

Glenwood Landing School
SCA Meeting
September 16, 2008
8:30 a.m. Auditorium

-Andrea Marchese called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. Linda Gianattasio was not in attendance.

-Andrea welcomed everyone back and thanked all for coming. She called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2007 meeting. The motion was made, seconded and approved by members present.

Treasurer's Report **Trish Otis**

Checking 1 Actual web banking \$7,292.44

-Debits still outstanding \$1,049.62

-Deposits pending \$1,910.00

-Actual balance (once deposits have cleared) \$6,432.06

-All bills have been paid and nothing is outstanding at this time.

Checking 2 Actual web balance \$8,332.05

-No bills or deposits outstanding at this time.

-Trish left the meeting at this time.

Principal's Report **Bridget Finder**

-Back-to-School Night was a success. Thank you to the teachers for their efforts and the SCA for the refreshment.

-If anyone did not receive a Connect-Ed phone call or e-mail reminder on Back-to-School Night, please let me know so that your name can be added to the list. Also, when you put your child's name on the subject line when sending e-mails, it reduces the chance of the e-mail being routed to "junk mail."

-Per Dr. Melnick's letter to parents, my maternity leave will be from December 1st to February 23rd. This amounts to 40 school days. Mrs. Strassenreiter, will serve as interim principal during this time.

-Thank you to Adrienne Daly for taking photos on the first day of school and at the September 11th Ceremony.

-Thank you to the servicemen who participated in the ceremony as well.

-Our Back-to-School Family Barbeque has been rescheduled for this Friday, September 19.

-School is closed September 30 and October 1.

-District Wide Foundations Workshop dates and times are as follows: September 17, 2008 GWL Library; K-1 9-10:15 a.m. Gr. 2-3 10:30-11:45 a.m. and October 8, 2008 SC Library; K-3 7:15-8:30 p.m.

-A parent asked about this year's Talent Show. She stated that the Talent Show has been scheduled to take place on one night instead of two. We could have a large number of students, parents, friends and relatives in attendance and her concern was that we might not have enough seating for everyone. In the past, the show ran on two nights in order to accommodate a large audience. Bridget stated that this year's show will not include class performances and that this will help shorten the length of the show and hold the attendance to a manageable number. This decision was made in response to requests from the teachers who feel that there is too much pressure to create performances and that it takes up a lot of class time. Another parent asked about the teachers and classes that do want to perform. Bridget said that those classes will have an opportunity to perform on a separate date, if they choose.

-A parent asked about the possibility of including artwork at the Talent Show. Leti stated that the Board would like to have an art show. Bridget will report back to the membership after discussing the Talent Show with the chairperson. Leti said that we still need someone to chair the Talent Show Committee.

-A parent asked if we could encourage the students to sit with students from classes other than their own during lunch time. Bridget said that last year we had Friendly Fridays for fifth graders where children could choose their seats during lunch provided that they earned that privilege through good behavior at lunch and recess. She said that there were safety issues involved in just allowing children to move freely about the cafeteria. Friendly Fridays will be introduced again this year, but it will still be limited to the fifth grade.

-A parent asked about the Holiday Shop. Bridget said that this year the Shop will be run on a Saturday in the cafeteria. In addition to purchasing items, students will also be able to purchase a craft project that they can make before leaving the Shop. Several parents said that they were not sure that there would be a good turn out on a Saturday. The idea of the Shop was supposed to be something that the children could go to and purchase Holiday gifts independently, without their parents being present. Bridget said that the decision to hold the Shop on a Saturday came about because there isn't the physical space available in the school during the school day. It interferes with class time and can be very distracting when students forget their money. A parent suggested that we try to run the Shop on Friday after school in addition to the scheduled Saturday. Bridget said that she thought that could be arranged. The chair for this committee is Amy Salvatori.

Faculty Report:

Lois Jacobs

-Mrs. Jacobs reported that she is talking up the Wish List with the faculty. The due date is September 26th.

Co-President's Report:

Andrea Marchese

-Andrea presented the SCA Financial Plan for 2008-09.

-The Cultural Arts budget is \$9,000. This money has not been allocated as of yet, but the circus will likely cost \$5,000. A parent suggested that we might be able to negotiate a lower fee for the circus if the other schools are going to

present this program too. Andrea stated that she will raise this issue at the next Presidents' meeting.

-C.R.E.W. has a budget of \$3,200. Bridget said there will be an opening and closing ceremony. A parent suggested that we look into hiring an author from the community this year.

-\$200 has been budgeted for Citizen's Awareness which is less than last year because last year we purchased a reusable banner to advertise upcoming School Budget votes.

-The budget for SCA Hospitality is \$400. The board has decided not to provide food at meetings this year because in the past, much of the food has gone uneaten. This year, we will only serve coffee at our meetings. Andrea added that we still need a chair for this committee. Tina Bloom offered to serve as chair.

-Homework Agendas/Folders. We have \$1000 budgeted for this item. A parent asked whether the district could cover the cost of this. Bridget said that this item is not in her budget. Since uniformity is important and the agendas are very useful for the students, the board agreed that this item will continue to be paid by the SCA.

-GWL Handbook. This item appears on the budget with a question mark and a dollar amount of \$850. The SCA would like to put out a less expensive version of the handbook this year. Bridget can contribute \$250 towards production and can print the book in-house. At this point, there was a discussion about the different options for the handbook. A parent asked if we could reduce the size of the handbook by removing the section on rules and regulations. Bridget said that this was definitely an option because the rules and regulations are available on the website. Before a final decision is made, however, Leti and the committee chair will see if they can get quotes from several printers.

