - Patricia
 - a. No changes from our last meeting
6. Principal's Report - Angela
 - a. There are a lot of things coming up in January. GCPS has an ongoing partnership with Rideauwood Addiction Center. Twice a year they visit and do some presentations about addiction (tech, social meeting, vaping, etc.) The first presentations are scheduled for January 20th. There will be a Grade 7 presentation and Grade 8 presentation.

- b. Luv 2 Groove is happening for a week in January. Classes will do Luv 2 Groove during their gym block and it will count towards the student's dance and phys ed marks.
- c. There will be a virtual session for all students (2 or 3 classes at time) called Media Literacy and Online Hate being offered through the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre. They will be at the end of January, beginning of February. They have done presentations at GCPS before on the holocaust as well as other tolerance learning. They have an equity and diversity focus; learning to accept each other and how to do that through a teenage lens.
- d. School Improvement Plan - For the learning portion: The team is looking at success criteria in algebra for Math and in Language they are focussing on writing and paragraph structuring. The goal at the end of Grade 8 is to write an essay so the staff are focusing on drafting and editing, etc. For the wellness portion: They are looking at data from a previous parent engagement survey and looking at community and family engagement and how to increase that. The first thing is career day which is planned for February. There are about 20 family members signed up right now but hoping to get up to 30. Over the two blocks, students will see 7 or 8 different careers and their path to getting there. So far there is a good balance of jobs/careers but would like some more college and apprenticeship path careers. They have reached out to a few other businesses within our community to see if they would like to attend. There will be Naval Officers, Lawyers, Electricians, Pizza Owners and more. Students will make selections next week with a kick off date of February 1
- e. There have been lots of questions around the new secondary school in Stittsville which will be up and running next year. All families affected have been contacted (about 40 current Grade 8's will go there instead of AY and 46 current Grade 7's will be diverted there for Grade 8). The new Principal is coming Friday to meet with the Grade 8's regarding the school and course selection and she will be joined by some guidance counsellors from other schools as well. The secondary school is not staffed other than the Principal at this time. The Principal will be back at a later date to meet with the current Grade 7's. For incoming Grade 7's, it shouldn't impact GCPS as it was already done with the opening of Shingwakons PS.
- f. The AY family night for next year's Grade 9's is happening on Thursday night. This is an opportunity for some discussion regarding high school and a tour of the school.
- g. Staffing: Angela and John are currently interviewing for a new office assistant. Humaira who is there now was on a term behind Christine who

was on a term elsewhere but she has accepted a contract. Therefore, the office assistant term is now a permanent position so was reposted. They are hoping to have that completed this week and the new assistant start on Monday.

- h. ONFE: The funding for Breakfast Program update. The first ½ of budget has been spent (just over \$500) and the remainder of the budget will be coming in February (approximately \$1168 was the full budget). ONFE has provided a number of vouchers for items such as fruit, veggies, crackers and cheese to go along with that budget and those are being used.
- i. January 26th is a PD Day and will be report card writing day for teachers.
- j. Starting to look at end of year programming for Grade 8's:
 - i. prior to Covid, GCPS did a traditional walk across the stage, get your certificate and a dance in the gym but that changed with Covid
 - ii. during Covid it was a "drive thru" and GCPS hasn't gone back to the old model
 - iii. For the last 3 years there was a student catered lunch, students got shirt and certificates, there was an awards banquet type event with photos, give out awards and teachers do a talk to classes. That is recorded and then posted to Google Classrooms for families to watch. After lunch, students go outside and families are waiting for an outdoor event with lemonade where students did a "processional" and then went back in for a dance with a photo booth, cupcakes and other fun stuff.
 - iv. One concern is the capacity issue for the gym and limiting invites to 2 per family (then a lottery/draw for any extra tickets - approximately 30) and that is difficult.
 - v. Some families can't attend due to timing and work so the posting of the video has been positive.
 - vi. GCPS chooses a date in collaboration with feeder schools as well as AY. The date has not been set yet for this year. They like to choose the same date as another school but different timing to help some families who may be attending both and therefore only need to take one day off.
 - vii. A Grade 8 Trip is not something that's feasible due to liability policies and the equity of access piece so it's not off the table but there is the practicality and access piece to consider.
 - viii. The Grade 7's leaving won't have a leaving ceremony as it's not a full grade event but the Grade 7 team usually does a fun day on another day for all Grade 7 students to celebrate the end of the school year.

- ix. Council has typically given some funding towards the event.
- x. There will be a meeting before our February School Council meeting to invite Grade 8 families to come and provide their feedback regarding the Leaving Ceremony. That meeting will begin at 6pm.

7. Staff Report - Tracy

- a. The gym is fully reopened.
- b. The Girls team won silver at volleyball today and will be going to the OCDSB Tournament. The boys team plays tomorrow.
- c. A current CYC Student, Mr. Jonas, working at GCPS will be starting a board games club. The staffing to assist with that is being finalised.
- d. Term 1 is ending so report cards are coming and some changes will happen with the curriculum at the start of Term 2, such as changing from Geography to History.
- e. The Student Council popcorn and movie day before the holidays was very well done and received. The popcorn machine (purchased by Student Council) is great! The student feedback was very positive and they look forward to using the machine more with popcorn days.
- f. Basketball starts next week.
- g. Clubs and activities in the gym that had to pause are starting back up again.

8. Grant Application - Julia

- a. Deadline is January 12th.
- b. Angela suggested applying no matter what and if we need to change which activity we are doing later we can.
- c. Julia will send a list of options to council members this evening so we can narrow down a list to share with families. There will then be a list of options sent to families to choose a final activity.
- d. Angela also suggested sharing the link (if we choose something virtual) to our feeder schools to increase participation.

9. Fundraising - Julia

- a. COBS Bread - \$25 to purchase a card which can be used for 1 free loaf of bread per month. The school would get \$12.50 per card. Angela confirmed that this could be done through School Cash Online at the school to allow for credit card purchases and not cash. Jaime will reach out COBS bread to get that started. Funds from this fundraiser will be used for end of year activities. Hope to start next Monday and run until the end of January.
- b. Cake Raffle - February 15th - A fundraiser to raise funds for the extra curriculars at the school, such as baking club! Julia will organise that

including a meeting with Student Council who will help with the event on February 15th.

- c. Food Nights - Papa Johns on February 20th (Angela to send contact info to Julia to organise), Shawarma in March (possibly at family at GCPS), Law & Orders - April (Julia to organise - may do in March if a Halal option), Dairy Queen - May; Angela will look into what would be the best fundraising target for these evenings.
10. Round Table
- a. No additional items
11. Adjournment - 8:50 pm

Next Meeting - Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:30pm