

# Sir Wilfrid Laurier C I Parent Council Minutes

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Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in the Library

**Attendance:** Marios Tenentes (*Principal*), Angela Bernard (*Chair*), Carol Anne Riethmacher, Colleen West, Dana Thompson, Dawn Zanutel, Dietmar Arff, Ezera (*SAC Vice President*), Ferdie Umali, Judy Baribeau (*GVCA*), Marie-Hélène Frion, Melanie Smith, Pat and John Tan-Sew, Pallavi Gotla (*Secretary*), Patricia Eastman, Renée Rawlins, Sandy Arff, Silke Miller, Terry LaFrance, Tina Anastakis, Tracy Petrou.

**1. Call to Order, Welcome, Attendance,** Motion to pass April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Minutes: Start 7:00 PM; Angie welcomed all; introductions around the room; April 7<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup> Minutes passed.

**2. Elections** (chair and secretary): *Angela Bernard* continues as Chair; *Pallavi Gotla* continues as Secretary.

**3. Student Report:** *Ezera*

1. Character Education Camp Sept 13-15; 110 students;
2. New sport: tennis team this fall, again in spring
3. Already active: Girls' Varsity Basket Ball; Boys' Varsity Basket Ball; Boys' Football; Cross Country; Girls' Varsity Field Hockey; Golf team is going to OFFSA (Ontario Championships)
4. All students are encouraged to create a club if they do not find one they want to join; they need a teacher's support
5. Terry Fox Run on Sept 25<sup>th</sup>
6. Grade 9 Day on Oct 8<sup>th</sup> (fun day to foster positive sound relationships; includes a pizza lunch)
7. Pep Rally on Oct 10<sup>th</sup>
8. Friday Night Lights on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> at Monarch Park; Laurier is encouraging all students to go support the Football team
9. Fall Dance Thursday Oct 30<sup>th</sup>
10. Halloween Haunted House in Auditorium Oct 28<sup>th</sup> and/or 29<sup>th</sup>
11. Halloween Fashion Show Oct 31<sup>st</sup>
12. Me2We Scare Hunger; food drive for canned goods that will go to local Food Bank
13. Race for Dignity Oct 24<sup>th</sup>; fundraiser to help stop the spread of AIDS

**4. Community Update** (*GVCA*): *Judy Baribeau* [www.guildwood.on.ca](http://www.guildwood.on.ca)

1. Candy Cane Hunt Dec 13<sup>th</sup>
2. Halloween Haunt Oct 26<sup>th</sup>
3. Christmas Tree Lighting Dec 6<sup>th</sup>
4. Community Journal on the website <http://www.guildwood.on.ca/>

**5. My Student Services/Guidance ACL:** *Dr Renée Rawlins*

1. *Dr Rawlins* presented an overview of the Services available to students at Laurier. Her handout has been attached.
2. New Social worker : *Lois Fairfax* available Tuesdays and Fridays
3. Four universities were at Laurier on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>
4. Post-Secondary Info Night for PARENTS on Oct 29<sup>th</sup>
5. University Field trip Oct 15<sup>th</sup>: UofT, Ryerson, York, UOIT
6. College Field Trip Nov 6<sup>th</sup> : Centennial; Durham; George Brown
7. Girls' and Boys' Conference (Women's Rights Around the World; Overcoming Obstacles) on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>
8. Peer Support Team: Student Ambassadors; Peer Mediators (students get training in mental health problems, mediation and dispute resolutions)
9. Stress Ed: group counselling program addressing stress and anxiety
10. Laurier@guidance is their Twitter Account
11. PARENT: advocates the merits of the Ontario University Fair in Toronto in September
12. PARENT: asks about workshops on how to study? *Dr Rawlins*: tutorials during lunch; can counsel one on one
13. PARENT: asks about sibling optional attendance? *Mr Tenentes*: Laurier is at capacity and therefore a closed school. Only students in the neighbourhood can attend. However, for specialized programs (IB and the Native Learning Centre) optional attendance is allowed.
14. PARENT: asks when can a student change a credit for the second semester? *Dr Rawlins*: around November

