

# NTCI School Council Meeting Minutes

(Tuesday, September 15, 2009)

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## **Executive School Council**

Jane Lewis, Michele Temple, Co-Chairs

Charlotte Ryan, Treasurer

Helen Shi, Teodora Miloradovic, Co-Secretaries

Lap Fong Wong, Ward Representative

Phyllis Cincinatus, Member-at-large

## **School staff**

Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal

Helen Elliot (Modern languages) - Teacher Representative

Kathleen Pyper, Vice-Principal (M-Z)

## **Student Council Report – James Bok**, President

- New student council introduced themselves and discussed extra curriculars (clubs, sports, etc.)
- Class rep elections for the student council are coming up end of September
- Music council is doing fundraising for the music program - music carnival on Oct. 6
- There will be pop show auditions for students not in the music program
- Info night is coming up next week for the France/Spain trip in February for the arts/music/modern languages departments
- Student council secretary encouraged parents to get info from student council (meeting minutes will be posted on-line)
- Boys Athletic Association (BAA) needs student volunteers, encourages grade 9's to join
- Social convenor plans fun nights, socials – first semi-formal is planned for Oct. 23 in the Factory Lounge (w/security guards, 2 police officers)
- Charity week planning and overview, fashion show
- Involve more gr. 9's and 10's in leadership programs
- Girls Athletic Association (GAA) encourages any girls to get involved, even if they are not in sports
- Parent suggestion – BAA/GAA to request money from the school council for busses to take students to games

## **Guest speaker**

Donna from Parents in Transition (PIT)

- support organisation dealing with troubled teens
- located near Yonge and Lawrence
- peer-led
- brings speakers on variety of topics related to teen years – general topics, alternative schools, talking to teens, family dynamics, etc.
- PIT pamphlet will be added to NTCI web site

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## **Principal's Report**

Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal

- School council has a strong relationship with teachers
- Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal has been with NTCI 4 years
- New VP and former NTCI principal, Mike Ferguson joined to substitute for Mary Laszlo while she is on a medical leave
- Parents have a voice in the school, communication is important – parents to sign up for e-mail updates from the principal
- Smooth start of the school year, timetable pick up days worked well as usual
- 100 students over the projected number, classes are big (31-35), especially Math, Science, English, History, Geography, short on teachers, will be hiring as much as three new teachers which will bring changes to some students' timetables (VPs will work hard on planning for least disruption)
- Pool will be open, waiting for a life guard to be hired before classes can start
- New school is proceeding well, scheduled for completion in the spring of 2010. Packing and re-opening in the new school (Fall 2010) might be challenging.
- Current school building received a silver Ecoschool status, new building will be applying for platinum status
- Commencement night and graduation dinner planning is under way (Oct. 9)

## **Vice-Principal's Report**

Kathleen Pyper, VP (M-Z)

Important dates:

- Sep 17 – TTC photo day for Student ID, \$5.25 for pictures
- Sep 17 – re-take of school photos, payment by Oct 8
- Sep 24 – mini night (meet the teachers and hear about curriculum)
- Nov 4 – take gr. 9 kids to work
- Nov 19 – first report card goes home
- Nov 26 – parent-teacher interview night (on-line sign up)
- Dec 10 – exams start
- Dec 14 – 18 – exam week

## **Teacher Representative**

Helen Elliot (modern languages)

- Parents can see all that is happening in the calendar in the students' agendas
- Spain/France trip info night is Sep. 23
- Looking for parents to help coaching various sports teams
- Benin, Africa trip (Global Education) was in August
- NT has an Environmental Action team that promotes env. Friendly acts and preparing for the new school - re-directed 50% of the paper budget to 100% recycled paper, waste-less lunches on Wednesdays, looking for parents to participate, waste audit was done to see what students throw out for lunch, NTCI was an example for audit for other schools

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- Will be opening school eco store , i.e. reuse/redirect depot collecting anything that can be reused to be sent to poor countries

### **Financial report**

Charlotte Ryan, NTCI School Council Treasurer

- As of Sep. 15, 2009, the available fund in the NTCI school council account is \$6800. This is before this year's collected fees are deposited.
- Last years expenditures total was \$20, 240

### **One financial proposal was tabled and accepted:**

1. Request for \$900.00 from Girls Athletic Association (GAA) to help offset cost for the Leadership Weekend.

Motion was tabled by Teodora Miloradovic, seconded by Michele Temple, all in favour.

### **School council elections**

Jane Lewis presided.

- All current members stood for re-election and were elected
- New positions were added and members elected:
  - Pauline Thompson, Speaker Co-ordinator (to bring external speakers)
  - Jane Mooy, New School Liaison
  - Elaine Lurie, Music Council Liaison
  - Lucia Dell'Agnesse, Member-at-large

### **Q&A, parent suggestions**

- Improve the NTCI web site, add assignments on-line, sports schedules, etc.
- Before old school closure, use some items/parts to sell for fundraising, i.e. bricks to the alumni

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

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