

Notes from Glover Open PTO Meeting

Tuesday, September 12 @ 7pm

- **Introductions**

- Board of Directors
 - Co-President, Karen Belmonte
 - Co-President, Renisha Talbot
 - Lisa Colucci
 - Isabelle Farrar
 - Ellie Fisher
 - Jess Hammer
- All attendees
 - Glover Faculty / Staff
 - Karen McDavitt
 - Melissa Kraven
 - Parents
 - Jeanel Owens (2nd)
 - Lucy Rugo (K) (Room Rep - Brandi)
 - Becca Aiello (1st) (Room Rep)
 - Deanna Meharas (1st, Kindergarten) (Room Rep)
 - Julie Lammers (5th, 3rd)
 - Dave Kodak (3rd, 1st) (Room Rep)
 - Sarah Hart (1st) (is on MFE)
 - Kerry Johns
 - Cristina Carpio (Room Rep)
 - Renee (K) (Room Rep - Cates)
 - Moya Cunningham (5th, 2nd) (Room Rep)
 - Kat (1st) (Room Rep - Grant Heal)

- **Operating Budget**

- Annual overview
 - *Treasurer Jess Hammer gives overview.*
 - *Events*
 - *Glover Fair (a fundraiser)*
 - *Monster Bash*
 - *Glea Clubs (a fundraiser)*
 - *Glover PTO pays the teachers for their time*
 - *Teachers*
 - *Teacher's Lounge*

- *McDavitt commented that the stocking of the teacher's lounge is much appreciated*
 - *Teacher Holiday Gifts*
 - *Teacher Appreciation Week*
 - *Teacher Supplies*
 - *Teacher subscriptions*
 - *Senora Brown Sugar Skulls for 4th Graders*
 - *Buses for Field Trips*
 - *Big Projects*
 - *E.g., Picnic Table*
 - *Misc. Small Projects*
 - *E.g., Map of the World*
 - *Funding for families in need*
 - *E.g., Field Trips*
 - *Fundraisers*
 - *Scholastic Book Fair*
 - *We had approx. \$15,000 in sales; we get half of that back as scholastic dollars, and that goes to teachers (for books and to the library)*
 - *Square 1 Art*
 - *Parent Sarah Hart is on the board of the MFE*
 - *Mentions that MFE grants are in the Fall only, instead of being in the Fall and the Spring*
 - *Suggests touching base with teachers in the Spring, to preview that grants are in the Fall*
 - *Mentions that MFE does not fund some items (e.g., seating and headphones)*
- **Program/Event Updates**
 - **Room Reps**
 - **Class email list status**
 - **Holiday Gifts**
 - **Mystery Reader/Meet the Artist/Reading About Diversity**
 - **Updates**
 - *Julia Lammers gives update:*
 - *J. Lammers has sent one email to the room reps re: November events.*
 - *Class email lists are available, and room reps can reach out to the teachers.*
 - *Another email is coming in December with instructions for teacher gifts.*
 - *K. Belmonte explains that MTA and Reading About Diversity programs are being updated, with E. Fisher.*

- *J. Lammers says MTA and Reading About Diversity generally start in the spring. Mystery Reader is only for younger grades.*
- *Square One Art will be coming home soon.*
- *Room Reps ask about best practices:*
 - *Best practice is to include teachers on the email.*
 - *K. McDavitt comments that her best practice is to BCC parents, however all parents that are on the class list have approved to share contact info, so “To” is OK. Also OK to share class list with parents.*
- Fundraising
 - Evergreen programs
 - *K. Belmonte gives update on the below:*
 - Textile bins
 - *Makes about \$100 per month. Glover gets a donation based on weight.*
 - *Textiles get recycled, not donated.*
 - Minted.com
 - Save 20%, Donates 15%
 - Bookshop.org
 - Donates 10%
 - Box Tops
 - Other ideas?
 - Raiseright.com, etc.
 - GLEA Clubs
 - Nov 6 - Dec 21
 - *Teachers get a stipend, and Glover PTO pays for supplies.*
 - Read-A-Thon: March 6-20
 - Volunteers are needed for sponsorship committee
 - Kick-off event on Monday, March 4 - tentative
- Curriculum Enhancement
 - Book Club
 - Meetings on Wednesdays 8am
 - Author Visits ongoing
 - Kim Rogers TBD virtual
 - Matt Tavares TBD
 - *E. Fisher gives update on Book Club. So far, all books in book club have also had a virtual visit from the author. Hoping to continue that trend.*
 - Math Mondays
 - Mondays 8am

