**Northern Secondary School Parent Council Meeting**

 **May 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library**

Prepared by: Tanya Goldberg (volunteer)

*Note: These are draft minutes that have not yet been approved by School Council and are hence potentially subject to change.*

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| **Agenda Item** | **Decision/Action Taken** | **Person Responsible** |
| Welcome  | * Approximately 12 parents attended plus Vice Principal Marshall, Teacher & Staff reps and Community rep. Quorum was established.
* No conflicts of interest declared.
* Draft minutes of March 29, 2017 meeting were approved.
 | Bettina Moved by: Scott2nd by: Adam**Approved.** |
| Budget Committee  | * Financial update as at May 2, 2017 was circulated and can be accessed here.
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* Budget Committee approved expenditure for classroom fans.
 | Kasi |
| Cellphone Committee | * Committee received more than 1000 responses to survey from parents, teachers and students. Will meet on Wednesday to plan report summarizing results and making recommendations.
 | Scott |
| Eco Committee | * Working with a few members to generate ideas.
* Water bottle accounting to be clarified.
 | Bettina read email from Ms. Kinclova  |
| Wellbeing Committee & PRO Grant | * Putting in PRO grant application for presentation on teenagers, technology & distraction. Currently researching appropriate speaker.
* Was advised cannot proceed with funding teachers to complete mental health first aid course because against TDSB rules.
* Bettina advised that Sashbear can provide 1 hour free presentation to kids on handling emotional dysregulation. Revisit idea in Fall because too late in school year to pursue.
 | Tanya |
| Learning Disabilities Committee | * Hoping to engage speaker for next year to present on executive functioning, anxiety and assistive devices.
* Will attend Grade 8 Welcome evening on June 1.
* Quiet lunchroom (rm 112) will remain operational until next Xmas then evaluate.
 | Shellie |
| Gifted Advisory Committee  | * Motion re size of Northern gifted program sent to Supervising Principal of Special Education in Regions 1 and 4. Meeting on May 3 to discuss next steps.
 | Peggy |
| Welcome Committee  | * No report provided.
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| Breakfast Committee | * Has put in funding request for next year.
 | Bettina (for Barb) |
| Caring & Safe Schools Committee | * Purchase of fans in progress.
* Suspensions and major problems down since beginning of school year.
 | VP Marshall |
| Other Business | * Student wants to start Social Club for kids to improve social skills next year. Advised to follow school procedure re Charter and funding.
* Raised issue about safety of asbestos in school. Was advised that TDSB investigated and concluded asbestos should remain in place as no significant harm and removal could be dangerous. **Ms.** **Marr to advise if official report can be shared with Council & students.**
 | Fabian Sekora |
| Teacher & Staff Report | * Staff to provide measurements for blinds. Council can purchase blinds but TDSB must install.
* Funding request for plants deferred to next year given upcoming vacation months.
 | Ms. Marr, Ms. Mathews, Mr. Banjovic |
| Student’s Report | * No report provided.
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| Community Member’s Report | * Attended Parents as Partners conference and met with Michelle Munroe, Central Coordinator PIAC. Ms. Munroe was invited to attend a Council meeting, but so far no response. This could be something to follow up on next year.
* Attended presentation by Jason Shaul Ellenbogen on communication between parents and teenagers.
* Brief discussion about John Fisher condo tower issue. Trustee Matlow setting up meeting to discuss community concerns and risk assessment.
* Province committed $1.4 billion to repair schools in latest budget.
 | Behzad |
| Vice Principal’s Report  | * May 4: blood clinic at North Toronto.
* May 5: Prom. Valedictorian will be announced on May 3. School will hold Assembly in advance of Prom to discuss students’ responsibilities before and during the event.
* May 10: Tunescape concert
* May 11: Northern Lights art exhibit
* May 12: SAC election. School will hold Assembly on May 8 for election speeches.
* May 19: SAC Stock with extended lunch & activities
* June 1: Grade 8 Welcome night
* During culminating events, any absences/missed assignments require a medical note.
* School has 2.5 teacher surplus for next year. Overall, staff are down 7 positions. Currently sitting at 1768 students. Projection for next year is same. Gifted is down and optional attendance is up. Expect to run 4 gifted Grade 9 classes (31 each) next year.
* SRO program may be revisited given TDSB Director of Education John Molloy’s comments at recent meeting.
* Brief discussion about police safety alerts and communication to parents. Police communicate alerts to school and school decides whether or not to tell parents depending on circumstances.
 | VP Marshall  |
| Co-Chairs Report  | * (In camera discussion regarding a proposal was held and agreed)
* Metrolinx looking for members of the community to join their construction liason committee. It’s a 12-18 month commitment with monthly meetings. Send email to sc.northernsecondaryschool@tdsb.on.ca if interested.
* Ward forum on Equity May 15 at John Polyani Collegiate at 6:30 p.m. to discuss framework TDSB is developing.
* Looking for 1 or 2 volunteers to run Election Committee next Fall. Candidates cannot seek executive position (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) themselves. Send email to sc.northernsecondaryschool@tdsb.on.ca if interested.
* Question about next meeting date conflicting with G8 Welcome.
* Parent volunteers are welcome at Grade 8 Welcome evening on June 1 at 5:00 p.m. Just show up.
* Committees are asked to submit meeting dates for next year to Council.
 | Bettina & ScottMoved by: Bettina2nd by: Behzad**Carried** |
| Adjournment | * Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m. Next meeting date Thursday, June 1, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. (after G8 welcome night).
 | Moved by: Bettina2nd by: Sue**Carried** |

For any questions, please contact School Council at SC.NorthernSecondarySchool@tdsb.on.ca

For Follow Up:

* Ms. Marr to advise if TDSB report on asbestos at Northern can be shared with Council and students.
* Parent volunteers for G8 welcome night please come to NSS Foyer a little before 5:00 on June 1.