

NTCI Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Parent (School) Council Executive

Jane Lewis, Co-Chair
Teodora Miloradovic, Co-Chair
Charlotte Ryan, Treasurer
Marion Flanagan, Secretary
Phyllis Cincinatus and Elaine Lurie, Event Coordinators
Lapfong Wong, Ward Rep
Pauline Thompson, Speaker Coordinator
Lucia Dell'Agnese, Member at Large
Heather Johnston, Member at Large

School Staff

Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal
Mary Laszlo, Vice-Principal (A-L)
Kathleen Pyper, Vice-Principal (M-Z)
Lorne Smith, Teacher Representative

1. Welcome - Parent Council Co-Chair - Jane Lewis

- Jane opened the meeting and welcomed all present parents and speakers.
- She requested that each parent in attendance sign a registration sheet since the school gets funding from the TDSB for each attendee.
- She reminded everyone that the Parent Council has launched a Facebook page. It can be found by searching for North Toronto Collegiate Institute (NTCI) Parent Council in Facebook.

2. What's Happening at NT? - Principal's Report – Joel Gorenkoff

- Unfortunately our teacher representative Mr. Smith injured his knee and had surgery and will be unable to attend the balance of the meetings. We wish him well.
- There were 14 visitors at NTCI for the District Review. We had excellent results and have items to work on with teachers, for example, they will be tweaking the types of questions teachers ask students in the classroom.
- The school had a celebrity at the school as Rick Mercer visited to receive a cheque for \$51,900 for the charity Spread the Net.
- On May 10-12, the school will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary. An information package was included in the report card envelope that went home today. There are a lot of fun events planned like decade rooms, a café, music ensembles, and a dinner gala at Liberty Grand. Parents are invited to attend. The school will not be operating on Friday, May 11 since the 400 students volunteers will be setting up for the weekend events. This is a good opportunity for your student to earn their volunteer hours. More information and tickets can be found on the NTCI website.

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- The students will have a special Red and Grey Day on May 8 featuring a BBQ lunch and fun giveaways so that they can celebrate the anniversary, too.
- The school is facing some budget cuts since the TDSB is in a deficit position. There will be some reductions of staff, less service in library and less special education support available in the upcoming school year.
- Kathleen Pyper reiterated that report cards went out today and if your child's has gone astray, she can print a replacement for you. Just give her a call. She also said that the school is currently working on the end of year exam schedule. The schedule covering June 14-22 will be out in about 2 weeks. It is best not to make plans for your students at that time since it is a very stressful time for them.
- Parents should encourage their students to focus on their summatives since they make up a large part of their final marks.

3. Treasurer's Report and Financial Requests – Charlotte Ryan

The financial report can be found on the back of the agenda.

The following requests for funding were made:

- \$950.00 Boys Varsity Hockey Team for travel to OFSAA
- \$1000.00 Special edition of Graffiti to celebrate the 100th Anniversary
- \$200.00 Moderns Dept. full day event at Glendon College
- \$2000.00 School BBQ to celebrate the 100th Anniversary
- \$970.00 Outers Club require camping equipment for the trip to Algonquin Park

All requests were motioned by Teodora Miloradovic, seconded by Anne Ferguson and accepted by all.

4. Special Presentation: Facebook 101 – Chris Vollum - Founder and President of Social Media Trust

- Chris discussed issues surrounding security and privacy while using Facebook. After speaking to many schools, he finds that many students, even in elementary schools, have 200, 500 even 1000 and more “Friends”. This means every message is being spread quickly through the internet. All the fun of connecting with people can be eclipsed by the risks if we don't manage our profile and security properly.
- Chris will send a handout summarizing his recommendations to distribute to the parent community via email.

Thanks were given to the speakers and the meeting was closed.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 215. Some of the NT Teaching Staff will be presenting on “Technology in the Classroom”. This will be the last meeting of the school year.