

Glacier Creek PTO Meeting, 2023-24 School Year

Date/Time: September 11, 2023 (9:00 a.m. - 10 a.m.)

Location: Glacier Creek Middle School

PTO Attendees: Kelly Robinson (Pres.), Kerry Ausman (Treas.), Alison Scherer (Sec.), Connie Gregory, Whitney Vallem, Aubrey Starr, Jen Lescaleet

GCMS Admin: Shari Taylor– Admin Asst., Ken Metz (Principal)

PTO Discussion:

- Purchasing: PTO confirmed its prior plan and unanimous approval to reimburse GC for the cost of the new swing set purchased for the student playground. Final receipt from GC admin: \$10,315. Money utilized was from the PTO's account which included fundraising dollars raised prior to the pandemic.?
- First evening open PTO meeting held on Monday, September 11, 2023. In addition to PTO members & Principal Ken Metz, additional parent guardians attended.
 - Ken Metz provided an update on the start of the school year.
 - Positive behavior notes by staff outweighed negative reports 2:1
 - Kids and teachers seem to be in a positive place overall, feels close to pre-pandemic times.
 - PTO President provided an overview of the projects/activities the PTO is planning for the year.
 - Based on discussion and direction from school Admin, PTO will focus "food days" for parent/teacher conferences. For Professional Development days, many staff leave the school premise with a longer lunch break.
 - Whitney – Will be coordinating Book Fair events for this school year; asked if any changes were needed, and the group determined for this year 'no' – continue as we have... Additional focus on vouchers is needed – how to distribute to students in need as well as extras for teachers to hand out as positive rewards.
 - For fundraising – discussed potential to do a Raffle as a 501(3)(c) – maybe 2 times per school year as the primary fundraisers for PTO... Consider raffle payout for 3 persons/tickets drawn (1st – 15% of proceeds, 2nd – 10%, 3rd – 5%)
 - funds raised could cover a variety of items for GC – Ideas could include: Student field trips, Teacher Holiday gift cards/Teacher appreciation week, etc.
 - A parent of a new 5th Grader has a background in grant writing – may be able to assist with grant applications for larger school/PTO goals related to new playground equipment.
 - Ice Cream social planned for September 26th (4:45 – 6:00 p.m.)

● General Discussion & Review Monday evening open meeting

- o Kelly wants to focus some of her time on communications; will also be meeting with Jen – parent with grant experience, to see how PTO might search out and/or apply for grants effectively
- o *Fundraising* – Determined an event was not the best fundraising direction with a small PTO staff and limited volunteers at this point. Will focus on a Raffle to raise PTO funds for support to GC.
- o Need to meet with new Student Council Teacher liaisons
 - Student Council members help with theme days to coincide with High School Homecoming week.
- o *8th grade celebration* – focus is on celebrating the completion of 8th grade as the philosophy is that the GC students will graduate from High School – this is a transition to the next phase of education. Principal evaluating if a special Spring field trip in addition to the traditional ‘dance’ would be an option to help with the celebration – something to look forward to as an 8th grader; could also provide students with a certificate electronically that parents can print out if desired.
- Reviewed upcoming Activity dates:
 - o Ice Cream Social – September 26, 2023 (4:45 – 6 p.m.)
 - o Tentative Book Fairs (Oct 11-13, 17-8; March 18-22)

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting: Monday, October 2nd 6:30pm in the Community Room at Glacier

Admin Planning meeting, if needed, Thursday, October 12th at 8:30am in the front office Conference Room