

Harry Ainlay School Council

April 28, 2008

In attendance: Pat Sawatzky (Chair), Helen Rusich (Secretary), Catherine Ripley (EPSB School Trustee), Sharon McKinnon (HAMPAs), Brian Nolan (Parents as Partners), George Hoyt, Ros Smith, Amy Heidebrecht (School President), Keith Baldoz, Doug Hill, Glen Hornland, Barb Greenlaw, Heather Tansem, Joanne Jette (Staff Appreciation Coordinator)

1. Reports
 - a) Student Council – March activities included karaoke, Easter Egg hunt with lots of fun and participation. April activities included Staff Appreciation with recipe books, stress relief kits (to go out in May), Rotunda activities – Super Smash Bros Brawl with the Wii, DDR and Presidential Elections, May activities included ‘Walk Around the World’ on May 29 for Elementary students, planned by External Affairs board, Rotunda events Bring your own Banana, New Council formed May 5 – 9, with VPs and Grad Reps, June will include the Staff Breakfast
 - b) Staff Appreciation, 4th annual on June 6th in the Staff lounge, donations of money and baking are welcome. Good to have the request for donations on School Zone.
 - c) Chairperson – Pat will be completing the Alberta School Council Survey. Distributed information on assistance with writing diploma exams. Pat asked Catherine if she wanted to share anything and Catherine encouraged parents to attend the various session that the school board is reviewing on May 7 at Earl Buxton, areas include: finance operation, debt service, insurance distribution centre, budget service, Metro Continuing Education, Internal Audit, Personnel Recruitment and Staffing, Personnel Supply Services and Personnel Support Service, Professional Improvement Program and District Information Security
 - d) Parents as Partners – Brian indicated that the last meeting presented on the Social Studies curriculum, emphasizing Citizenship, Aboriginal and Canadian History asking for student opinions on issues. He mentioned that the EPSB will be phasing out the new math by 2010, with the first year being grades 1, 4, 7 for 2007/2008. Upon review New Math is being phased out because of the challenge of students obtaining Math 30 Pure and getting into Post Secondary Institutions. The last meeting of the year is May 28 at the Centre for Education, topic TBA.
 - e) HAMPAs – Sharon – Band had a very successful tour in Seattle with 122 students, they received one silver and one gold.
 - f) Parents at Ainlay – Last issue was on ‘Substance Use’, June issue will be on lack of sleep and hormones. When asked if parents had other suggestions, none were indicated. Next year Deb hopes to finalize the booklet, including references for the articles, including Substance Abuse.
 - g) Advocacy – Heather spoke about Dave Hancock and his view of school closure, Catherine indicated that a review is to be done in this area.

- h) Principal's report – very busy time of year, junior high and senior high students completing registration, projected number is 2257 for September. She mentioned La Gala at Ross Shep, a mini competition for K – 12 French immersion students, German Exchange, 12 students in the fall will go to Germany and 12 students will come to Ainlay, Japan Exchange at Spring Break. IB exams are next week, explained that as these are international exams the time is set differently that other exams. Diane Fischer coordinates helping students with relaxing and support for these exams, with 102 countries participating. Grad Commencement (May 23) and Banquet (May 24). Instructional Language Team (ILT) recognizes greater focus on English Language Learners. Students at Risk are getting greater support with Dan Goss, doing everything they can to get assignments completed. Staff Changes include maternity leaves, study leave, Christine Peters is retiring, new assistant principal will be selected. Construction Trades Seminar is taking place in Calgary with approximately 12 – 15 students participating from Ainlay. George Hoyt mentioned the number of sports finishing for the winter and new teams beginning, including Cheer team and the amount of work they do, badminton, soccer, handball, football, track and field, golf. Awards banquet is June 5. May 26 is Night at the Windspear. Ros recommended that we have the final meeting on June 10 at Park Allen Restaurant, time to be decided. Re: Budget – operation/maintenance budget has not been allocated, although a 4.7% increase to staff has been approved, increase across the board to support staff, will be indexed, difficulty to get support staff. 88% of budget goes to staffing.
- i) Old Business - Posters were up on the safety of construction re: LRT, staff requested that fences be put up to keep students at a distance. Pat got an email from Michelle with the City re: Signs.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 10 at Park Allen Restaurant
Ros to send email for RSVP.**