



GLENBROOK  
NORTH  
PARENTS'  
ASSOCIATION

## GBN Parents' Association

Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2017

7:00 P.M. in the Spartan Conference Room

Attendance: Dr. John Finan, Ed Solis, Matthew Ward, Devon Roane, Robin Bear, Alison Whitlock, Susan Schueler, Okhee Choi, Susie D'Orazi, Beth Congbalay, Traci Parks, Kristine Schwandner, Audra Casey, Debbie Jutzi, Lorna Cohen, Laurie Shults, Elisa and David Mitchell, Kris Izenstark, Carol Currie

- Call to Order / Welcome - the meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- Guest Speaker - Dr Ed Solis.
  - Dr. Solis is currently the English Department Instructional Supervisor but he will take over as Associate Principal for Curriculum and Instruction on July 1, 2017.
  - Dr. Solis is getting things in order for his 7/1/17 start date. The first order of business will be new hires. They use a mentoring program to pair new teachers with more experienced teachers.
  - Establishing school and district goals. The most challenging will be how to wrap everything together into one plan. They are talking about the 80/20 grading system (current is 40/40/20 - 40% for each quarter and 20% for the final, new will be 80% semester work and 20% final exam). This will be a way to look at the semester in a whole new way. Students need to understand it. Teachers will work in teams to approach the new system.
  - There is also discussion about a homework policy, assignments, and assessments. Student workloads and wellness is also a topic of conversation.
  - Dr. Solis is reading and talking to teachers to develop a multi-year vision.
  - Dr. Solis has been the Instructional Supervisor in the English Department so he spoke about that and answered questions about the similarities and differences between teachers within the department. He said that all teachers (of the same topic) should have similar assignments. For most grades there will be 4 or 5 books to read and 4 major process writings for the students. The department looks at and discusses the weight of the assignments. How much homework is the right amount? The block schedule may be new for some teachers. Should they give one night of homework or two?

- How to account for the additional pressure of the SAT and PSAT10? Other state mandated tests? They must accumulate data to provide meaningful insight.
- The new Instructional Supervisor for English will be Karen Cunningham, a 1984 GBN Grad who started at GBN in 1990.
- Eric Etherton, who has been filling the void this year will continue in his original role of Assistant Principal of Student Services. He is a school psychologist by trade.
  - Oversees standardized testing for Juniors
- Goals include placement from junior highs. Use PARC testing and Terra Novas. There are meetings with the junior high teachers and those actually give the most insight into where a student should be placed.
- Communication to parents and students about grades and grade book is being looked at as it relates to student wellness. This is the age where kids are attached to their phones.
- There is a township-wide meeting by subject to make sure incoming freshmen are equally prepared from all junior highs. Freshmen coming in seem to be on an even playing field. Amy Goldsmith, the GBN reading coordinator goes into the junior highs.
- Grades must go into the grade books in a timely manner so that students know where they stand at certain points in the schedule.
  - At 5 weeks into the quarter, if the student has 70% or below, there is an email to parents to look in powerschool
  - At 9 weeks, there is an electronic grad report
  - At 13 weeks, a letter goes to the parents if the student's grade is below 70%
  - At 18 weeks - paper report card
  - Teachers should enter grades at least every 2 weeks. Must break down grades over more time.
  - Feedback should be ongoing, timely, and visible to the student
  - It is suggested that a teacher not assign the next big project until the grades are in the books from the project that just completed.
- Dr. Solis will welcome feedback in his new role.
- John Finan
  - There is a pre-super state concert at Wood Oaks for those going
    - GBN Smyphonic Wind Ensemble
    - Field Middle School Wind Ensemble
    - Wood Oaks Wind Ensemble
  - Go to the Deerfield Portillo's tomorrow night from 5:00 - 8:00 P.M. 20% of sales will go to the bands
  - Freshman and Sophomore play is Charlotte's Web
  - AP exams are this week through 5/12
  - Final exam schedules have been published and are on the web
  - 5/12 is Open Mic Night (fundraiser for CTPO). Starts at 6:30 P.M.
  - Prom is 5/13 at the Westin

- Theatre Banquet will be at Mission Hills on 5/17 at 6:00 P.M.
- Band and Orchestra Concert on 5/18 at 7:30 P.M.
- Spring Showcase is coming up for Choir on 5/16 at 7:30 P.M.
- Springfest is on 5/19 during mods 6-7
- Choir Banquet will be at the Hilton (Allgour's) on 5/23 at 6:30 P.M.
- The GBN Awards Ceremony will be in the CPA on 5/26 at 7:40 A.M.
- On 5/30, Spring Sports Awards Night at 6:30 P.M.
- On 6/1, at 6:00 P.M. will be the Senior Athletic Banquet
- Website launch for new D225 site will be on 6/9
- School Board and Dr. Riggle are discussing the 2018-2019 calendar. There have been surveys and communication about the matter. The driver to change the calendar have been the desire to have final exams (first semester) before winter break instead of after. Spring Break will be the same no matter when school starts and ends.
- Book sale will be electronic – we need to discuss what to do for incoming freshmen. Perhaps an event to introduce them to clubs and organizations. They could also pick up gym clothes and spirit wear.
- New photo company. Photos will be taken at school.
- New Business
  - 2017-2018 Slate of Executive Board Officers –
    - Chairman Greta Satek
    - Membership Audra Casey, Katie Trout, Devon Roane
    - Communications Carol Currie
    - Secretary Mindi Rensch
    - Treasurer Susie D'Orazi
  - Motion made by Susan Schueler to accept the slate, seconded by Tracy Parks, voted and approved, all were in favor.
- Executive Board Reports
  - Chairman No Report
  - Membership New parent, Amy Olson
  - Communication Ad has been placed in the Torch
  - Secretary
    - April 2017 minutes presented for approval. Robin Bear moved to approve, Lorna Cohen seconded, voted and unanimously approved.
  - Treasurer Financial report presented and accepted
- Parents' Association Committees
  - Distinguished Teacher - We will learn who the winner is at the Awards Assembly
  - Grad Night
    - Pick up signs on 5/24
    - Mandatory meeting for volunteers on 5/24
    - Invitations to Grad Night go out to seniors this week
    - Anyone can help decorate on 6/2 starting at 3:00 P.M. and on 6/3 (Sat.)

- June 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a walk through from 8:00 – 9:30 P.M. for anyone who has graduated from high school already.
  - Grad Night party starts at 11:00 P.M. on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> and lasts until 5:00 A.M.
  - Grad Card order forms are in the mail.
  - Tickets for Grad Night can be picked up at yearbook pick up
- Spartan Spirit Award – we will learn the winner at the Awards Assembly. Lots of good nominees.
- Staff Appreciation – 5/25 ice cream party.
- GBN Standing Committees
  - All School Workshops                      No Report
  - Curriculum                                      No Report
  - Dean’s Advisory                              No Report
  - Glenbrook Foundation – Foundation Dinner was a great success again this year
    - End of May – Teacher Innovation Grants
    - 12 scholarships of \$1,000 each will be given to graduating seniors – need and merit based
  - Members at Large – all feeder districts are interested in the calendar discussion due to the trickle down effect it will have on their scheduling.
- Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.