



Glenbrook North Parents' Association  
Meeting Minutes  
February 1, 2017

Attendance: Dr. John Finan, Dr. Eric Etherton, Audra Casey, Susie D'Orazi, Marisa Boffa, Susan Schueler, Beth Congbalay, Katie Trout, Alison Whitlock, Decima Panitch, Margaret Grouzard, Carol Currie

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M.

- We heard from Kristine Schwandner who promoted the Glenbrook Foundation event, An Evening of Glenbrook Theatre. Kristine passed flyers that highlight the Glenbrook Foundation dinner that is held each year in conjunction with the Glenbrook musical, which will be *Fiddler on the Roof* at GBS in 2017. Tickets for the Foundation dinner will go on sale on 2/22/17, ahead of the regular ticket sales. The cost is \$75 per ticket which includes dinner at GBS, an alumna speaker, and a seat for the show. Tables are for 10 people so if you want to email Kristine with your table of 10 (or even a smaller group that would like to dine together), you can contact her at [kjshome@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kjshome@sbcglobal.net). Kristine departed to go to the GBS Parents' Association meeting.
- Our guest speaker, Eric Etherton, was introduced. The topic for his presentation is Text-A-Tip. This is a texting help-line when anyone can express concern for self or a friend. The person can text the help line (GBN Help) 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year (including holidays). During the school day, the organization will contact the school (Eric Etherton, John Finan, or other if necessary). Outside of school, the organization will contact the Northbrook Police or Fire Department in a life-endangered situation. If anonymous, the organization will try to have a conversation with the person who sent the text for help to determine who is at risk and where they are. Since this is an anonymous service, it may not be possible to determine who sent the text or who is at risk. This service started in Lake County and the whole county bought in to the system. Andy Duran is the president of Text-A-Tip and he met with GBN, GBS, and District 225 as a whole. GBN has been considering it for 18 months to make

sure the credentials and feedback are good. D225 thought that this system would work for us and we are hoping that the feeder districts will also use it. The system is not particularly expensive. The Villages of Northbrook and Glenview are also using it. Students received information about the system through email. Registration will be next week for students and GBN will also work on registration with the incoming freshmen (current 8<sup>th</sup> graders). Text-A-Tip will supplement what we already have in place. It is not intended to replace any of the current student services. Here is a news piece about the system: (<http://abc7chicago.com/society/newsviews-text-a-tip-program-for-teens/972020/>)

Eric Etherton went on to say that GBN currently has an anonymous drop box in Student Services. Some kids sign their names on the notes but they are not required to. Tips that are put in the box are addressed the same day and parents are contacted when students are pulled out of normal activities to speak with someone in Student Services. GBN promotes that students should come in to Student Services whenever there is an issue or as scheduled several times per year. We have a lot of resources that are not just for academics.

Text-A-Tip provides a monthly report on how many contacts they had and what the reasons were so that GBN can track the activity and will compare it to other in-house data.

Students can download the app – it is working already.

The Villages of Northbrook and Glenview supported this new system financially. They want to cover ALL of the schools including non-public schools.

Lake Forest, Stevenson, New Trier, Loyola, and all of the Lake County schools use this system. The estimate is that D225 will generate 500 texts per month. Staff at Text-A-Tip are trained professionals. Another team of clinicians will be added and housed in Barrington, doubling the size of the current staff.

S.A. Board initiated a mental health theme for this year's Community Week. They will have tee shirts at GBN that will advertise Text-A-Tip and other student services.

- Dr. Finan reported the following:
  - First semester finals went well and we are two weeks in to the second semester. Report cards should have been received by now.

- Registration is coming up. Students will register during their SRT.
- Second semester Parent Night in the Classroom (Curriculum Night) is tomorrow night. Please come at 6:00 P.M. for the Drivers' Ed presentation, 6:45 P.M. for Early Bird classes, or 7:00 P.M. for a regular class schedule.
- Incoming freshman Activities Night will be on 2/9/17. It will begin at 6:00 P.M. in the CPA and then will filter in to the fieldhouse.
- Turnabout Dance will be on 2/11/17 at 8:30 P.M. at GBN.
- 2/20/17 is a reserved snow day. There will not be school that day unless we have a snow day between now and then.
- 4/3/17 is another reserved snow day.
- The GBN Variety Show will run from February 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Spartans Connect will be on 3/15/17. Dr. Finan's presentation will be about Costa Rica.
- SAT and PSAT 10 for sophomores will be on 4/5/17. Sophomores and juniors will take these tests. Other students will not have school that day. 4/6/17 will be a B day.

#### New Business:

- The website ([www.gbnpa.org](http://www.gbnpa.org)) is a source of information, including job descriptions so please turn your position description in to Carol Currie if you have not already done so.
- Community Week – Cookie Day will be on 2/28/17 from 10:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The volunteer sign up will go out soon and will be posted on our website.

#### Executive Board Reports

- Chairperson – no report
- Membership – Will be at Activities Night on 2/9/17 to recruit incoming new families
- Communications – Beth Congbalay reported that she is working on spring ads for *Torch* and Laconian (yearbook).
- Secretary – Mindi was not at the meeting but the January 2017 meeting minutes needed one correction to the spelling of Kristine Schwandner's name. Alison Whitlock pointed out the spelling error and then moved to approve the corrected minutes. Margaret Grouzard seconded, a vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.
- Treasurer – Susie D'Orazi provided a financial statement which showed very few transactions since the January meeting.

#### Parents' Association Committees:

- Distinguished Teacher – Alison and Robin reported that they had met with Eric Etherton and Jodi. They have a timeline established. An email will go to students, requesting that they nominate a teacher, on Friday. Essays will be due on 3/17/17. An email will go to parent volunteers soon and in April there will be a meeting to read the essays.
- Grad Night – the next meeting will be on Wednesday 2/8/17. Please come if you are interested in helping with Grad Night in any way.
- Spartan Spirit Award – Laurie and Traci will be meeting on Monday to begin the process.
- Staff Appreciation – will be serving food to teachers and staff before Parent Night in the Classroom on 2/2/17 (tomorrow). Thank you in advance to all who have signed up to help.

GBN Standing Committees:

- All School Workshops – Decima reported that the date of the next ASW is 3/15/17 and things are shaping up well
- Curriculum – no report
- Dean’s Advisory – no report from Anni but they did meet and discussed Text-A-Tip and electronic cigarettes.
- Glenbrook Foundation – presented at the beginning of the meeting
- Members at Large –
  - District 27 – no report
  - District 28 – Concert for Africa was a big success and much money has been earned over the years to support Fred Outa’s Foundation and a school for girls in Africa.
  - District 30 – Sarah was not at our meeting but reported that D30 will have a facility bond referendum on the ballot on 4/4/17.

A motion was made by Alison Whitlock to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Decima Panitch. A vote was taken and all approved the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Currie for Mindi Rench  
Secretary