

Glebe Street PTA—Meeting Minutes—December 13, 2010

Present: Chad Kortz; Lisa Brown; Bobbi Jo Haverly; Wendy Pedersen; Beth Connelie; Lisa Askew; Kathy Leibowitz; Kathy Simone; Chris Gerlach; Christine Krempa; Kim Park; Kathy Perito; Kim Preston; Shelley Yerdon; Virginia D'Amore; Melissa Hansen; Daniel Carroll; Lisa Levin; Paula Salatel; Lisa Beth Adams; Siohban Wood

President (Kim Preston): Welcome; Pledge of Allegiance; Meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. Kim stated that a vote to approve payment of an expense needs to happen tonight. Our playground was installed approximately 18 months ago. There continues to be an outstanding balance of \$5,000 due to Mr. Pettinelli. He has given us notice that if we do not submit payment, he will need to charge us 1.5% on the \$5,000, thus increasing it to \$7,500.00. Kim introduced Chad Kortz to explain the grant portion of the transaction. (In a resolution included in the December, 2009, meeting minutes, Mr. Kortz was given permission as a member of our Playground Committee authorization to sign legal documents on our behalf).

Chad Kortz: Stated that all necessary paperwork has been forwarded to the State Comptroller. The grant has been approved for us, but it has not been delivered to us. Chad explained that the grants we are awarded are reimbursement grants. This means that we need to pay the bill outright first, provide proof, then we will be reimbursed. The bottom line is there is a \$5,000 debt due Mr. Pettinelli and we should pay it out of the PTA account and await reimbursement when the grant comes in.

Lisa Levin suggested that the paperwork was filled out wrong and someone should call her mother in the assemblyman's office tomorrow morning before we issue payment. Chad Kortz reiterated that the paperwork has been submitted and that Leisa's mom has been most helpful during the process. The paperwork has been turned over from the assemblyman's office to the Department of Parks and Recreation, which is where the grant will be coming from.

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Treasurer (Kim Kortz): was not in attendance so Kim Preston noted that there is \$10,000 in the account, so it is a good time to pay the \$5,000 expenditure. If we pay it now, he will waive all interest. The treasurer's report was approved by Chris Gerlach, seconded by Paula Salatel.

Dan Carroll made a motion that the \$5,000 bill should be paid; Shelley Yerdon seconded the motion. All were in favor; Leisa Levin opposed and Paula Salatel abstained. Motion carried. Kim Preston will get the check out in the mail to Mr. Pettinelli tomorrow.

Recording Secretary (Virginia D'Amore): The November, 2010, meeting minutes were approved by Kathy Simone, seconded by Melissa Hansen.

Corresponding Secretary (Chirs Gerlach): No correspondence. Chris Gerlach extended a verbal thank-you to Paula Salatel, Bobbi Jo Haverly and Melissa Hansen for all of the help with the book fair.

First Vice-President (Shelley Yerdon): Upcoming Fundraising Events.

- Friendly's Night—Wednesday, January 12, 2010 (15% of sales will be donated to our PTA)
- Original Artwork Fundraiser (begins in February/March with a pre-Mother's Day delivery date)
- Magazine sales possibility in February

Public Relations (Bobbi Jo Haverly): was in touch with PTA National regarding our Face Book page for PTA. It is a fairly new thing to them, so they didn't have a lot of insight. Their suggestion was to keep things to PTA-related issues. The Panther Parent received a possible virus, but it was deleted. That particular e-mail was sent to the School District as well, so it was not specific to our school.

Central Council (Lisa Askew): A committee is being formed (Founder's Day Committee: Kim Park; Chris Gerlach; Daniel Carroll; Melissa Hansen and Siobhan Wood). and the Founder's Day nominees need to be made by January 25, 2011.

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There is a meeting, hosted by Glebe Street on March 1, 2011, to vote for the Founder's Day Nominees. The dinner is the third week in March, but no location has been announced at this time. A basket theme is needed by the beginning of February. Raffles on the baskets donated are used to benefit scholarships given to students.

