

Harry Ainlay High School
School Council
Minutes

April 30, 2007

IN ATTENDANCE: Ruth Rampling, Linda Grisley, Elizabeth Mustard, Elaine Dunlop, Anita McDowell, Purva Kapur, Sabina Choi, Keith Baldoz, Pat Sawatzky, George Hoyt, G. Hornland, Brian Nolan, Christine Peters, Sharon McKinnon, Deb Olmstead, Joanne Jette, Heather Tansem, Helen Rusich, Jennifer Purves-Masse, Mark Liguori

CHAIR: Pat Sawatzky has not report, but offered reading material received from a variety of sources.

STUDENTS UNION: Purva introduced Sabina Choi and Keith Baldoz and reported on the following activities:

- Athletics
 - Indoor soccer intramurals are held the last week of May
- External
 - A multicultural event called A Walk Around the World is planned for May 31st. Sabina explained that this is a leadership program similar to Heritage Days. 500 students will attend for schools around the city.
- Internal
 - Keith Baldoz is working with Joanne Jette to coordinate the year end Teacher's appreciation on June 8
- Public Relations
 - Student Council will be utilizing the display cases to advertize the theme "Just Connect"
- Titan Life
 - On May 24th, students may bring their own banana to make a banana split
- Other

Elections were held last week and Amy Heidebrecht is the new President.

Internal changes in the operation of Student Union were outlined. "Selections" of officers replaces "Elections" and Student "Union" is changed to Student "Council" because the organization is relative to student "activities" and is not a governance body.

PARENTS AS PARTNERS: Brian Nolan attended where speakers from Alberta Children's Services discussed our children's view of the internet as an extension of their

social world, where to parents, it is a tool. Children won't talk to their parents about their experiences on the web for fear of losing computer access. Sites can be a major marketing tool with online infomercials, but they provide a social network for children. However, they can gather data on users through their registration/profiles. MSN, Nexopia, MySpace, YouTube and FaceBook are examples.

Chat rooms are declining. Instant Messaging is rising and there are no loads governing their content or use. One of the worst dangers for children are off line meetings or uploads that go bad. For example,

- Web Cams. Children should be cautioned on usage.
- Email: attachments can be high jacked.
- Worst case: Blackmail, leading to further uploads.

Predators can be very understanding and give false messages to get closer.

Another issue is Cyberbullying. It is anonymous, fast, and constant when children have phones and computers for continual contact with the internet. Some hate sites examples are Ebaums world, Newgrounds and Fugly. Criminal laws come into force for cyberhate.

Pornography is also prevalent on the web and children find access through links from teen sites. Site credibility is a major issue. Know your source of information.

Suggestions for Protection:

1. Ask your child to show you. Most like to show off their skills.
2. Try it yourself. Create a profile.
3. Supervise your children.
4. No internet connected to a PC in a bedroom.
5. Remove or heavily monitor Web cams.
6. Have rules
 - No off line meetings.
 - No inappropriate sites.
 - Net *Contract* between parent and child.
 - Time restrictions or "downtime".
7. Filtering software. Limited protection. Supervision still needed. Can be overridden.

Reporting trouble: Police, Internet service provider (ISP), school administration, cybertip.ca

Resources:

weron2u.ca; cybertip.ca; badguypatrol.ca, teamheros.ca; b-free.ca, bullyfreealberta.ca

NAIT Home Internet Security Course Jun 1-3 \$295 471-7400

HAMPA: Sharon McKinnon reported on HAMPA activities.

- Band students were at the Banff Centre last week.
- The next Casino is booked for the fall of 2008 and they are hoping to raise \$70,000.
- Bingos are phasing out.
- The AGM is September 18th, 2007
- The Big Band Bash raised \$3500

ADVOCACY: Pat Sawatzky noted that the change from Key Communicators to Parents as Partners has diluted the advocacy of parents to the School Board. Key Communicators were responsible for attending meetings with the School Board and reporting back to their School Councils as a School Council responsibility. Now the Parents as Partners are not a School Council position, nor are they expected to attend School Council meetings and report on School Board issues. Parents as Partners is an open meeting for all parents.

We are reminded that School Board elections are to be held this fall.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mark Liguori advised parents of the following:

- The new Superintendent of Edmonton Public Schools is Edgar Schmidt
- Regarding our discussions on cyber bullying and computer crime and dangers, Craig Krieger, the Crown Prosecutor, has agreed to make a presentation to Ainlay parents. After discussion, it was agreed to hold the presentation on June 4. It will be open to all parents, including an invitation to be sent to all feeder schools. Students will see the presentation in shifts.
- The draft school budget was circulated. More information will become available and Mark Liguori will issue an invitation to parents to review in more detail. Possible date may be May 7
- Today was the last day of registration for the next school term. 2238 students are enrolled – almost to capacity.
- The school has a base allocation of \$12.7 Million – an increase of 3%. This will be eaten up by cost of living and will not cover negotiations with staff contracts. Wage settlements are not expected to be 3%.
- Teachers and the government owe the pension fund. This unfunded liability is a deterrent to new teachers who would be paying a huge portion of their pay cheques to fund a shortage they did not create. The province has pledge \$25 Million as a good will gesture and has struck a task force to settle the debt.
- The Ainlay soccer teams went to Victoria for a tournament in which they did well; however, 8 students were suspended and some removed from the teams for drinking alcohol.
- May 18 – no classes – day in lieu
- May 21 – Victoria Day
- May 2 – 23 IB exams
- May 25 – Commencement and Awards for graduating students
- May 26 – Banquet & Dance for graduating students
- May 30 – Winds at Winspear

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parents at Ainlay: Deb Olmstead presented a “Year at a Glance” overview of the next year’s articles. There were comments made on reordering some of the articles and a suggestion that parents partner with Student Services to present topics from differing perspectives.

Staff Appreciation: The event is on for June 8th. Parents are asked to contribute funding and baking. Contact Joanne Jette for more info at jojojet@telusplanet.net.

South LRT: Still no news from the City on the safety report and safety audit. A stakeholder meeting is planned for mid—May for ourselves, Louis St. Laurent and all feeder schools. (Editor’s Note: A stakeholder’s meeting was held, on short notice, on May 8th. Notes will be distributed when received)

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Harry Ainlay School Council is May 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.