

NTCI Parent Council Meeting Minutes

(Tuesday, November 16, 2010)

Executive School Council

Jane Lewis, Co-Chair
Michele Temple, Co-Chair
Charlotte Ryan, Treasurer
Helen Shi and Teodora Miloradovic, Co-Secretaries
Svea Einola, Event Co-ordinator
Lapfong Wong, Ward Rep
Jane Mooy, New School Liaison
Pauline Thompson, Speaker Coordinator
Elaine Lurie, Music Parent Council Liaison
Lucia Dell'Agnesse, Member at Large
Phyllis Cincinatus, 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

- opened the meeting, welcomed all present, asked parents to introduce themselves to the ones sitting around them

2. Student Council Report – Martin L., President, Katherine M., VP

- Food drive will be held Nov. 25 – Dec. 8 to collect food for a youth shelter in Toronto
- Exams coming up, stressful time for students, they need to be reminded to start studying early; Dec. 7th - holiday assembly, Dec. 9 – math exam, Dec. 10 – English exam, other exams after that, classes are still being held during exam days, teachers answer questions, give tips for the exams
- First semiformal dance of the year was held, no rules were broken, no students sent home
- Fall Fare coming up on Dec. 2, Music. Dept. winter concert, tickets \$5, sale starts next week.
- Charity Week starts January 17, first committee meeting was held today, chosen charity is War Child, which helps children all over the world affected by wars
 - Lots of events will be held throughout the school to raise money for the charity, teachers are involved, too
 - Fashion show and silent auction – Feb. 4 & 5
 - Charity education week starts Jan 10, founder of the charity, Dr. Smith, will come to speak to the students
 - School will send e-mails to parents re charity week and food drive
 - Looking for donations for silent auction - e-mail Katherine.mcauley@hotmail.com if you have items to donate.

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3. Principal's Report - Principal Joel Gorenkoff

- School visitors – former premier Bill Davis, current premier Dalton McGuinty, retired heavyweight boxer George Chuvalo, who spoke to grade 9 students about deadly effects of substance abuse and his family's tragedy.
- New school progress - name finally went up on the building, demolition of the old school supposed to start next week, so that the new field can be ready for Fall sports next year
- Sports - Jr. girls basketball team won the city finals
- Report cards (with exam schedules) going home this week, Nov 25 parent-teacher interviews can be scheduled then
- NTCI is participating in a student exchange with Inukshuk High School from Nunavut, putting together an art show on equality (March 26 – April 2). If anyone is interested in hosting, please contact the school

4. Treasurer's Report and financial requests– Charlotte Ryan

- Current balance after fees were deposited is \$23,783
- 3 financial requests were submitted for approval this month (all were accepted):
 - 1) \$350 (Ms. Withers) for promoting Free the Children charity (money is needed for flyers, marketing, printing raffle prizes). There will be events in the school to raise money, (& other school groups) leadership event – motioned by Teodora Miloradovic, seconded by Pauline Thompson, accepted by all
 - 2) \$250 (Ms. de Braux) for the Lunch & Learn series for students on stress relief (by social worker Jean Middlebrook and Ms. Dobreau). Money is needed for the honorarium for the speakers - motioned by Teodora Miloradovic, seconded by Pauline Thompson, accepted by all
 - 3) \$800 (Geography Department) for a colour printer to print maps as part of the GIS system being implemented and next year's GIS course - motioned by Teodora Miloradovic, seconded by Pauline Thompson, accepted by all

5. Post-secondary choices – presented by Ms. de Braux, Head of Guidance department

- Career is not about narrowing choices, but widening them, children will focus themselves
- Don't ask "what do you want to be when you grow up?", but rather "What are you interested in?"
- Share your experiences
- A lot of children will not know what they want at the end of high school
- 4 post-secondary destinations
 - o Workplace
 - o Apprenticeship
 - o Community college – 2-3 year diploma, or 3-4 year applied degree, prepares for workplace, industry driven, most offer reciprocal deals with universities, to transfer there after 2 years of college directly into 3rd year university (cheaper option)
 - o University – 4-year degree programs, theoretical, specific course req's (top 6 Gr. 12 marks from U/M courses, min avg. 70% or more), does not always lead to work, need professional certification/degree after

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- Listen to the kids, if to them it's more about "doing", knowing what they want, college might be better, but if they love "thinking", not sure what career they want, university might be better, they'll find their "bliss" there
- Ensure to subscribe to NT Grad mailing list (in Grade 11 also), lots of useful information re post-secondary info, incl. on scholarships
- Students should keep a detailed file on volunteer work, extracurricular activities, awards, achievements – very important for university admittance.
- Post secondary schools/universities have "requirements" (must have's) and "recommendations" (good to have) for each program
- If optional 5th year is selected at NTCI, students must take min 6 courses, Co-op can be 4 of 6 courses, or can go to a semestral school elsewhere
- Students should plan to graduate after 4th year, complete 40 h of required volunteer work and all other requirements for graduation

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting – Wednesday, January 19, 2011