

NTCI School Advisory Council Meeting  
Tuesday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Eric Miglin welcomed the group.

January 22, the SAC meeting will be co-hosted by the Music Council with Ivar Taurins Director of Taffelmusic Chamber Choir as a guest speaker.

Change of future meeting dates for February and April. New dates are February 20th and April 16th. Please check the website the Council Meeting dates.

Call for review and accepting of October Minutes. Accepted by Svea Einola and seconded by Simon Berkowitz.

Simon Berkowitz delivered the Treasurer's Report, reviewed history of budget and noted reduction in funds available from last year. Reduction in parent fees collected is result of some 100 less students at NT this year. Simon indicated that there is approximately \$8000 available to grant, assuming that we wish to keep our customary "school year end cushion" of \$6-7,000 in June 2008.

Requested support for the following expenditures:

Girls field hockey, by Brian Johnston, Coach \$800

Put forward by Simon Berkowitz

Seconded by Mary Jane Martin

Graffiti newspaper \$800

Put forward by Simon Berkowitz

Seconded by Nancy Wortham

YSAP, to offset school costs for program \$500

Put forward by Simon Berkowitz

Seconded by Nora Pratt

Debbie Gordon of Mediacs, Media Studies \$400

Put forward by Simon Berkowitz

Seconded by Brenda Holtz

Sears Drama Festival \$400

Put forward by Simon Berkowitz

Seconded by Svea Einola

After these grants there is approximately \$5100 left to spend this year.

Student Council Report was delivered by Joel Gorenkoff, Principal.

Pathways Project in Regent Park has been selected for Charity Week.

The Semi-Formal was safe and fun. Joel added that the staff went home "bored"!

The groundbreaking ceremonies will have a great opportunity for student involvement.

Groundbreaking Ceremony: Eric introduced Trustee Josh Matlow and Principal Joel Gorenkoff to discuss the official Groundbreaking Ceremonies for the new NTCI. Josh indicated the Ceremony was a culmination of a four-year path. He spoke of Board-wide facilities backlog, financial shortages, and decline of enrolment across the Board. New building will be the most environmentally friendly building, Gold LEED standard certified. All stakeholders invited in to process early including neighbourhood ratepayers. Will house a theatre, football field and green space. To honour and credit former Principal Ashley Waltman for spearheading this project the new NTCI library will be named for him. Motion to support naming of library put forward by Simon Berkowitz, Seconded by Helen Shi. Opened for questions from parents:

Q. Is there hope for a swimming pool?

A. Josh: Not much hope for TDSB to fund this project, not in budget, Board already drawing finances to support existing pools. Have explored other sources for financing, but no outside commitments to date. Should a source of funding become available, plans exist for locating a pool under the playing field. We will, however, have a theatre.

Q. What do we know about Tridel?

A. They have a commitment to green projects, they work with communities, they have heard our concerns about a safe school during the building process, they are a Canadian company.

Q. Follow-up question – What if they have negative associations, what is the impact to our school community?

A. No one is above scrutiny.

Q. What is our long-term tie to Tridel?

A. This is not a life long partnership. The land the school sits on, as well as the physical building, remains the property of the TDSB not Tridel.

Joel added the following comments: Our only agenda is the school, our programs, the students and their safety and Tridel has demonstrated that they are completely on board with this. This has been a true collaborative partnership, open to the public and accountable. Follow the progress of the build and for more information visit the following web sites:

[www.ntci.on.ca](http://www.ntci.on.ca)

[www.tridel.com](http://www.tridel.com)

<http://www3.atmospherecreative.ca/index.php>

The groundbreaking ceremonies will be inclusive. 10:00 a.m. will be the media show, by invitation. 11:40 a.m. students, staff & parents are invited to a meet and greet.

The TDSB will be pushing the school agenda with the media, a strong NT presence.

There has been some nervousness from the feeder schools/elementary level regarding the build; is it safe – YES! Are programs being cut – NO! In fact, we have more programs running now and a partnership with Eglinton Park – just no field. Digging will begin next week and run through May. By September the structure will be visible.

Q. What of the historic NTCI will be included in the new?

A. Alumni room/meeting space, heritage courtyard incorporating existing facades, all honour boards and the WWII memorial, archways from Roehampton entry will frame walkways, the alumni are facilitating an upgrading of the display cases.

Parent teacher interviews are Thursday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Any other TDSB questions for Josh?

Q. What is the status of the proposal (not NTCI specifically) 11:30 a.m. late start?

A. This has not been addressed formally by the Trustees, only in the media. Was proposed by Cathy Dandy.

Josh added that the Race Based Study is to be presented to the Board at the November 28th meeting.

Q. Has the issue of male vs. female results/statistics (with girls excelling above boys) been discussed at the Board?

A. Not to date.

Eric closed with a reminder of Fall Fare – music night on November 29th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.