



Glenbrook North Parents' Association
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2017

Attendance: Mindi Rench, Audra Casey, Kris Izenstark, Susie D'Orazi, Carol Currie, Greta Satek, Susan Schueler, Alison Whitlock, Jeannie Chang, Elisa & David Mitchell, Decima Paniter, Traci Parks, Shital Pandit, Aimee Yang, James Yang, Dan & Laurie Morrison, Becky Lee Topin, Rick Rosenfeld, Audrey LeCavelier, Laurie Shults, Katie Trout, Lissa Silver, Gail Brodson, Kristine Schwandner

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M.
2. Guest speakers: Rosanne Williamson (Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services) and Ryan Bretag (Director of Innovation and Instructional Technology) and Eric Etherton
 - a. Focus will be on what parents can do to help students with homework at home.
 - b. Ms. Williamson shared results of the strategic planning committee
 - i. Meaningful student work is a focus
 - ii. Examining best practices for homework
 - c. The group is asking for feedback from us on the Homework Principles that have been drafted for students and parents.
 - i. Many parents asked questions about homework policy and expressed concerns about the homework load at GBN, access to student services, and navigating issues with teachers.
 - ii. Ms. Williamson reassured the parent group that our concerns and feedback were heard and be considered as more work and discussions are conducted on these issues.

- d. Carol suggested that parents email her with suggestions and feedback over the next week or so and she will pass them along to Ms. Williamson and the group.
 - e. Dr. Finan reiterated that if parents feel they are not making progress with a teacher to go to the Instructional Supervisor or to him with their concerns.
3. Dr. Finan's school report:
- a. Finals are next week!
 - b. No school next Friday.
 - c. Parent Night for Semester 2 is Thursday, February 2. Please come even if your child's classes are the same to get an update on what is covered during the second semester.
 - d. Four new courses have been approved by the board: Project Lead the Way; AP Computer Science Principles; Yoga; Mandarin Chinese 573. The Political Science class is now changed to a required Civics class for freshmen.
 - e. Semester 2 begins on January 23, 2017
 - f. Parent questions: Why no German at GBN? (not enough registration; Will there be online classes offered over the summer? (Not this year. Some classes are being considered for hybrid classes in the future.)
4. New Business:
- a. Website is live! www.gbnpa.org Send suggestions for content to Carol.
 - b. Community week - consider baking! (Date will be 2/28/17)
 - c. We need people to run for office for next year. Please consider. If you are interested in being on the nominating committee or in running for office, please let Carol know.
5. Business meeting:
- a. Membership: nothing to report
 - b. Communications: nothing to report
 - c. Secretary: December 2016 minutes presented for approval: Greta Satek moved to accept, Kristine Schwandner seconded, we voted and the minutes were approved
 - d. Treasurer: Susie D'Orazi reported that there had been only one transaction in December.
6. PA Committees:

- a. Distinguished teacher: nothing to report
 - b. Grad Night: Next meeting is January 18, 2017
 - c. Spartan Spirit Award: nothing to report
 - d. Staff Appreciation: Margaret (via email to Carol) is willing to continue on this committee next year, but we need more people to join her on this committee
 - e. All School Workshops: nothing to report
 - f. Curriculum: nothing to report
 - g. Dean's Advisory: nothing to report
 - h. Glenbrook Foundation: Saturday, April 29, 2017 is the Night of Glenbrook Theater (dinner theatre benefit with dinner followed by a performance of *Fiddler on the Roof* at Glenbrook South). Tickets are \$75 and include dinner and the show
 - i. Members at Large:
 - i. D27:
 - ii. D28: District 28 is having two parent workshops next Tuesday. Author of Screenwise will present strategies for working with kids to guide them on use of Social Media and other digital formats.
 - iii. D30
 - iv. D31
7. Adjournment: Alison Whitlock moved to adjourn, Susan Schueler seconded, we voted and all approved.