

North Toronto Collegiate Institute School Council Meeting: September 11th, 2007

Welcome by Eric Miglin: Co-Chair

Student Council Report Lyndsey Gott: (President) and Xing Chiu (Vice-President)

- **Welcome Back Assembly:** This assembly took place today, September 11th. A video to introduce the Student Council was rolled-out as part of this assembly.
- **The Global Education Pilot Project Committee** is arranging a trip to Honduras. There is a meeting tomorrow, September 12th at lunch.
- **Fashion Show:** The theme of this year's Fashion Show is 'Enigma' – all about the lost empires of the world.
- **Welcome Day for Grade 9's** is next week on September 18th. They get a chance to meet other students and have lots of fun. A great spirit event. The Buddies will be right there with them, playing along!
- **TTC Photo Day & Yearbook Photo Day:** This happens next Friday, September 21st. The cost for TTC photo card this year is \$5.00 (up from \$4.25 in previous years) – bring \$5.00 exact change on the 21st.
- **Student Price Cards:** This card can be used to get special deals at stores and other places. By showing this card, a student receives a discount. The card is only \$8.50 and is a fund-raiser for the Student Council.
- **Student Activity Fee:** An \$80 Package Deal. This form should have come home in the last two weeks. The fee is very important to financially supporting the life and activities at NTCI.
- **Home Form Reps:** On September 17th, classes will choose their Home Form Reps. First general assembly of Home Form Reps and Student Council is September 26th.
- **Late Start:** Last Wednesday of Every Month is a late start (for all students except Home Form Reps).
- **Leadership Weekend:** Forty students from NTCI have the opportunity to attend a Leadership Weekend at Glen Bernard Camp from September 27th to 30th. This is open to all students from all grades by application process.
- **University Fair:** This happens the weekend of September 27th to 30th.
- **Prom Venue for Grade 12** has been selected. The location is a surprise but it is awesome! Lindsay Wright is organizing and Mrs. Cappadocia is staff advisor.
- **The Semi-Formal** will be either November 16th or November 23rd. More details to come.
- **Fall Sports:** There is a Boys Golf Team, Coed Tennis Team, Boys Junior and Senior Football Teams, Boys Junior and Senior Soccer Team, Boys Volleyball Team, Girls Junior and Senior Basketball, Girls Field Hockey
- **Charity Week:** This week will happen in January. All the Home Forms have an event and there are lots of activities.
- **If you have any questions or comments for the Student Council, speak up.** The Student Council is interested in keeping the lines of communication open.

School Council Update (Eric Miglin)

There are four main roles of the School Council:

1. Voice of the parents
2. Home School communication
3. Events (eg. Graduating Dinner, Teachers Luncheon)
4. Financial

Come on out and join the meetings as they are very informative about initiatives at the school. Also, many Council positions are available and it is a really great way to become involved in your child's education.

A Special Events Coordinator is being sought to work with and transition for the current Coordinator, Karen Kingsmill. The Grad Dinner is scheduled for October 4th. Please encourage your grade 9/10/11 son or daughter to

volunteer to help set up, serve and/or assist with clean up on that day. After all, they will be graduating at some point and will appreciate the wonderful day – and it's a great way to see and reconnect with those graduates.

Principal's Update (Joel Gorenkoff):

- **Parent Participation:** Please get involved. It is very important to your children (despite what they might say!).
- **Global Education Pilot Project:** There is a pilot project to build global knowledge in NTCI students. The first initiative is the trip to the Honduras (see below).
- **New Staff at NTCI:** Betty Andriopoulos (English), Carey Chisholm (assigned to SES shared with Drewry S.S.), Erica Grondin (English/Careers), Rupa Mehra (Guidance), Robert O'Connell (Science), Bernaldete Raposo-Ferreira (Main Office), Carol Ratzlaff (Music), Jennifer Rowland (Science), Rob Salvatore (Phys Ed), Stefan Santamaria (History), Jennifer Schwartz (Guidance/Co-Op), Karina Shafiq (Moderns Teacher). A warm welcome to everyone!
- **Rob Salvatore** noted that the season opener Boys Football game is against Lawrence Park on September 28th.
- **Teacher Rep to School Council:** Carole Whelan will be the Rep and will be out at meetings.
- **Vice-Principal: Ken Do (Students M to Z).** Ken provided an outline of his key responsibilities, such as setting up the exam schedule. Ken reported that TTC Photo Day is September 21st (cost is \$5.00). Ken shared that the TTC Photo Day cost is \$5.00. Retake day is October 15th. Yearbook Photo Day is also September 21st.
- **Vice-Principal: Mary Laszlo (Students A to L):** Mary outlined her key responsibilities, including building the timetable. Mary noted that September 20th is Mini-Night. On that night, there will be some opening comments and then parents will receive a copy of your student's timetable. Parents follow that timetable through a series of short rotations to their child's classrooms. This provides you a chance to hear brief comments about the course and to meet the teacher. We will be introducing a program called ESP (Empowering Student Program): It will be initially focused on safety and will involve delivery of safety programs and other initiatives. The web site is www.ntci.on.ca.
- **Parent Communication:** Be sure to sign up on the web-site to receive emails from the school. This is an excellent source of information. If you have any specific concerns, contact the teacher. Alternatively, you can contact the appropriate Vice-Principal or Principal.
- **Leadership Class:** This is a new credit course for Grade 11 students aimed at building leadership skills.
- **Equity:** There is an Equity Committee working on social justice and equity issues identified by the students and staff at NTCI. From this the Gay/Straight Alliance has been formed, focusing on preventing homophobia at NTCI. There is also work being done on 'classism' to ensure that there is broad access to all programs, celebrations of key cultural events (eg. Black History Month).
- **Substance Abuse:** There is a new program, sponsored by the YMCA that will involve educating and training senior students to deliver education programs to their peers and to junior students about substance abuse. More information on this program will be provided at upcoming Parent Council meetings.
- **Music:** All the wonderful traditions at NTCI will continue this year.
- **Safe Schools:** The school will practice safety drills, including a lock-down practice over the next few weeks.
- **New Building:** The construction has begun! The math wing has been torn down and portables have been put up. During the construction, programs are continuing. A partnership has been developed with Eglinton Park to ensure we have a field (eg. for Football). An official groundbreaking is being planned, possibly to take place in October. The target for opening the new school is September-December 2009.

