

NTCI School Council Meeting Minutes

(Tuesday, February 17, 2009)

Financial report

Charlotte Ryan, NT School Council Treasurer

As of Feb. 17, 2009, the available fund from the NTCI school council account is \$15,665.

Four financial proposals were accepted:

1. Request for \$800.00 from Joel Gorenkoff.

To cover the cost of the occasional teacher required to replace Ms. Carole Whelan while she attends a conference in Kobe, Japan in April. Ms. Whelan will be presenting to Japanese teachers the delivery of an inclusive curriculum and learning what teaching strategies have been used elsewhere. This conference is in conjunction with Toronto ALPHA initiatives to promote teaching and learning of WWII atrocities in Asia. Motion was tabled by Nora Pratt, seconded by Michele Temple, all in favour.

2. Request for \$1500.00 from Jenny Hayden and Sue Munro

To assist with the cost of sending 20 students to Benin Africa. This trip is in conjunction with the Global Education program offered at North Toronto. Students will experience living in other communities and appreciate the value of contributing to community life both locally and globally. Global Education students become empowered so that they are global citizens prepared for the 21st century. Motion was tabled by Roya Mostaghim and seconded by Teodora Miloradovic, all in favour.

3. Request for \$600.00 from Kathleen Pyper

To assist with the cost of South African and South Asian dance workshops. These workshops will use dance to promote and support equity. They will create a South African and South Asian dance and music piece through a series of workshops that will promote antiviolenace. These dances will be presented to the students and to children within the community.

Motion was tabled by Svea Einola, seconded by Anne Ferguson, all in favour.

4. Request for \$600.00 from Jane Lewis & Michele Temple

To cover the cost of supplying food and beverages to the approximately 80 staff members at the Staff Appreciation Breakfast.

Motion was tabled by Svea Einola, seconded by Michele Temple, all in favour.

Principal's Report

Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal

1. Fashion show will be held along with the silent auction, on Friday, Feb. 27 and Saturday, Feb 28. Tickets are \$20. Silent auction will be posted on-line and has over \$10,000 worth of prizes. All profits will go to Children's Cancer Research Foundation.

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- Party after the show is NOT organized by the school, nor will there be any school staff there.
2. Optional attendance is a big issue for NTCI, last year there were 300 rejections, for next year's grade 9 270 spots available there are 600 out-of-district applicants.
 3. For regular updates from the school, parents should ensure to sign up for parent and student e-mails on the NTCI web site.

Vice Principal's Report

Kathleen Pyper, NTCI Vice Principal

Some important dates from the last school council meeting (Jan. 2009)

- 1 March Break - March 16 – 20
- 2 EQAO literary test for Grade 10 on Thursday, April 2, 2009, one of the requirements for secondary school diploma. The test includes two 75 minute periods with a 5 minute break in between. No school for grade 9, 11 and 12.
- 3 April 8, interim report, not provincial report card, for information only before the final exams in June.
- 4 June 4/5, numeracy test for grade 9 students. The score is worth 10% of final math mark in grade 9.
- 5 June 11/12, math/English exams

Special Presentation - Parenting Teens: Making it Work

Lynne Mitchell, M.E.S, M. Ed., RSW

Certified social worker, Lynne Mitchell

Teens – development stages and strategies that work

Adolescent brain development

If you suspect your son and daughter struggles with depression, talk to your doctor.

Approaches that rarely work

“when I was your age.....”

Focus on positive choices, believe that they could make a good choice

“I am glad you are home safe we take about later.”

Allow them to fail

You see it, they feel it, they do it.

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How to get them to own the problem, don't make it your problem.

Aligning with teens preferred view of self, self-esteem, and feel good about themselves. You just feel pride when you do something

Take a positive side, nothing like success can build success

What is the teen hoping to accomplish

What am I hoping to accomplish

Then:

Avoid power struggle

Begin conversations with "I" not "you"

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next parent council meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 from 7:30 to 9:00 pm.