

Earl Haig S.S.
Parent School Council Annual General Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Date and Time:	September 15, 2015 –7:30pm to 9:00pm
Location	EHSS, Cafeteria

#	Topic & Notes
1	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Donna Noma and Paul Hollingham welcomed everyone. They announced the agenda as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and Introductions 2. EHSS School Council Annual Report 2014-2015 3. Student’s Update – Dexter Storey SAC president 4. Principal’s Update – Renata Gonsalves 5. Election of 2015-16 School Council Executive 6. Time Management Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sara-Jane Figliano-Craig – ACL Earl Haig Library Learning Commons Christine Zaghikian - Curriculum Leader of Guidance 7. Other Business 8. Adjournment
2	<p>EHSS School Council Annual Report 2014-15</p> <p>The School Council hosted seven monthly School Council information nights last year. The topics were: the September AGM; October’s “Top Tips for Success at Haig”; November’s “University & College Night”; January’s “Academic Course Selections”; February’s “Elective Course Selections”; April’s “Summer Opportunities – Volunteering, Employment, Trips, Exchanges”; and May’s “Tips for Exam Preparation”. This year, we continue to meet, normally on the second Tuesday of the month in the cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. The school website www.earlhaig.ca, Parent section, lists all the upcoming meeting dates and topics. All parents & guardians are welcome!</p> <p>The key objective of the parent council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide parents and guardians with a forum for the discussion of educational issues related to Earl Haig Secondary School; • To work, in partnership with the school administration and staff to continuously improve the school community life for our students; • To provide advice to the school administration, staff and the Toronto District School Board on matters that will lead to improved student learning; and • To communicate regularly with parents.
3	<p>Student’s Update – Dexter Storey and Malika Khajeh</p> <p>SAC has had one meeting and will run the following programs / events in September 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Club Opening / Fair on September 29 - Leadership Council will help with BBQ night, Mon September 28th
4	<p>Principal’s Update – Renata Gonsalves</p> <p>Renata welcomed the parents and guardians. She introduced the Vice Principals, assigned based on the first letter of the students’ family name:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A-F: Mr. Michael Griesz - G-M: Mr. Anant Sukhram - N-S: Mr. Tom Kolin - T-Z: Ms. Barbara Horman

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Staffing and school opening:

- With thanks to our teaching and support staff, students were able to register and pick up timetables ahead of school opening, contributing to another smooth start to the school year.
- We have a number of new staff, not new to teaching but new to Earl Haig, as a result of some retirements last year. We are excited about the skills and ideas that they will bring to our curriculum and school
- We have a number of Positions of Responsibility(PORs) that will need to be filled including Assistant Curriculum Leader (ACL) of Athletics, Drama, Music, and Biology and those will be filled in September 2015

Culinary Arts:

- Program expanded and we are in the process of completing a new culinary arts classroom that will allow students to also study courses such as Food and Culture, a course which falls under the social science area and allows pathways to both University and College

Parent BBQ

- Parent BBQ is on **Monday September 28th from 5:00 to 7:00, ESL Parents night from 6:45 to 8:00, and Claude Watson Parents night from 6:30-8:00.**
- We will also have the Official opening of Archive Room (room 133) that has memorabilia dating back to when the school was built in 1929. Parents and students are welcome to visit our Archive room throughout the evening

Safety on the streets surrounding our community:

The SRO (School Resource Officer) will be visiting our school and talking with our students about how to keep safe on our roads

- Remind students to cross at the lights and use caution when crossing the streets surrounding the school
- Parents are reminded to not park or stop in the round about since it is a fire route and police will ticket if you are stopped in that area.

Some Tips for Parents:

- If you have a grade 9 student, **encourage them to become involved** in the life of the school. There is no better way to feel a sense of belonging than being involved-listen for announcements or check the monitors just outside the cafeteria for announcements. They are also encouraged to ask a guidance counsellor or Ms. Koutrobis, the ACL of Clubs and Councils.
- We want students to also **start school with good habits**. For both new high school students and ones that are returning it is important to start off on the right foot in terms of good school habits.
- Whether you have a student entering grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 the start of the year is a good opportunity to get into some good routines right from the start. If good school habits were a problem last year you may want to focus on improving one or two things.
- For example, if organization and time management was an issue you may want to brainstorm with your student what strategies might need to be implemented this coming year so that great success might be achieved.
- This may be as simple as implementing a routine where the student ensures that their nap sack is ready the night before with everything they will need for the next day.
- Or deciding on an ideal time to do homework that works best for the learning style of your particular student. For instance, some want to get to the homework as soon as they get home

