

GSF Meeting Minutes
9 October 2013

Present: Lisa Bordley Boland, Jo Pocock, Becky Spence, Sean Malone, Michael Mink, David Hafner, Tory O’Keefe, Kerrie Malone, Bob Marcucci, Meghan Dasher, John Dasher, Jackie Garcia, Sondra Lewis, Tami McCall, Caroline Jensen, Nicole Kepnes, Kate Siegel, Valoree Brovelli, Julia Wong, Rebecca Cowlin, Ramina Winton, Jill Sheehan, Nicole Dougherty, Nicole Klock, Michelle Montakhab, Christi Bozic, Lisa Salomon

CALL TO ORDER 7:08pm by David Hafner.

September 2013 Meeting Minutes - Tory O’Keefe

Julia Wong suggested additional changes to the September Minutes. David Hafner confirmed that the vote to approve those Minutes will occur at the November Membership meeting after members have been able to review it on the website. Tory O’Keefe will make the necessary edits for posting.

GSF New Member Roll Call - Tory O’Keefe

For clarification regarding Membership status, Michael Mink confirmed that once a person has become an approved “GSF Member”, he/she remains a member as long as he/she continues to make an annual financial contribution in any amount (Bylaws Article IV: Section 4.2(c)). Only new members who have satisfied the membership requirements are to be announced at the meetings.

New Members: Shannon Jones, Sondra Lewis, Peter Standish, Stacy Thorpe

School Programs (Christi Bozic)

Cool the Earth - Lisa Bordley Boland and Bob Marcucci were stars in the school’s play. The program ends on 11/4. Encourage children to bring in their coupons on Fridays for “treats”.

Cash for Trash - Encourage more families to participate.

Shoes for Guatemala Drive - Will begin in 2 two weeks. Request to bring in used gym shoes for the Drive.

Playground Choices - Meg Lahart is leading a program for supervised activities at lunchtime to be held in the MPR for 1st-5th graders who would like an alternative to the playground from 12 – 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She will need 5-6 adult volunteers to participate regularly. The program will start the week of October 21st and will be announced in the Hip Pocket. Requested donations of Legos, board games, chalk, poster board, arts and crafts items, art supplies, playing cards, etc. Some concern was expressed about the parent/child ratio and the number of children that can be in the MPR (i.e., its capacity), especially during the early weeks of Playground Choices when it is likely to be very popular because it’s new. Bob allayed concerns.

Fundraising (Valoree Brovelli)

Kids Thrive Drive - Thanked Nicole Klock for the current success of the Drive. \$90,126.74 has been committed and raised year-to-date; 35% participation from 121 families. The top three classes are Treewater (63%), Osorio/Stone (55%), and Hood (54%). There is a new “acknowledgement” banner at the front of the school. All donor families have been listed on the website, also. Monica Goldman continues to update the signs outside of the classrooms. Lisa Bordley Boland is currently asking for teacher donations to the GSF. Thank You letters for donations are being mailed weekly. The next Hip Pocket will include a third attempt to encourage donations from those families who have not yet participated.

Read-a-Thon (Ramina Winton) - begins November 4th and runs for 2 months (including Jan. 5).

Other Fundraising income as of Sept 30:

SCRIP - \$2700

ESCRIP - \$600

United Market - \$690

Andy's Market - \$1000

Target - \$280

Run 4 Reading - \$3280

Birthday Library Books - \$2100

Restaurants - \$650

Movie Night - \$223

Bocce Night (Rebecca Cowlin) - Raised \$3820 so far. The Team tickets are sold out! Spectator spots are still available. This is an excellent community building activity.

Book Passage (Julia Wong) - In follow up to Author Day, Katherine Applegate's books can still be ordered through a Book Passage Order Form. Additionally, all books purchased throughout the year at Book Passage using “Glenwood Code 9” at checkout will result in a Book Passage donation of 10% of the purchase to the GSF.

Communications (Kerrie Malone)

Hip Pocket and Website - Request to reduce artwork and to say what needs to be said in an email blurb with links to the GSF website. No PDF's of items to be included in the Hip Pocket. Artwork will be posted on the SSF website. A request can be made at website@glenwoodspirit.com for a full page announcement on the site.

Directory - The Directory is in mid-production and is expected to be printed by month-end and available for sale in early November. It is being timed for availability at the Book Sale 11/6-11/8.

Finance (Becky Spence)

Requested a new Treasurer for next year from the membership. Bookkeeping experience is needed. The process is organized and is ready to be taken over. Commitment is approximately 5 hours/week.

Chas Thorpe makes deposits weekly and no prior experience is required for this task. Maintaining the Teacher budget reports does not require prior experience.

Income Statement through 9/30/13

Confirmed Fund Drive donations.

Received \$11,000 YTD from “other income” sources.

Expenses

Consultants - initial and second payments made

Educational Enrichment - \$13,000 for teacher supplies, art supplies, and field trips

School Operating Expenses - teacher accounts, office supplies purchased at Office Depot

General Liability Insurance payment

Community Building (Jo Pocock)

New Parent Social – A current Glenwood family has offered their home for a Thursday evening (adults only). Hope to schedule this in October.

Teacher Liaison Report (Lisa Bordley Boland)

Kids Thrive - Teacher donations continue to arrive and hope to have 100% participation by 10/11. She has received no resistance from teachers about the request.

San Rafael High School Homecoming Parade - was held on October 4th. 16 Glenwood 5th graders participated in and enjoyed the Parade. Planning to participate again next year. Bob thanked Lisa for her coordination of Glenwood’s inclusion in the Parade.

