

Sir Wilfrid Laurier C I Parent Council Minutes

May 5th, 2014, in the Library

Attendance: Paul Ambrose (*Principal*), Angela Bernard (*Chair*), Pallavi Gotla (*co-secretary*), Anjani Bhattarai, Dana Thompson, Dawn Zanutel, Denis Flatmen, Judy Baribeau (*GVCA*), Marie-Hélène Frion, Ravi Virk, Rose Mitchell Spohn, Saadia Ijaz, Sayad Ullah, Terry LaFrance, Tina (*student rep*).

1. Call to Order, Welcome: Start 7.00 PM; *Chair* welcomed the *Principal* and all parents present at the meeting and noted that this was the last meeting for this school year.

2. Motion to pass Feb 10th and Apr 7th Minutes: February 10th Minutes were passed. April 7th Minutes were not complete yet.

3. Student Report: *Tina*

1. Sports – Both Boys and Girls Soccer, Rugby, Baseball, Hockey and Water polo teams have been busy participating in inter school matches. There was some delay in commencing the sports activities due to extended winter weather.
2. Elections are being held on May 28, 2014 for SAC positions
3. On June 4th, SAC is organizing a carnival. There will be rides, games, BBQ, dunking tank and other fun activities.
4. This is the last week for buying Prom tickets.
5. School Assembly will be coming up soon.
6. There is a Mental Health Awareness being organized for Grade 9 and 10s
7. Athletics Banquet is on June 10, 2014 where students will be recognized for their involvement in sports and outstanding efforts.
8. Arts Banquet
9. Final exams are scheduled for June 2014
10. (*Mr. Ambrose*) Laurier Robotics team participated for the first time at the International Competition at St. Louis, Missouri. The Robotics Club has 60 student members and about 20 students participated in the competition. Going forward, the members of the club will be participating every year in similar competitions. It will also open up pathways for future careers and may be integrated in the school curriculum.

4. Principal's Report: *Mr. Ambrose*

1. DJ Finale is happening May 8th. Students from other schools will be participating. It is being conducted in partnership with the Police and For Life Group.
2. Yasmine Gray a grade 12 Laurier student was awarded the *OSSFT Status of Women award* for her involvement with helping young women.
3. *GirlSpace* is a girl's group which is a fantastic engagement for girls encouraging leadership and outstanding achievements. The boys' group has had positive feedback regarding the U of T conference.
4. May 2 was transition day which provides for extra support for the grade 8s who are coming to Laurier.
5. *Ministry of Education* celebrated 10 years of **Student Success Initiative** relating to Applied Mathematics. The Superintendent walked through some classes and got some good feedback. All classrooms will soon be having Anchor charts to help the students use them as checklists.
6. *Native Learning Centre* update: two teachers and a child native worker will be joining the school. One teacher will be teaching English and Social Sciences and the other, Mathematics and Sciences. Erin Del Col is an outstanding teacher bringing a wealth of knowledge regarding native heritage. One more teacher to be selected.
7. The football team has gained coaches in the neighbourhood who are really interested in student athletes. Six Coaches are planning a summer program for the team. It will have a very positive impact on the school spirit and recognition.
8. A member of the local community is willing to donate to have the lights working at the school field. Since they were neglected for a long time, the lights need a lot of improvement, including new wiring. The estimated cost is \$100,000. The Superintendent, the Trustee and the local councillor are interested. With the donor, the community's involvement and political support, we might be able to make this happen. This would add value to the school, the local community and encourage other sports activities.

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5. Community Update (GVCA): *Judy Baribeau*

1. GVCA membership drive is on and one of the busiest times for the community.
2. There is an interesting article in Guildwood News & Views on Paul Ambrose.
3. Spring Clean Up day was on April 26, in conjunction with City Clean-Up Day. It was noted that there was a large amount of trash along the school fence, on the Guildwood property. Unionized staff cannot go off school property to clean and it was too wet and soft to allow the students to access the area in early spring.
4. The Guildwood Garage Sale is on May 31, 2014
5. The Guildwood Garden Tour day is on July 6, 2014.
6. Mr. Ambrose has been invited to be the Grand Marshall for the annual parade and the school will run a float.

6. Other business:

1. The Vice Principal will be creating a schedule for the Parent Council Meeting.
2. *The Parent Reach Out Grant* (PROG) will not be directed to CASSI this year since the group is now self sufficient. The chair might have time to submit an application for the magnet calendars before the deadline this week.

7. Adjournment: 8:00 PM. Following adjournment, council organized a surprise Thank You to Mr Ambrose. A cake, a card and a Chapters Gift Card were given in appreciation for his dedication to our children. Many personally congratulated Mr. Ambrose on his retirement as everyone mingled and enjoyed the cake, including two past council members. Next meeting: Oct 6th 2014.