

North Toronto Collegiate Institute  
School (Parent) Council  
Minutes  
Monday April 29, 2019  
7:30 pm Room 215

In Attendance:

Parent Council:

Jess Hungate, Chair and Co-Ward Liason  
Janet Victor, Treasurer  
Ellie Morch and Simin Keramati, Co-Secretaries  
Catherine Mackenzie, Communications Coordinator  
Carmella Caramico and Koo Chun, Co-Community Event Organizers  
Will Ollerhead and Collette Zimmerman, Co-Speaker Coordinator

School Staff:

Ms. Kathleen Pyper, Vice-Principal  
Ms. Jennifer Kurtz, Vice-Principal

Students:

Adam Barkas, Student Council President

Absent:

Tina Brunelle, Member-at-large  
Carrie Powers, Member-at-large  
Shanchan Tang, Co-Ward Liason

**1. Welcome and Announcements [Jess Hungate, Chair]**

The agenda order is going to be changed. Staff Report will be presented first and the Speaker will follow this. The remaining of the agenda items will follow this.

**2. Staff Update [Mr. Taylor]**

- a) Universities have just received the 3rd report cards from April 10th today. The final report card is not helpful for university acceptance. Final marks in Grade 11 do often help with university acceptance.
- b) May 29th is the last day university applications are accepted
- c) Supports available during this period where stress is very high. Dozens of students come to guidance to seek help. Keep an eye on your children because May will test them.
- d) Workshop at the end of May: how to approach exams eg planning, attitude and strategies. Surprisingly attendance is low in previous years. Date tbd.

**3. Programme: Sara Dimerman, Dip.C.S, C.Psych.: “Don’t Leave, Please Go: what you (and your teen) need to know before heading to university or college”**

Dr. Dimerman presented a topical and practical discussion regarding students leaving home for post-secondary education. She recommended: prepare for more conflict at home in grade 12, investigate resources at the institution your child is attending, watch for safety issues, validate and

acknowledge their feelings, and expect marks to drop from grade 12 to 1st year post-secondary. An engaging Q&A followed with an engaged audience of parents.

#### **4. Student Council Update [Adam Barkas]**

- a) Election Campaigns for 2019-20 Council started. Speech assembly on May 1 and elections on May 8.
  - b) Earth Week last week with an assembly. Raised money for Forests Ontario.
- Q. A parent asked about any initiative to paint grey concrete walls/lockers with murals. Adam will bring to the art council.

#### **5. Principal's Update [Kathleen Pyper & Jennifer Kurtz, Vice Principals]**

- c) Maytime Melodies this week. Tickets purchased through music team.
  - d) Prom is on May 16 at Casino Royale. Zero tolerance policy for intoxication from alcohol and/or drugs.
  - e) Welcome Evening for incoming Grade 9s on Thurs May 23rd at 6:30 pm.
  - f) Last day for tests and assignments is May 30th. Exams are 2 weeks later June 10-21.
  - g) Staffing for 2019-20 is uncertain at time. This is about a month behind due to education cut backs.
- Q. Course changes. Parents advise their students to see guidance counsellors if courses have been cut.
- h) June 27 Commencement. Moved from October. Taking place at NTCl. 2 guest tickets per graduate.

#### **6. Treasurer's Update [Jess Hungate for Janet Victor]**

Requests for funding approved by council:

- a) Visual Arts Dept \$1000 for the completion phase of their Indigenous mixed media mural project.
- b) Robotics Team \$500 for a new competition system.
- c) ESL Classes, New Amnesty International Book Club \$1000 for a new initiative from Helen Elliott, who is heading up the new ESL program at NT. She has established this book club to focus on human rights issues and engage students in reading and increase their english language skills.

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

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**Next Meeting: Monday, May 27, 2019**

**7:30 pm**

**Room 215**

Our guest speaker will be teacher and parenting coach Michelle Keeley who will speak to us on the topic "Teenage Tango – dealing with power struggles with teenagers". Are you interested in taking the sting out of the power struggles with your teenager? Parenting a teen is often a dance and it takes two to tango! Please join us for tips and discussion on how to better understand, support, and care for your teen.

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