



GLENBROOK NORTH PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Glenbrook North Parents' Association

Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2020

Attendees: Superintendent Dr. Charles Johns, Principal Jason Markey, Betsy Sharpe, Susie D'Orazi, Jane Ciancanelli, Susan Schueler, Stacy Seiden, J. J. Hart, Susie D'Orazi, Joy Axelson, Erin Cooper, Greta Satek and approximately 115 other participants*

Betsy Sharpe called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Guest Speaker Dr. Charles Johns, Superintendent:

We have a new member of the administrative cabinet, Lauren Bonner, previously with Loyola Academy. She is having an immediate impact.

Start of the school year mixed with staff working very hard but opportunity for improvements with so much screen time. First week of school is tough but it will moderate.

Bond refinancing rated AAA by S & P. Very strong financials and expected \$1.7 million savings overall.

Discussed CDC report on vaping. 50% of IL high school students have tried it. Cited stats from Illinois youth survey on vaping, alcohol and marijuana use. Can create lifelong impairments. "GNCY" may be a good resource on vaping.

COVID-19: No shame in having COVID-19, please make high school aware if you do become sick. Significant monetary investment would be required for mass testing. The students coming into the school currently are athletes and band members. School is balancing loss of personal connections with co-curricular programs and smaller groups. Move to Step 2 will be targeting those who are struggling. Dr. Johns

then discussed the various data sets used for determining rates of illness and the variation among the data sets.

The school is not requiring teachers be present in the building during e-learning. Students and staff must certify their wellness before entering the building.

Question was asked regarding extended add/drop for classes given e-learning. Dr. Johns will discuss this issue with the administrative cabinet.

He then discussed technological advances with camera/mic that follows teachers around the room, which should help with hybrid learning.

High school superintendents are meeting weekly and Dr. Johns is meeting with the Northbrook and Glenview Park Districts, Village leadership, libraries and the food pantry.

Jason Markey, Principal:

He thanked the Parents' Association as he feels welcomed. More than 115 people attending this meeting.

Some of the positive improvements at the graduation in the spring will be used in future graduations.

Parent Night in the Classroom, September 10th. Information forthcoming and still deciding how best to engage. Might be a Zoom meeting with an opening Principal's message then teachers virtually.

Academics: Teachers' best practices -- he has met with classes 3x so far.
Math Resource Center up and running virtually
Academic Resource Center up and running soon
Science developing resource support
He is impressed by the strong level of academic support.

Activities: Virtual activity fair out next week
Developing engagement plans
Thespian club in school last week
Fine Arts—auditions this week and Fall Play will occur somehow
(cannot have attendance > 50 people—parents only perhaps).

Athletics: Golf, cross country, swim, diving, tennis allowed. IHSA has shifted other sports. Coaches working hard. 48 people allowed in aquatic center including teams and their coaches. Will work to stream some of the events.

Weekly update: He would like feedback on his weekly update and will work for more frequent communication.

New hires:

Lauren Bonner: New Associate Principal for Administrative Services who comes to us from Loyola Academy.
Maria Paula Duran: Spanish teacher
Courtney Mills: English teacher
Timothy Broeker: English teacher
Namitha Abraham: English/ESL teacher
Matt Bourke: English teacher
Jessica Allen: English teacher
Quin Hayes: Physical Education teacher

Business Meeting:

Betsy Sharpe, Chairperson:

We received a lovely thank-you note from Robin Shepherd, 2020 Parents' Association Distinguished Teacher Award recipient

Volunteer opportunities:

- Need 2 Spartan Spirit award committee heads, most work in the spring
- Need representative to attend School Board meetings
- Need rep for All School Workshop
- Need rep for Curriculum Committee
- Communications Co-chair has been identified
- Glenbrook Foundation representative

We will vote on the communications co-chair at our next meeting. Email Betsy Sharpe at gbnparentsassoc@gmail.com if you are interested.

Jane Ciancanelli, Membership: Currently 424 members of the Parents' Association, which is 90 more than last year at this same time. New membership gift (stickers) this year. There's still plenty of time to join.

Stacy Seiden, Communications: Meetings may be recorded though this one was not recorded. Email the Parents' Association at gbnparentsassoc@gmail.com if you want a copy of the recording. Once approved, minutes are posted on our website, GBNPA.org. Like and Follow GBN PA on Facebook.

Greta Satek, Secretary: Approval of minutes from last meeting: Jane Ciancanelli motioned to approve the minutes. Betsy Sharpe seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Susie D'Orazi, Treasurer: Audit completed for 2019-2020. Budget will be presented at next meeting. \$40,029.74 bank balance.

Susan Schueler, Distinguished Teacher Committee: Process was completed virtually with all nominations reviewed at homes. Jodi Panzer was a tremendous asset. Robin Shepherd won the award.

Parent Reps on Committees:

CATCH Representative, Erin Cooper: 4 – 6 events/year for parents, including coffee talks such as how to deal with COVID-19 and anxiety. She will attend CATCH planning meetings and share upcoming events with the Parents' Association.

Global Awareness Committee, Joy Axelson: French and Spanish teacher by training. Will attend GBN Global Awareness Committee meetings at GBN as the parent representative. The rest of the committee is made up of GBN staff.

Safety Committee, Betsy Sharpe: Melanie Berkowitz and Betsy will continue as the two parent representatives on the Safety Committee, which is made up of a variety of District and GBN Staff, as well as two student representatives. While much of the focus in the past has been on tornado, fire, and active shooter responses, the recent focus has been on safety during a pandemic.

Betsy Sharpe adjourned the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Greta Satek
Recording Secretary

Next meeting will be September 16, 2020 as a Zoom meeting.

*Other attendees not listed due to virtual meeting