

**Aurora School Ltd.  
Annual General Meeting  
November 1, 2000**

Issue #	Issue	Discussion	Action
00-11-01-01	Call to Order.	Voting rights to members only. Proxy votes by written consent only. Special guests welcomed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coskey &amp; Alexander Professional Corporation</li> <li>• Candice Horne</li> <li>• Dominika Bereznicki-Szyling</li> </ul>	Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. as per Roberts Rules of Order.
00-11-01-02	Acceptance of Agenda		Motion to accept agenda as amended made by: Klaus Zerulla Seconded by: Dr. Donna Bereznicki <b>Motion Carried</b>
00-11-01-03	Ratification of Minutes for the 1999 AGM Meeting and the Special Meeting of June 12, 2000		Motion to ratify minutes of the October 21, 1999 AGM Meeting made by: Val Tilburn Seconded by: Dr. Doug Lobb <b>Motion Carried</b>  Motion to ratify minutes of the Special Meeting of June 12, 2000 made by: Susan Tremblay Seconded by: Graham Hicks <b>Motion Carried</b>
00-11-01-04	Introductory Welcome by Debra King, Board Chairperson	Debra King spoke briefly on how the Board is responsible to Aurora School parents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board is governed by school policies.</li> <li>• Policies are mission related.</li> </ul> <p>The Board of Directors are dedicated to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• being moral &amp; legal trustees for our school,</li> <li>• governing by Aurora School policies, and</li> <li>• creating sound fiscal policies.</li> </ul> <p>The Board continues to address new policies for Aurora. The board meets twice a month. Members also sit on at least two other committees at the school. Mrs. King noted that both the principal and superintendent of schools are accountable to the board.</p> <p>Aurora School's student growth stayed on target. We have a sound financial budget. The Canadian Donner Foundation has given us all but \$20,000 in grant monies. We continue to have a great relationship with Caritas. We will not add any new classrooms for the next two years. Our school lease comes due this year. We have had talks with Alberta Learning regarding a new facility or shared facility. Expansion for our high school program needs to be taken into consideration. Having more than one Aurora School campus is an option being considered; like the Calgary based Foundations for the Future. Our playground is an issue that has not been forgotten, but cannot proceed with the playground until after lease talks are completed. Caritas has a number of restrictions that are complicating the development of a playground structure.</p>	

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		<p>Mrs. King hoped to have a charter renewal letter from Alberta Learning to read tonight at the AGM. However it is not ready. We hope to receive the letter by January, 2001.</p> <p>Mr. Steve Cymbol has been invited back to do the 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation for the school. We must have a 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation before we will get charter renewal.</p> <p>The hiring process for new teachers took place in July, 2000. The hiring committee consisted of the Principal, Superintendent, Board Chairman, teachers and sometimes, other board members. The committee looked at over 100 resumes and 28 candidates were selected to interview. All 28 were great candidates. Seven teachers were hired from the 28 candidates. The committee used a 12 page document which contains curriculum based questions during the interviews.</p> <p>Mrs. King also added that volunteers make the school. Without volunteer help there is no school. Our volunteers are to be treated with respect, not harassed.</p>	
00-11-01-05	Nominations for Board of Directors	<p>Our 1999-2000 board members were: Leah Iwaniuk, Jennifer Brownridge, Debra King, Graham Hicks, John Sproule and Ross Johnston.</p>	
00-11-01-06	Nominations for Chairman	<p>All four director positions were acclaimed, as well as the chairman position. As a result, our 2000-2001 board members are the same members as last year and will stand for another term.</p>	
00-11-01-07	Financial Report – Year End 1999-2000	<p>Gary Coskey presented the Auditor's report. Financial statements are prepared by Coskey Alexander, but represent what the board has done over the year. The financial statements are a statement of the school's financial position as of the August 31, 2000 year-end. With small companies and non-profit organizations, auditors accept statements prepared by the school and use the controls within their system. The audit does not check each individual fundraising endeavor. School received donations are accepted as reported by the school. There was a change of accounting principles from last year to this year. We must capitalize our capital assets this year as per Alberta Education. Non-profit organizations can no longer write off assets.</p> <p>Klaus Zerulla then gave the Treasurer's Report. As per policy Mr. Zerulla declared <i>No Conflict of Interest</i>.</p> <p>Our rent is very reasonable and utilities for this year were as well. Utilities are on the rise over the next year or two. Consequently, we will not have as much</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Acclaimed</b></p> <p>Motion made to accept the Audited Financial Statements are present by Coskey, Alexander &amp; Co by: Bruce George Seconded by: Dr. Doug Lobb <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>Motion made to accept Coskey, Alexander &amp; Co. as the Aurora School Auditors for the 2000/2001 year by: Dr. Doug Lobb Seconded by: Graham Hicks <b>Motion Carried</b></p>