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## 6. Principal's Report (includes NLC walk through): *Mr Tenentes*

1. *Mr Tenentes* suggested that one staff member could present at each Parent Council meeting;
2. Welcomes everyone; since it's the first meeting as principal at Laurier, he gave some background: raised in Scarborough; came from a vice-principal position at East York Collegiate; previously a teacher and a counsellor; was Head of Guidance at Mowat; worked at 13 different schools and taught a variety of subjects including science and phys ed;
3. Laurier had projected 1300 students this year, but 1430 registered. Result: 2 new additional teachers for 1<sup>st</sup> semester. Students in certain large classes will be split upon return from Thanksgiving Holiday. It will affect some Eng, Social Sciences, Math and Science classes in grades 9, 10 and 11;
4. School opening was busy overseeing construction of the *Native Learning Centre* and the roof. The new roof unexpectedly caused the cafeteria to close for 3 weeks. The cafeteria opened today with a new ceiling. All roof construction will soon be complete.
5. Early registration on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> was successful. An unexpected 1033 students came to register. Next registration, Laurier will be part of the TDSB pilot initiative of Cashless Schools. The students will still come to pick up their timetable, however the fees will be collected online using a credit card.
6. HIGHLIGHTS SO FAR: IB Research Conference; Character Ed Camp; School Photos; Fire & lock down drills; School Support Meeting; Terry Fox Run; Me2We Day; Walk for Aids Research; CIBC Run for the Cure; COMING: Progress Report Cards; Parent interviews Oct 16<sup>th</sup> (book online); Haunted House, SAC Dance and Halloween Fashion Show;
7. Laurier received funds for a specific number of WiFi access points: other funds were added in order to WiFi the entire school. Installation should be complete by the end of this year.
8. Team Up for Green will potentially give TDSB a quarter million dollars for bike racks TDSB Initiative
9. CASTLE Guidelines on Electronic Commercial Activity in Education will not allow schools to send out emails or phone calls for fundraising activities starting Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Regulations will only allow posting such activities on school website. Heavy penalties if breached.
10. The entire council was treated to a walk through the NLC and Cafeteria.

## 7. Other Business:

1. Photos: the photo company gave the wrong envelopes. Proofs will be coming home (hopefully before retake day). You can place your order then. PARENT: if a student missed the original photo day, and will miss the retake day, can a photo still be organized? *Mr Tenentes*: Contact Ms DePaola.
2. *Friends of the Guild Park & Gardens* want to offer a BIG thank you to the members of the Laurier community who participated in the *Spring and Fall 2014 Shoreline Cleanups* at Guild Park on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup>. More than 20 Laurier students showed up on last month. Also, a thank you to *Jonathan Chu* who wrote an article for the Guildwood News & Views after each cleanup. They wondered if the school's Green Team can use this to get some EcoSchools points?
3. Angie welcomed and introduced a surprise guest: a candidate for Trustee in the municipal election. Mr Tenentes informed us that the voting rules prohibit any candidate from speaking at a Parent Council meeting.
4. PARENT: Music night last year was wonderful, but attendance was sparse. How can we get more parents to attend? Is the date on the Fridge Magnet? Can it be advertized in the News and Views? ANSWER: Yes, it can be advertized in the News and Views... submission deadline is approx 3 months ahead. Don't know if it's on the magnet. This year's Music Nite will be Dec 11<sup>th</sup>.
5. Laurier has 87 teachers plus support staff
6. A new fixed screen was added in the library
7. Next meeting will discuss PROGrants; School Statement of Needs (It was voted that the SSON will be presented and voted on via email); 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> (Council's role is not yet determined and should contact Donna McClelland about plans already in motion. Retired principal Bob Myrvold is also on the committee)

## 8. Adjournment: 8:34 PM. Next meetings: November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014; February 9<sup>th</sup>, April 27<sup>th</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015