

Harry Ainlay Parent Council Minutes

October 29, 7:00 pm

In attendance: Pat Sawatsky (chair), Helen Rusich (recorder), Amy Heidebrecht, (Student President), Michelle Ivey, Christine Peters, Deb Olmstead, Anita McDowell, Brian Nolan (Parents as Partners rep), Eric Burnett, Anna Melnychuk, Corrie Yusypchuk, George Hoyt, Barb Greenlaw, Sharon McKinnon, Ruth Rampling, Maureen Buchanan-Chell, Glen Homland, Doug Hill, John Akaar, Bulko Stebelsky, Michelle Chalifoux, City of Edmonton, Bob Miller, Gane Olsen

1. Pat welcomed everyone at 7:05 pm.
2. a) Student Council Report - Amy Heidebrecht, indicated that Halloween activities included doughnut eating, costume relay and contest, beach volleyball to help promote TVT, 3 legged race. Public relations board created an effective advertising team, goal is to advertise in ways other than posters. Major events include: Junior High Leadership Conference, very successful hosting over 230 students. Upcoming Events – November – Dodge Ball tournament, Remembrance Day Ceremony in the gym and Staff Appreciation – cookie decorating.

b) Principal's Report – Gane distributed the Curriculum Summary. Enrolment is currently 2190, budget information was in late, however more teachers will be hired for January. There is room to add classes. There is a very large IB student population and one early class (English) for IB students beginning at 7:45 am. Parent/teacher interviews are November 8. He encouraged parents to access School Zone frequently as this is a shift in communication for both teachers and parents at the High school level. Progress reports were distributed on October 26 as well as a list of important dates. Bob Miller brought up accessing the internet to assist students with homework as other teachers have very good examples of how to instruct in certain subjects. Glen suggested that copyright might be an issue. Lock down – November 1 with Louis St. Laurent and Confederation Pool staff aware of lock down as well.

c) Key Communicator Report – Brian mentioned the two previous meetings, September 26 - candidates forum, October 24 – Training for Parent Council, November 28 – Fundraising, Brian will review the resources they present for the next meeting. Catherine Ripley is the new Board Trustee for Ward H.

d) Chairperson Report - Pat distributed “The Learning Team” and “The Renewed Funding Framework” from Alberta Learning. She asked parents at the meeting their thoughts on presentations: frequency, length and topics. If we have them, advanced advertising would be good. Deb Olmstead suggested that the council take some time and think about “why we attend parent council meetings”.

It was suggested that the Council Agenda be put on SchoolZone to attract more parents.

e) HAMPA – Sharon McKinnon – AGM was September 25 and a new executive nominated, Casino October 4/5. Music camp began in October. A full schedule of performances is planned for the upcoming year. Mentioned that the expiry date on Canadian passports affect Canadian's ability to travel.

3. Advocacy – no report
4. Parents at Ainlay Report – Deb spoke about the current article, "Teens at Work" which was very well received. She indicated the December article will be on Adolescent Health, with a focus on food, sleep and mental health. This generated some discussion and suggestions.
5. Old Business – Staff Appreciation Day has been confirmed for Friday, June 6. Advertising of the event will start soon.
6. Presentation from Student Services – Eric Burnett (Anna Melnychuk, Corrie Yusypchuk present as well) presented a dynamic amount of activities and outlined what Student Services do including: Role: educational counseling (170 late registrations), appropriate course selection, special needs, educational alternatives, peer tutoring. Post Secondary: personal counseling, personal health & safety, conflict management, sexuality and more. Career Connections: High School graduation requirements, success in post secondary. Eric mentioned that a student's success in post secondary is determined by adaptability, resourcefulness and resiliency. He distributed on Post Secondary Evening, October 30 and Planning for Post-Secondary Studies (parent guide). Scholarship Night is November 29. Ainlay students were successful in receiving \$1 million in scholarships.
7. Presentation on LRT Construction Update - Michelle Chalifoux distributed several documents, including two Construction Updates, two colour schematic designs of where the LRT will run beside the school. They talked about how construction would progress and answered questions on issues such as temporary sidewalks and how the street conditions would be maintained in the winter.
 - At the June 26 Transportation and Public Works Committee meeting, the Transportation Department was directed to prepare a report that identified transit service options that will reduce pedestrian crossings of 111 Street at 43 Avenue, including information on construction/infrastructure requirements, strategies to manage parent drop-offs, traffic and pedestrian impacts and cost estimates. This report is presently scheduled to be considered at the January 22, 2008 Transportation and Public Works Committee meeting which was delayed from the original date of November 6th. Michelle briefly spoke on this topic, although the Transportation Dept. is heading it. Michelle said this group will be looking for parent feedback. The question was asked as to what notice we would get for this as our group will only meet once between now and Jan. 22nd. Michelle could not answer on behalf of Transportation.

- Construction Zone safety was the other topic. Three colour posters were presented for feedback on ways to discourage students from avoiding the construction zone. Feedback was provided including not to make the assumption that students are that interested in visiting the construction zone. It was also suggested that students be contacted directly for feedback. Michelle was talking to Amy, Student Council Chair, about setting about a focus group for students.

8. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Next Meeting: **Monday, November 26, 7:00 pm**

Please come prepared to discuss “why do you attend parent council meetings”.