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	<p>since they are too tired near the end of the night where others prefer to have a bit of a break and start school work after dinner.</p> <p>I know that you will be hearing some good advice and be provided with solid resources to assist you in supporting your child.</p> <p>Please know that we are here to support you as well and your involvement in your students' high school years is exactly what should happen and what we want to support.</p>
5	<p>Election of 2015-16 School Council Executive The nominees were introduced. All the Executive positions were filled, however, there are spots available for parents to become volunteers to support council's activities. Interested parents were asked to complete the nomination form. The list of executives and volunteers are included at the end of the Minutes and will be posted on the school website. The council members were asked to stay at the end of the meeting for a short discussion.</p>
6	<p>Sara-Jane Figliano-Craig – ACL Earl Haig Library Learning Commons</p> <p>Sara informed the parents that Time Management is very important for the students and they will learn effective time management tips in the library. She mentioned that 3 librarians are available from 8:15am to 4:15pm on business days to support the students.</p> <p>There is a label on the agenda providing the credentials required to access the online resources, such as turnitin, TDSB Google Drive, Green Research Guide and etc.</p> <p>Sara also provided the audience with a hand out explaining the Library services and resources. Visit the library blog for references: http://library.earlhaig.ca</p>
7	<p>Christine Zaghikian - Curriculum Leader of Guidance The Guidance department consists of six counsellors: Christine Zaghikian is the curriculum leader and she counsels students last name A-Che; Bill Panagopoulos - Students last name Chh-Hey Darren Low - Students last name Hi-Laz Rosalia Leo - Students last name Le-N John Pascua - Students last name O-S</p> <p>Students requiring an appointment to see their counselor may see the Office Assistant, Joanne Shaw. Grade 12 students' university application process will start in November.</p> <p>Christine provided a road map of the courses for a student's progression from grades 9 through 12. Parents are advised to guide their students about possibilities and pathways that are suitable for their particular student, not everyone will be suitable to a career in engineering, medicine, law. To graduate high school, students are required to do a minimum of 40 community hours and it is advised that they do something they enjoy or explore possible career options.</p> <p>For more resources, visit the Guidance page on the school website: http://www.earlhaig.ca/guidance</p>
8	<p>General Meeting Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.</p>

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*	<p>Post meeting for School / Parent Council New Executive:</p> <p>Earl Haig S.S. School Council Executive 2015-2016 First Meeting – Minutes - Tuesday, September 15, 2015 – 9:00-9:30 pm</p> <p>1. Welcome: Paul welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Earl Haig SS School Council Executive for 2015-2016. The 16 parent nominees listed below, were acclaimed at the AGM to serve in the parent roles on the School Council Executive. An additional 11 parents volunteered to support the Executive members in their work this year, by serving in a non-voting capacity as Parent Volunteers, and are also invited to attend the Executive meetings at 6pm each month, starting Tuesday October 13th.</p> <p>2. School Council Executive Positions: The School Council Constitution provides that the membership consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Principal, Renata Gonsalves- The Teaching Rep, Michael Canzi- The Admin / Non-Teaching Rep, Doreen Darling- Student Rep, Dexter Storey SAC President and Malika Khajeh, SAC VP- 16 Parent Reps in voting positions in specified roles. <p>Parents serve as Members at Large, assisting in various ways throughout the year, or serving in one of the specified roles of Co-Chairs, Vice Chairs, Secretary, Treasurer, Ward Reps and etc.</p> <p>The roles were described and following discussion it was determined that this year’s elected Executive Parent Member roles will be as follows: CO-CHAIRS: Paul Hollingham, Phi Than CO-VICE-CHAIR (Claude Watson): Rajiv Chaudhuri, Carla Sterling CO-VICE CHAIR (Collegiate): Mehran Khansari, Henry Young SECRETARY: Susan Kenny TREASURER: David Steinhouse WARD MEETING REP: Ghazaleh (Rosie) Elmi MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Candy Yang, Minhoo Lee, Heather Saba, Esfandiar Ahadi, Forouzan Mosiemi, Sally Pan, David Esser</p> <p>3. Parent Volunteers who offered to support the work of the Executive Members: Rose Song, Edmund Wong, David Wolle, Cathy Chow, Aisha Samson, Hossien Fazlali, Sarah Chung, Kay Yuen, Bo-kyoung Bae, Meena Yin, Caroline (Carol) Cochien</p> <p>4. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.</p>
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The actions and activities of the EHSS School Council are authorized by the Principal.