

Sir Wilfrid Laurier C I Parent Council Minutes

Apr 7th, 2014, in the Library

Attendance: Paul Ambrose (*Principal*), Angie Bernard (*Chair*), Claire Schillaci, Braveenan (*SAC Social Convenor*), Derek Rosario, Marie-Hélène Frion, Peter Petrou, Saadia Ijaz, Terry LaFrance, Tina Canto, Tracy Petrou, Zelalem Alemu.

1. Call to Order, Welcome: Start 7:00 PM; Chair noted Paul Ainslie was holding a meeting at the same time and some council members had indicated that they will be not present here because of it.

2. Motion to pass December 9th Minutes: Motion to pass minutes was deferred to next meeting due to the low attendance.

3. Student Report: *Braveenan*

1. Quebec ski trip was a success. Thirty students attended the trip to St. Donat. Students had the opportunity to speak French.
2. School play 'A Mid Summer's Night Dream was a success – DVD's of the play were sold.
3. Students participated in the Waterloo Math Contest
4. Two hundred students attended the Semi-formal at the Ellis Banquet Hall
5. Five hundred tickets were sold for the Talent Show – it was an excellent fundraiser.
6. Twin Day was March 28th
7. Cheer bake sale was held to raise money for a cheer squad training facility
8. Me2We assembly – held a home form challenge to raise funds
9. Pink Ninja headbands were worn on April 9th in support of anti-bullying
10. Social media egg hunt was held. Plastic eggs were hidden throughout the school and students were invited to take 'selfies' with the eggs or post locations on Twitter
11. June 4th will be Carnival Day
12. 'So You Think You Can DJ' will be held on May 8th in collaboration with the Police Department
13. Me2We fundraiser students versus police officers basketball game was a big success with a large crowd in attendance. The purpose is to break down barriers between police and students.
14. May 22nd will be the 'Sounds of Spring' musical performance. Parents are welcome to attend.
15. May 15th will be the Dance Showcase in the evening.
16. Prom: May 31 at The Liberty Grand Banquet Hall
17. 'Better Than Mirrors' and 'Beyond the Hurt' – mental health awareness programs – anti-bullying workshops held. 'Beyond the Hurt' assembly planned for May 7th for the grade 9's and 10's
18. 'Jeans for Teens' is asking for donations until April 17th

4. Principal's Report: *Mr Ambrose*

1. On Feb. 25 and 26, some Laurier staff went to a seminar for the Paul Martin Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative training. Projects were high-tech and employed hands-on training. Participants were asked to consider how to get kids into the courses/program. Currently, Mr. Hirji is delivering the program. He is already incorporating a lot of technology to this interesting and exciting program
2. Community meeting for the Native Learning Center at Eastview was held, seven representatives from the Board attended by no community attendees. Will create a letter to send home with aboriginal students outlining the program opportunity.
3. Equity survey was completed with the students. Next step: a group of nine [teachers, representatives from the equity dept., guidance councillor, students and Vice Principal] will do a walk through the school. Do they see equity? Their observations will be measured against a rubric measuring how inclusive and equitable Laurier is.
4. Staffing process—eight staff have been determined to be surplus. This is more disruptive than usual. Staffing will settle as student enrolment is confirmed.
5. Earth Hour was held on March 28th. Lights and computers were turned off. The amount of energy that was saved will be measured.
6. Model UN is getting ready, symposium style.
7. March 27th was the Literacy Test.
8. Public Health examined students for weight and dental health. The students were engaged, public health staff were professional, and the assessment ran smoothly.
9. They are waiting to open the new outdoor classroom until the ground dries.

5. Community Update (GVCA): *Written by Judy Baribeau and read by Angie*

1. Judy sends her regrets for not being able to attend Monday's meeting.
2. Councillor Ainslie has scheduled a Community Update meeting for April 7, also being held at Laurier. This meeting was called to review the Emerald Ash Borer management in Guildwood Park. Very few people attended the January 9 meeting on the subject. When the plans were carried out, some people became upset -- even inviting the Mayor to come out and see what had been done. This meeting should clarify the situation.
3. On April 29 there will be a public information meeting on the Guild Park and Gardens Management plan. This meeting will also be at Laurier. City Council has approved Dynamic Hospitality's proposal and we'll hear more about it at this meeting.
4. The GVCA held its annual meeting on March 25 and Donna Milovanovic was elected to remain as President as there were no other nominations. We are looking for a Secretary.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier C I Parent Council Minutes

Apr 7th, 2014, in the Library

5. The Spring issue of *News & Views* is at the printer and should be available for distribution toward the end of the week of April 7. It has been posted on the website (guildwood.on.ca). This issue includes an interview with Paul Ambrose in the Faces of the Guild series as well as a student-written article. Please read them.
6. Plans are well underway for Guildwood Day and Aly Hirji is coordinating the student volunteers for the day. Our theme this year is "Guildwood Goes Green".
7. Other upcoming events are Guildwood Clean-up Day on April 26 (we welcome volunteers to help clean up the community); Guildwood Garage Sale Day on May 31, Guildwood Day on June 7; and the annual Garden Tour on July 6.
8. Friends of Guild Park & Gardens are also involved with a number of events at Guild Park. These are listed in News & Views.

6. Saving the Pool: *Anjani absent.*

1. No new news.
2. School hosted the regional and city swim meets.
3. New signs/banners are posted.
4. Good shape for now.

7. Other business:

1. PROG (Parent Reaching Out Grant) through the TDSB makes available a \$1000 grant. It is intended to engage parents. In previous years, council asked, and was granted \$1000 to help support CASI (Canadian Afghan Students Initiative). Mr. Fahimi has informed us that CASI is now self supported and does not require additional grant funds. That means we can apply for the grant to fund something else. Council asked for ideas. A fridge magnet calendar that had been successful in the past was suggested. Funds have to be used the following school year.
2. PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) held a dinner to connect parents involved in school councils. Angela and Pollavi Gotla attended.
3. Angela reviewed Regulation 274 regarding current hiring practices of Occasional and LT Teachers based on seniority. Angela will forward an email to council members for anyone who wants to sign and forward the letter to Kathleen Wynne. Angela read the letter she intends to send to Kathleen Wynne opposing Regulation 274.
4. Traffic safety was discussed. A work order for a stop sign at the back of the buildings by the portables has been placed and is slow to come. A discussion was held about the stop sign out the front of the school – Angela recommends removing it because it faces the opposite direction of the flow of traffic. Mr Ambrose does not feel it is a problem.

8. Adjournment: 7:45 PM. Next meeting May 5th 2014.