If there are questions and concerns that come about, e-mails can be sent to Kathy Sullivan ahead of the Central Council Meeting time so that those items can be discussed at the meeting.

Teacher Representative (Kathy Leibowitz): Nothing to report, smooth sailing.

Shared Decision-Making (Daniel Carroll): It was a really productive meeting today, from 4-6 p.m. The group really focused on adopting a mission statement and a set of goals.

The Glebe Street Elementary School Shared Decision Making (SDM) Committee is a democratically-elected group of representatives from among the school's stakeholder groups. Representative parents, teachers, non-teaching staff, and the school principal meet monthly to problem-solve and discuss issues of relevance to the Glebe community at large. SDM strives toward the continuous improvement of Glebe's students' social and academic experiences by exploring important issues through the lenses of the various groups who shape our students' educational experience.

SDM's efforts for 2010-2011 will be focused in the areas of:

- Personal Development of Students
as it relates to:
 - Character
 - Tolerance
 - Self-motivation
 - Empathy
 - Citizenship
 - Risk-taking

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- Integrity
- Academic enrichment

- Community Building Among Stakeholder Groups
to promote:
 - Communication
 - Dialogue
 - Trust
 - Listening
 - Open-mindedness
 - Outreach

The Committee decided that the guidelines for distribution of Panther Points should change and there was consensus that the Panther Prize Cart in association with Panther Points earned will be eliminated. The last Panther Cart will be in December. The idea being that the importance should shift from the prize earned to the trait learned. There will be focus on one of the 6 pillars of character traits per month (RESPONSIBILITY, for the month of January, for example). Teachers will name the trait; define it and cite examples in the classroom. Panther points currently roll over from month to month. They would be taken back to zero at the end of each month from here on. The January newsletter will map out the new guidelines. The SDM committee is creating an avenue for all stakeholder groups to be heard. Perhaps a mailbox in the office could be an option.

Other issues:

- Appropriate winter clothing to be worn by students
- Student council request to begin an ongoing system for taking food bank donations
- Dismissal procedures need to be a priority

Other notes/discussion:

Thank you to Virginia D'Amore and Kim Brownell for Santa's Workshop event.

School Store sign-up sheets were circulated for the next 3 weeks.

\$100 each for Founder's Day basket; library basket are budget items. Christine Krempa suggested getting donations from people for the baskets. The library basket needs to be contributed by February 1, 2011. The Founder's Day basket theme will be Rise & Shine (brunch-type items); the library Storybook Sundae basket will be Justin Beiber (Christine Krempa will help put that together).

Either December 22 or 23 will be classroom parties, at teacher's discretion.

Bingo night is in the works (Lisa Brown) will be helping with that. Panther cart contents will be used for Bingo night. Warren Street used canned goods for the food drive as admission to Bingo night, we will do the same.

Lisa Brown inquired as to why enrichment programs, such as the Scotia-Glenville Museum Program are paid through PTA funds rather than through the district's Arts in Education Fund, which is how Scotia-Glenville is funded in some other schools. Dan Carroll explained that the Arts in Education money is a district fund and that those programs are chosen by a district committee to be consistent across the three elementary schools. With the many valuable arts and enrichment programs that are available; Scotia-Glenville's being among them. Arts in Education is limited to choosing only a few each year. Apparently, our PTA in the past recognized the value of Scotia-Glenville's programs and chose to use its budget to bring them to Glebe.

Paula Salatel forwarded the e-mail regarding the Missoula program. Lisa Beth Adams suggested that some sort of programming may be available through The Glove Theatre.

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Chris Gerlach inquired about any needy families requiring gifts for the holiday season. The faculty at Glebe has taken care of the need for families this year, but there may be a couple of items that need to be purchased.

Kathy Perito inquired as to whether the SDM decision to take away the Panther Cart was open to discussion. She is not in favor of it. The committee stands by their decision.

Kim Preston adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Melissa Hansen.