Principal’s Report (Bob Marcucci)

Common Core State Standards - transition to the new Standards continues. Will increase effort to better communicate to the parents how the transition is going. Shifts are occurring in language arts and math.

Outdoor Ed - 5th graders will be gone Monday 10/28- Thursday 10/31. Therefore, they may or may not participate in the Halloween Parade.

Student Council Elections - 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders can notify him if they want to run.

Morning Gatherings - on Monday and Friday mornings only. Teachers are enjoying that “extra” time to teach.

Eagle Awards - new process of weekly awards presentation at Friday morning gathering is going well.

Conferences - will be held next week. Request for parents to sign up for a conference if they haven’t already done so.

Every Day Mathematics - Computer-based Math learning program that provides good practice for

students.

New Music Teacher - Stephen Duffy - Students and teachers have provided positive feedback and are excited about him. He is engaging children at all grade levels. He is organizing a “mini concert” at the Halloween Parade in which each grade level will sing a song.

Counselor Update (Bob Marcucci)

The Counselor position that Sherry Patterson held last year was a result of a 3-year grant that ended in June 2013. At that time, the GSF set aside \$25k to subsidize a Counselor position for the ‘13-’14 school year. After much discussion between Bob and the District, they offered Sherry the Counseling position that would place her on the Glenwood campus for 1 1/2 days/week for her role and “another day,” approximately, because Glenwood would be her “home base” campus. The Counselor would attend other SR campuses for the other 2 1/2 days. Unfortunately, due to medical reasons, Sherry declined the position.

Believing that there is still a strong need for counseling on the campus and that it benefits the entire Glenwood community of students and teachers, he requested that the GSF partner with the District by providing the \$25k that was set aside to add a second Counselor for SR thereby benefiting Glenwood and the other schools of the District. The District would also provide \$30-35k to pay for this second position. He supports the GSF funding counseling and helping other campuses indirectly.

Michelle Woodbury, who is currently at Coleman but has worked at Glenwood before, will be offered the second Counselor position that would cover 3 schools. She would be on our campus for 1 1/2 days and use it as “home base” for another day. A Spanish speaker will be offered the first Counselor position covering another 3 schools.

The Glenwood students and staff are missing the group sessions that Sherry held last year that encouraged kids to learn to self-regulate their emotions. Catholic Charities provides Jennifer Catour, a volunteer intern, to Glenwood on Wednesdays from 9am-noon. She is unpaid by Glenwood and the District. She offers 1-on-1 counseling. This partnership is for the ‘13-’14 school year only. Michael Mink confirmed that contributing \$25k for the Counselor was already voted on and approved last year by the GSF. If the GSF proceeds with Bob’s request for the \$25k to subsidize the cost of the second Counselor, Glenwood will receive 2 1/2 days of counseling support versus 80% of 1 day (if only 1 Counselor is shared among 6 schools).

Jackie Garcia asked if Glenwood is getting recognition for the \$25k contribution for the second Counselor position. The response was that the donation is known among various staff members of the District but not throughout the greater SR school community. Glenwood is the only school to set aside money for this purpose. The Sun Valley community feels that they give approximately \$40k to the District through their participation in Run-4-Reading and that is their contribution to the other campuses. Th \$25k for counseling is a one year appropriation only.

School Psychologist - Special Ed - provides psychological testing for special ed qualifications, assessments and AIPs.

School Counselor - provides counseling to improve the overall school-wide culture. This counseling is often done in groups.

Heads-Up Update (Jackie Garcia)

Thanked those who volunteered in any capacity for Summerfest. The raffle ticket sales were lower this year (\$2000 raised) vs. \$6000 raised last year. Glenwood families' participation was deemed low in both participation and low dollars raised. Requested more volunteers for future events and support for her role. There is a longstanding impression that the Glenwood self-segregates by keeping our donation dollars at Glenwood only. This is not good in the long run for our SR community.

Her role is to represent Glenwood at Heads Up. Joined the Heads Up Executive Team as the only elementary school parent because she wants to insert Glenwood's voice into the Heads Up organization but needs our support to do it. Requested a Run 4 Reading Lead parent to partner with her and Heads Up. Noted that there are 4 "asks" for Heads Up: Summerfest, Battle of the Bands, Run 4 Reading and Shop Local.

Michael Mink noted that many Glenwood families attended Summerfest and spent money at the event despite the low dollars raised through the Raffle. Various members of the GSF agreed that there is a "branding issue" with Heads Up and that it needs a "marketing campaign." What Heads Up does for the community must be described and emphasized through Hip Pockets, signage, etc. Lisa Salomon mentioned marketing Heads Up to the community using "good stories" that represent the what Heads Up does and the benefits the organization provides. Julia Wong suggested that the GSF build a contribution amount to the Heads Up raffle into the GSF budget so that an annual donation could be made from the Glenwood community. Nicole Dougherty raised the concern that that suggestion would dilute the Kids Thrive Drive \$700/student message.

Old Business (David Hafner) - None discussed.

New Business (David Hafner) - Immediate school needs will be discussed in the next membership meeting. Bob will present his "list" then.

Janie Burtch's Retirement - Julia Wong requested ideas to recognize Janie's retirement in mid-November. The following ideas were discussed: a Janie Burtch brick, a gift basket, the children could sing to her through the music program, etc.

Used Book Sale - Amy Allen and Michelle Wolfe are the lead parents. There is a spot for book donations in the office.

Movie Night - this Friday, October 11th

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm by David Hafner.

Submitted by Tory O'Keefe, Secretary