- Volunteers needed
- Waitlist
- *Jeff gives update on Math Mondays. Based on CML. Hoping to continue this through June. Jeff describes the format: split into 2nd/3rd and 4th/5th. One of the problems is explained via dry board, and then the children try to solve similar problems on their own, in groups of 6.*
- *E. Fisher comments that Math Mondays need additional volunteers, and asks Room Reps to ask for volunteers in email communication. K. McDavitt comments that a grandfather has been volunteering.*
- *For volunteers, the problems and solutions are distributed over the weekend, so that the volunteers are able to prepare.*
- *Jeff explains that the “meets” of CML start in January. E. Fisher comments that Math Mondays are collaborative, rather than the meets that are done individually.*
- Outdoor Classroom/Green Up
 - Curriculum development
 - Grounds improvements
 - *I. Farrar gives update.*
 - *K. Belmont comments that the president of Sustainable Milton is a Glover parent.*
 - *There’s a group of Fourth Graders that pick up trash during lunch. Glover PTO gave buckets and grabbers, that are in a deck box outside the school.*
- Glover Gives Back
 - Food Drive
 - Nov 2-16
 - Volunteers needed for sorting/delivery on Nov 17
 - Gift Drive
 - December 4-7
 - *K. Belmonte gives update, and explains that all Glover Community Service initiatives might be rebranded as Glover Gives Back.*
 - *Thanksgiving Food Drive: K. McDavitt comments that the 4th and 5th grade Student Leadership Team sorts the food into bags.*
 - *Gift Drive.*
 - *K. Belmonte gives update on Town of Milton Gift Drive, through organizations including My Brother’s Keeper.*

- *K. McDavitt adds that she also has lists of Glover families that need presents.*
- Hospitality
 - Holidays gifts from PTO to staff
 - *K. Belmonte notes that the hospitality includes meals to staff before parent-teacher conferences.*
- Events
 - Book Swap: February 5-16
 - Volunteers will be needed for sorting and supervising swap
 - *K. McDavitt mentions that Glover just received a large donation of gifts.*
- Glover Gear
 - Holiday shop at Steel & Rye on December 2
 - Volunteers needed
 - Ideas for new items
 - Croc charms, hats?
- Library Support
 - Volunteers needed
 - Library Wishlist promotion
- **New Ideas**
 - Glover Gives Back
 - Sports Gear Swap: March
 - *K. Belmonte explains that people would donate sports equipment and then “shop” for free.*
 - *Left over gear would be donated, through Mme. Brown.*
 - *Mme. Brown is also collecting uniforms (now).*
 - Curriculum Enhancement
 - Arts/Music/Culture Night: late winter/early spring?
 - STEM Night & workshops: spring?
 - *K. McDavitt comments that, post-COVID, Science Fair had been looped into STEAM night. However, this year considering splitting Science Fair out into its own night. Science Fair would be in 2024.*
 - *Parents and K. McDavitt emphasize that there is no candy at the Science Fair.*
- **Open Discussion**
 - *PowerSchool*

- *K. McDavitt mentions that report cards will only be delivered via PowerSchool, to incentivize families to update information in PowerSchool.*
 - *K. McDavitt and some parents comment that, for Middle School and Upper School, PowerSchool is used for all family updates and communication.*
 - *Gratitude - K. McDavitt thanks the PTO for their support of Glover, and their contributions that benefit the 630 Glover Students.*
 - *French Book Fair*
 - *E. Fisher comments that the French Book Fair is going on this week. All French classes shopped today. French Book Fair is available 8-8:45 am each day this week.*
 - *Fifth Grade Fundraiser: J. Lammers gives an update:*
 - *Bowling Party*
 - *Raffle during Parent Conferences*
 - *K. Belmonte comments that there is raffle ticket paraphernalia in the storage closet.*
 - *Silent Auction, with a Glover Locker and a Pierce Locker.*
 - *K. McDavitt comments that these are signed by each of the Fifth Graders.*
- **Next Meeting - January 9**