

Harry Ainlay High School
School Council
Annual General Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 24, 2007

IN ATTENDANCE: Pat Sawatzky (Chair), Rosalind Smith, Ruth Rampling, Doug Hill, Jan Raikles, Monica Comba, Brian Nolan, Christine Peters, Helen Rusich, (Note Taker) Heather Tansem, Sharon Johnson, Lorraine Boggs, Gane Olsen, Agnes Jones, Habib Khan, Eleanor Tsui, Alyssa Gerling (Student Rep), Esther Link, Badia Dennehy, Holly Miller, Linda Holmstrom, Heather Reimer, Catherine Stout, Jane Euinton-Glassman, Irene Trieu, Garry Parasynchuk, Marline Magdales, George Hoyt, Glen Hornland

1. WELCOME: Pat Sawatzky welcomed the new principal and Ros Smith said a few words and thanked parents for coming to the first and Annual General Meeting of the Harry Ainlay School Council.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The following positions are appointed, not elected

Principal:	Rosalind Smith
Teacher Representative	George Hoyt
Student Representative	Amy Heidebrecht

After nominations and voting, the following individuals will comprise the Harry Ainlay School Council Executive for 2007-08:

Chair	Pat Sawatzky (sawatzky_p@shaw.ca)
Parents as Partners Rep	Brian Nolan (nolfam@telus.net)
Advocacy	Vacant
Secretary	Heather Tansem (tansemgh@telus.net) and Helen Rusich (hrosich@gmail.com)
HAMPA Rep	Vacant

All parents were reminded that they are welcome to attend these meetings:
September 26, 07, October 24 – School Council Training, November 28 – Tentative Consultation Night, January 30, 2008, February 27, April 23 and May 28 (Consultation).

CONSIDERATION OF BYLAWS: This Council prefers a ‘town hall’ style of meeting where each attendant has the opportunity to bring forward a motion and vote. Therefore, our bylaws require that, at each Annual General Meeting, a motion be passed to recognize this structure. Accordingly, Monica Comba moved and Ruth Rampling seconded that, in accordance with section 3.4.5.6 – “the Council may at any time approve a motion allowing parents to vote on every motion at every meeting of the Council”. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS: Council agreed to continue to meet the last Monday of each month. That is: October 29, November 26, January 25, February 24, March 24 (31th is spring break), April 28, May 26.

3. STUDENTS UNION: Alyssa Gerling brought the parents up-to-date on Students Union activities:

External

- o Junior High Leadership Conference Update
- o Workshops & Activities

Internal

- o October Staff Appreciation (Cookie Decorating) A Halloween event is scheduled as well

Public Relations

- Beach Volley Ball
- 3-legged race
- Halloween Havoc
- Costume Contest
- Donut Eating

Titan Life

- o Beach Volleyball Update, 8 teams needed, King's Court
- o Scary Ainlay will be 3 days of Halloween activities including a costume contest

4. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Rosalind invited all the principals to attend meetings. She mentioned the friendly rivalry between Strathcona (her former school) with Harry Ainlay, especially in football and indicated the teams were playing on Thursday at 5:00 pm at Foote Field.

There are 2280 students enrolled, 60 no shows and 170 new students. This will be a challenge as class sizes are large. There will probably be over 2300 this year.

She would like to focus on Character Education, Students at Risk and IB.

She will invite various departments to come to meetings to inform parents of their curriculum and activities.

Glen Horland distributed the District Satisfaction Survey Results for 2002 – 2007 from both School Staff and Students. Parents were asked to review these and return to ask questions at the October meeting. Glen had attended an information meeting at the U of A and distributed a hand out called "Timeline for Parents" as part of the booklet parents of U of A students receive. U of A is holding their Open House Sept. 28 and 29. Excellent information on U of A website, ie. T2U (transition to University)

The School Calendar is on the website: www.ainlay.ca, not School Zone. Ros encouraged parents to join SchoolZone and give feedback to Marg Pepper, her administrative assistant. Marg.pepper@epsb.ca.

School Zone is available for all parents. You can register by accessing the Ainlay website. This is a computerized information system where parents can access marks and attendance. In future homework will be posted and this system may eventually replace interim reports.

Newsletters are sent four times per year, some parents asked if two or three could be mailed as not all parents access computers, especially new Canadian parents.

Newsletters are available at the general office. Synvoice is no longer an option as it did not keep up with technology.

5. OLD BUSINESS -

LRT EXPANSION: There will be no station at Harry Ainlay and no over pass, despite many meetings and issues of student safety with the crossing at 111 Street and 43 Avenue a station will be built that does not really address the safety issues of students crossing. Pat spoke about the issues and the work done by many parents. If parents have concerns they were encouraged to speak to Councilors Brian Anderson and Mike Nicol prior to the election. Administration is to identify 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 to get estimates to the Transportation & Public Works Committee on November 6, 2007. Gane Olsen will give Pat a website for updates.

Staff Appreciation – Joanne Jette coordinated a very successful Staff appreciation brunch for the past two years. She has offered to coordinate one for this upcoming year for June 6, 2008. She had asked for feedback from Student Council and Alyssa will bring this back to council. Monetary and/or food donations from parents would be greatly appreciated. This needs to be added in the Ainlay newsletters.

Parents at Ainlay – Articles on Teen Development and research are written by Deb Olmstead, the brains behind the articles. She will be working with Helen and Esther Link (who offered to help) linke@shaw.ca. Helen will let Deb know Esther would like to join the committee. Deb and crew will be working on the October article. Past articles are available on the Ainlay website.

6. NEW BUSINESS

School Council Regulations were updated by Pat

School Council/Parent Council Annual Report - Pat prepared & circulated.

Parents as Partners Trustee Forum to be held at Centre for Education, September 26
Ward H Forum will be held at Westbrook Elementary School on October 10. Catherine Ripley attended a meeting in the spring to hear about parent's concerns with Public Ed.
Connecting Learning & Work – Alberta Government Consultation

7. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 7:00 PM