-Faculty Recognition (\$1,000) This includes holiday and end-of-year gifts in the form of gift cards for staff *i.e. custodians, secretaries, and the school nurse.*

-Back to School BBQ has a budget of \$3000. This number was voted on and approved last year. Thank you in advance to Amy Albrecht, our committee chair for all of her hard work on the BBQ.

-Ray Lesch Quilt Framing/Fireproofing. This is a \$400 Wish List item. Bill researched this issue extensively last year and determined that we cannot frame or fireproof the quilt because of its' size. Therefore, the quilt cannot be displayed in the building. The question before the membership is what should the SCA do with the quilt and, additionally, would someone like to take charge of the \$400? Bridget suggested that we purchase books to add to the Ray Lesch shelf in the library. A parent suggested that we take a photo of the quilt and enlarge it to poster size, frame it, and then hang it in the building. She then added that we could present the quilt as a gift to Ray's family.

-New Wish List Items (\$4,620.) Mrs. Cheung has requested that we place the Carnegie Hall Trip for the 4th grade on the Wish List. This number is up significantly from last year (\$2,600) because there are an additional 40 children in this year's 4th grade. A parent asked if this includes the cost of the children's tickets, and if so, why don't the parents pay for the children's tickets. Andrea

said that, initially, a grant had paid for the children's tickets; now, the SCA pays all the costs (including transportation.) Bridget stated that we can only ask parents to pay a maximum of \$25 for class trips and that having parents pay for the tickets for this trip would make it difficult for them to cover any other costs that the 4th graders have during the year. Someone suggested that the SCA could cover part of the ticket costs and that the parents could pay the rest. Andrea asked the membership to vote to have the money available for the trip. She further stated that if we vote to allocate the money now and we do not use it that would be okay. A motion was made to support the Carnegie Hall trip. The motion was seconded and approved by a majority of members.

-The board has just received a new Wish List item. It is a request from the gym teachers for \$300 to pay for the 5th Grade Girls' Mother/Daughter Sports Night. A parent asked why the Sports Night wasn't open to all grades. Mrs. Jacobs responded that there isn't enough room in the gym to accommodate everyone. Another parent asked why the night is just for women and girls. Bridget said that this night is to celebrate National Women in Sports Week.

-Caldecott/Newberry has a circular account balance of \$21.14, which means that we will have to do some fundraising to support the purchase of new books. Kristina Lacy is the chair for this committee.

-A motion was made in support of the \$300 request to fund the 5th Grade Women in Sports Night. The motion was seconded and approved by the majority.

-A motion was made in favor of the 2008-09 Budget. The motion was seconded and approved by the majority.

Fundraising Goals for 2008-09:

Andrea Marchese

-This year is a Fashion Show year. Glen Head is not having their Fashion Show this year so we can take advantage of the local businesses for support. There has been a suggestion to move towards a less formal event, but not a fashion show. We need to make a decision very soon about what kind of event we will have because the planning has to begin immediately. We also do not have a chair for this committee. At this time there was a discussion about the different possibilities for this fundraiser. A parent stated that she felt husbands would be less likely to attend a Fashion Show. Last year's Night Out really got them involved. Another parent suggested that we need to broaden the base of people attending the event. With a Fashion Show, many attendees brought sisters, friends etc. Andrea stated that this year we will have to have a lot of baskets and raffles in order to raise a substantial amount of money. One parent suggested that we have several baskets geared toward men. A parent asked about what other fundraising would be done in addition to the Fashion Show/Night Out since this year's fundraising will cover two school years. Andrea replied that the Fall Catalogue Sale (for which we still need a committee chair) would be the first fundraiser this year.

-A parent questioned the board about whether GWL would be allowed to have a Fall Catalogue Sale because the Middle School is having one this year. Andrea said that this fundraiser was agreed to and contracted several months ago and that she was not aware of any prohibition against GWL running a Catalogue

Sale. She said that she would look into the issue further and report back to the membership.

-There was further discussion about the type of major fundraising event we should have. Someone said that the economy will have a major impact on the level of participation we receive from parents. Andrea said that the board would like to try to keep the ticket price as low as possible so that more people will attend and then purchase raffles. A parent suggested that the committee chair should have a say in what type of event they would like to organize. Andrea said that the immediate problem is that we do not have a committee chair yet. It was decided to hold a separate meeting to focus on this issue. The fundraising this year supports our budget and without adequate fundraising, many of the SCA sponsored programs and Wish List items are in jeopardy. It was decided to hold an SCA meeting on Friday, September 19th at 8:30 a.m. in order to further discuss the Fashion Show/Night Out fundraiser.

-Andrea said that the SCA collected dues from 95% of families on Back-to-School Night. Thank you to the class parents for coordinating the money and forms. Thank you to Laura Morea for all of your help with Back-to-School Night.

-At this time, members shared some ideas for additional fundraising. A parent suggested that we look into the idea of Gift Card Sales. The idea is that we would purchase gift cards from area stores who would then donate a percentage of the sale back to the school. She said that she would obtain more details and report back to the board. There were additional suggestions for note card sales and ceramic plate sales.

-One of the committees that is still without a chair is the Spirit Committee. Bridget said that she would like to have a Color Day where students would wear school sweatshirts and other "school spirit" wear. Dina Roper offered to chair the Spirit Committee. Leti thanked Dina for volunteering.

Meeting adjourned, 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alissa Fichtl