

NTCI Parent School Council Meeting Minutes

[February 11th, 2014]

Executive School Council in attendance

Heather Johnston, Co-Chair
Anne Ferguson, Treasurer
Marion Flanagan, Co-Secretary
Veronica Gale, Co-Secretary
Karl Reitmaier, Speaker Coordinator
Carla Hathaway, Member at Large

School Staff in attendance

Joel Gorenkoff, NTCI Principal
Helen Elliott, Staff Representative

1. Welcome - Parent Council Co-Chair Heather Johnston

- Opened the meeting and welcomed all parents and speakers.

2. Student Council Report – Edmund Park (President) and Jack Matthews (Junior Vice President)

- Charity week was a big success and raised money towards the Make a Wish Foundation. Homeform events were held during the week and raised between \$1500-\$2000/day. The events included a vine competition, minute to win it and the gotcha game. The Silent auction held on Jan 31st raised approximately \$4000.

3. Principal's Report – Joel Gorenkoff

- Course selection was due today and parent signatures are required on submissions. The courses selected drives the staffing for the next school year. There are 300 Grade 8 students which will enter the school next year in Grade 9.
- The annual school ski trip is scheduled for this Friday. Only 56 students have signed up to go. The remaining 1200 students still have classes to attend.
- March 27th is the Grade 10 Literacy Test. This test is mandatory and a passing mark is needed to graduate. The test is based on work up to Grade 9 and mock testing has been done in Grade 10. If you have any concerns please call VP William Mack at 416-393-9180. Historically NT has a 98% success rate.
- February 20th is a PLC in student agenda—this is a Late Start and school will begin at 10 am that day.

4. Staff Update – Helen Elliott

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- It continues to be a very busy time at the school and it is important for students to achieve a balance between academics and extra-curricular activities

5. Treasurer's Report and Financial Requests – Anne Ferguson

- Our current bank balance is \$19,382.99
- There are three requests for funding this meeting
- The Archery Club(has 20 members) would like to request \$1350.35 for the purchase of new equipment. Total cost of equipment is \$2350.35
- The Physical Education Department is requesting \$625 (\$5/student) for Grade 9 boys to get certified in CPR/First Aid. The Grade 9 girls were certified in the Fall. Total cost of the program is \$3125.
- Model United Nations (14 members) is requesting \$1000 to help cover the cost of attending conferences to learn about world affairs. Conferences prepare students to act as delegate of a country to debate social, economic and political affairs. Total cost is \$2100.

All requests were motioned by Veronica Gale __, seconded by Katie Kirsh __ and accepted by all.

6. Ward Update-Shelley Laskin

- Shelley was unable to attend the meeting

7. Regulation 274- Charles Wakefield

- Regulation 274 requires school principals to prioritize seniority over quality and suitability when hiring teachers. It mandates that your principal in hiring a teacher must interview the five most senior candidates put forward by the school board. This preference for seniority is most detrimental when trying to hire specialists(like special education instructors or teacher strong in math, tech or French) or teachers with an interest in running extra-curricular activities.
- To help repeal Regulation 274 please make your voice heard by signing a petition. To get more information please go the website- www.repeal274.com

8. Speaker presentation : HOW TO TALK ABOUT THE "TOUGH STUFF":

CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR TEENS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH presented by Sarah Cannon, Executive Director of Parents for Children's Mental Health (PCMH). She was awarded the YWCA's Woman of Distinction Award for her work in children's mental health and her efforts to eradicate the stigma that surrounds children, youth and their families who are touched by mental health issues. Sarah sits on the Child and Youth Advisory Committee to the Mental Health Commission of Canada and serves as an advisory member to the Ontario Provincial Centre of Excellence.

Thanks were given to all who spoke and the meeting was closed.

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The next meeting will be on April 19^h at 7:30 p.m. in Room 215.

SLEEPY NOT LAZY! TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT ADOLESCENT'S SLEEP AND HEALTH- By Robyn Stremler, RN, PhD, Assistant Professor, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, Uof T

Adolescents are often in limbo in the health care system, beginning to develop maturity and independence, yet often treated too much as children or adults. In particular, The sleep patterns of teens are unique and in spite of the importance of sleep during this developmental stage, often overlooked. Adolescents who complain about waking up early for school or other activities may be perceived as lazy by their parents and teacher, but there is a biological basis for the need to sleep.