Global Education (Karen Wolfe):

- **Honduras Trip:** Twenty students will go to a village in Honduras for three weeks working on a community project for the citizens of the town. Students will be living with families while they are there. When the

students return, we hope that they will continue contributing to their communities. Every Thursday before the students go down they will spend time at lunch learning about social justice issues, as well as the culture and politics of Honduras. The trip runs December 27th to January 17th. There is a parent information session on September 18th at 7:00 p.m. Senior students will have priority but depending on the applications, the trip may be open to lower grades as well. The fee is expected to be between \$1500 and \$2000 plus airfare. The costs include their stay with host families, meals etc. There is a parent information session regarding the project on September 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

The following was distributed for information only, no new requests for funds were discussed at this meeting

North Toronto Collegiate Parent Council Funds: 2007-2008

2006-2007
comparison

Balance fwd July 31, 2007	\$6,924.01	\$8,533.53
plus:		
parent fees	\$0.00	\$19,025.00
receipt: synervoice grant	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
net interest income	<u>\$11.81</u>	
	\$11.81	\$265.15
total cash available	\$6,935.82	\$29,823.68

less cash spent or committed:

commencement	\$2,400.00	\$2,129.72
Teacher appreciation	\$0.00	\$174.18
Parent council ad	\$0.00	\$250.00
School Council Awards (grade 9)	\$0.00	\$0.00
math dep't (graphing calculators)	\$0.00	\$2,051.77
web site	\$0.00	\$0.00
robotics club	\$0.00	\$500.00
classics club	\$0.00	\$600.00
music dep't (new instruments)	\$0.00	\$0.00
music dep't (vocal retreat)	\$0.00	\$395.00
girls hockey team	\$0.00	\$0.00
athletics dep't (boys & girls)	\$0.00	\$750.00
IT assistance	\$0.00	\$3,892.00
school field trips	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Drama department	\$0.00	\$350.00
NTCI uniforms	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Synervoice maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00
School paper, Graffiti (computer)	\$0.00	\$693.00
School paper, Graffiti (operating)	\$0.00	\$600.00
English dep't (mentoring)	\$0.00	\$400.00
English dep't	\$0.00	\$600.00
visual arts dep't	\$0.00	\$200.00
30 hour famine fund raiser	\$0.00	\$550.00
media course - computer	\$0.00	\$1,914.00
ski club	\$0.00	\$550.00
field hockey	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$800.00</u>

TOTAL SPENT TO DATE	\$2,400.00	\$22,899.67
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Cash available September 11, 2007

\$4,535.82

\$6,924.01

July. 31, 2007

<i>Cash TD account</i>	\$1,265.21	\$1,270.21
<i>Cash investment account at ING</i>	\$5,670.61	\$5,653.80
	<u>\$6,935.82</u>	<u>\$6,924.01</u>

Questions/New Business

- Leadership Class: This is a new course. If it is successful, there may be additional courses in future years.
- Equity Framework: It covers all areas and NTCI follows the Board Policy in equity. In addition, there are specific focus areas for NTCI which have been chosen based on student input.

Election Candidates

- All individuals interested in running for a Council position, please email Eric Miglin at killarneylodge@sympatico.ca.

Schedule for 07/08 School Year Meetings

- Next meeting: October 16th, 2007