

Glenwood Landing School
SCA Meeting
March 23, 2009
7:30 p.m. Library

- Linda Giannattasio was not in attendance.
- Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Melnick

-Mrs. Finder welcomed Dr. Melnick and members of the Board of Education to the meeting. Dr. Melnick began by introducing Anna Sharkey, a Board Trustee, Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Business, and Amy Beyer, the Board President. Dr. Melnick stated that the board has developed a budget that is both sensitive to the financial climate and the needs of our children. The goals for this year's budget are to maintain what we already have in terms of class size and instructional programs. The intention of the Board of Education was to trim the budget without taking anything directly from the children. To achieve this goal, Department Heads were asked to remove 5% from their instructional budgets. There has been close to \$1million cut from the budget, which amounts to an increase of 3.39%. The Board feels that this is the most conservative budget it can achieve without cutting faculty or class size. Our reserve funds are what help maintain the budget's stability.

-There are two propositions for voters to consider when they vote this year. The first is to approve the Budget. The second proposition is for the approval to use money from the capital reserve fund to pay for repairs at each of the schools in the district. Some of these repairs include boiler replacement at the middle school, replacing asbestos ceiling tiles and lighting at the middle school, high school Glen Head school and Glenwood Landing school, and roof replacement over the library and cafeteria at the middle school

-Dr. Melnick said that 5 years ago, the year after the budget failed, 4,200 people voted. Last year, 2000 people came out to vote. He added that May 2nd and May 4th are the registration dates for anyone who is not registered and would like to vote in this year's election.

-Amy Beyer said that this year, she is very concerned that the budget may not pass. She urged everyone in attendance to vote and to encourage others who are in the district to do the same. The Board of Education has a question and answer page regarding the budget on the district website. The Board is also going to be hosting several "budget coffee meetings". Anyone interested in attending these meetings should contact the board or visit the website for dates and times.

-At this time, Leti Barbetta thanked Dr. Melnick and the Board of Ed. Members for coming to our meeting. She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January SCA meeting. A motion was made, seconded and approved by a majority of those present. (Please note that there were no minutes taken during

the February meeting of the SCA because there were not enough members present to achieve a quorum.)

Principal's Report:

Bridget Finder

- Thank you to Lisa Whalen and Kelly Lennon for all of their hard work on the Talent Show. It was well organized, ran smoothly, and was a huge success.
- Thank you to Cory Wolf for running the Science Fair. This event was held on a Saturday and the turnout was not as great as last year. Possibly this was due to the fact that the paperwork for this event was sent home late.
- We had 46 donations to the blood bank during the Blood Drive. Thank you to all who donated and helped with this event.
- Thank you to Alexandra Zarb and Jackie Weber for their hard work on C.R.E.W. The format has changed somewhat this year because Lynn Leslie retired last year. We had some new teachers jump on board to create a new opening and, so far it has been a great success.
- Congratulations to Dylan Otis for winning the C.R.E.W. button contest.
- Thank you to the SCA for funding our guest author this year. Everyone enjoyed the event.
- We only have 47 children registered for kindergarten this year which means that we are 13 children away from having 4 sections.
- The 4th and 5th grades are holding a Dance-a-thon
- At this point, a parent mentioned that since we have several new faculty members, she was wondering if it would be possible to meet them formally. Bridget said that we could do this at the next meeting. Another parent suggested that we put a picture and a brief bio. of new staff members on the school website.

Co-Presidents' Report:

Leti Barbetta & Andrea Marchese

- Leti thanked the Talent Show co-chairs, Lisa Whalen & Kelly Lennon for all of their hard work in creating a spectacular event for all who attended. Leti mentioned that we are still selling Talent Show DVD's.
- The board is considering changing the date of the Science Fair next year because Saturdays in March can be difficult for people whose children play sports. A parent mentioned that it would be a good idea to send out the Science Fair fliers before the February vacation. She also mentioned that children could partner up with another child or even a grandparent for their projects. Bridget added that we will consider having the Science Fair on two days--Friday and Saturday in order to accommodate both working and stay-at-home parents.
- Leti said that even though the Blood Drive was thrown together very quickly, it was successful. The goal was 80 appointments with 50 donations and we got 47.
- The Fashion Show invitations have been sent out. Dawn Papiro said that for anyone who didn't get an invitation, there will be another e mail invitation that will be sent out very soon. She encouraged everyone to attend this major fundraiser for our school. A lot of people and businesses have stepped up with donations and the committee is very excited about this event. Some of the donations we have received so far, include: 1 month of camp at Robin Hood Day Camp, a flat

screen television, a trip to Idaho and a \$1000 gift card donated by Glenn Bradford Jewelers in Port Washington.

-Rita Podaras said that yearbooks are still for sale. They can be purchased for \$25. Every child is in the yearbook and, they make nice birthday and end-of-year gifts.

-The Nominating Committee is being formed. We need 11 volunteers and 1 chairperson. There are 4 positions to be filled this year including Co-president, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. Please contact Leti or Andrea if you are interested.

-At this time, Caryn Quinn reminded everyone that the SCA-sponsored Circus program will run April 20-April 24. There will be an opening assembly for all grades and a closing ceremony with the 5th graders performing.

-Cathy Patrichuk reminded everyone to keep saving Box Tops. This program is an easy way to raise money for the school.

-Leti said that some of the lunch aides would like donations of Matchbox or toy cars for use on the playground.

-Bridget asked the membership to consider ways in which the board can increase attendance at SCA meetings. The board is trying to address the issue of low attendance and would welcome any suggestions that parents might have toward that end. Some of the suggestions included sending out e mail reminders and holding the meetings on alternate days as opposed to Tuesday mornings, having guest speakers, holding evening meetings and asking grade chairs to make phone calls, offering babysitting.

Treasurer's Report:

Trish Otis

-Quicken Balance: \$23,398.03

-After School Account: \$10,973.03

-All deposits are in and all checks have been paid with the exception of the Josten's bill for the yearbook.

-Upcoming expenses: the Fashion Show and \$4,700 for the Circus. We expect the Fashion Show to bring in a lot of money so we should be ok.

-February's bank statement has been reconciled.

-9:30 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Alissa Fichtl