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		<p>excess.</p> <p>Exceptional expenses were the portable classroom which was completed at the end of the summer. We will not have any further renovation or expansion occurring over the next year or two. Funding set aside will see us through any changes in this regard. The computer lab was completed as per special funding by Alberta Learning (General Revenues). Our expenditures were within the budget guidelines. Housekeeping was higher due to the growth in size of Aurora. As well, more money was required for substitute teachers as we had more absences than expected. Amortization was up considerably due to a change in accounting procedures. Funds set aside is a capital reserve fund, set up at the beginning of school, to use for building additional classrooms, etc. Funds deal with the maintenance of building. We made \$40,000 in interest this year (as all money sits in one account).</p> <p>Question: Revenue/expense page. Transportation expenses support funding includes a transportation component, which breaks down into a parent paid portion and Alberta Learning subsidizes balance. Why is it so high and not available to all students?</p> <p>Answer: Cost is \$100.00 per student of which \$40.00 is paid by parents.</p> <p>Question: Does the portable belong to the school or is it leased?</p> <p>Answer: Portable can be moved with us to a new facility should we move, as the portable belongs to us.</p> <p>Question: How much of the Donner grant is still outstanding, and why?</p> <p>Answer: \$20,000 approximately. Grant money has been spent on social studies, geography &amp; history and Library. The remaining grant money is for high school biology which is being withheld until we offer this program.</p> <p>It was noted at this time that there is a transportation grant that can be used for</p>	
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		<p>disadvantaged parents who have a long way to travel to school. We can subsidize bus passes but cannot subsidize gas. Financially strained families can receive some help with transportation costs.</p> <p>We pay staff wages and also a performance-based bonus. The bonus is paid for performance and is not a new item this year. The Board approves the general amount and the principal allocates the bonuses. The bonus is based on performance, seniority, etc. Not everyone gets the same amount. Bonuses are accessed at the end of September and paid in November. Bonus is only paid to those teachers returning in September.</p> <p>Our lease expires in August 2001. Meetings are being held at present with Caritas and Alberta Infrastructure over lease issues. All options are being discussed at this time. This date coincides with our charter renewal date. Charter Schools are working on this issue in terms of leasing facilities. This building will be ours for the next couple of years. We are very good tenants.</p>	
00-11-01-09	<p>Special Resolution – To amend Bylaw 8.2 and 8.3</p>		<p>Motion to accept change of Bylaw 8.2 made by: Julie George Seconded by: Penny Hiebert <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>Motion to accept change of Bylaw 8.3 made by: Penny Hiebert Seconded by: Val Tilburn <b>Motion Carried</b></p>

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	<p>To amend Parent Council Bylaw 13, 14, Preamble, Purpose, Council functions, Membership</p>	<p>The overview of this resolution is to simplify the role of parent council to such areas as school spirit and fundraising activities, as opposed to curriculum areas, etc. This way there is no confusion over what each group area is. The original bylaw left the wording wide open to interpretation. We need to clarify roles, i.e. narrow down the role of parent council and restructure role of the Board. The authority is with the Board of Directors. In matters of dispute, the Superintendent acts as an ombudsman.</p> <p>A discussion ensued over what the vision of Parent Council should be.</p> <p>A motion was made to discuss preamble and Parent Council role under one motion was made at this point.</p> <p>Doug Lobb asked permission to speak to the floor regarding the proposed changes to Parent Council as per new motion.</p> <p>Dr. Lobb and Ross Johnston increased the role of parent council at the beginning of Aurora. It is not a Parent Council, it is a School Council as per the School Act. Frustrations in choices in the public and catholic school systems developed. Began meeting in parent's living rooms. Edmonton Public started the Cogito program in response to these meetings, but did not really want parent involvement. A small group of parents formed and in six weeks put together a charter proposal. Parents want a say in their children's education. Parent Council is a very important part of our school. Achievements have been quite significant. Parent Council organized dances, bussing, uniforms, school surveys, fundraising and is a forum for parents and teachers to voice</p>	<p>A motion was made to accept the change to bylaw 13 by: Penny Hiebert Seconded by: Val Tilburn <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>A motion was made to accept the change to bylaw 14 by: Penny Hiebert Seconded by: Pat Caruso Opposed: One <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>A motion was made to discuss the preamble and Parent Council role under one motion by: Bruce George Seconded by: Peggy Mak <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>A motion was made to accept changes to preamble and role, as read by Debra King was made by: Graham Hicks Seconded Leah Iwaniuk <b>Vote not taken</b></p> <p>A motion was made to withdraw the original motion on the floor by: Graham Hicks Seconded by: Marge Lobb <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>A motion was made to ask that the Board set up a committee to discuss the role of Parent Council by: Bruce George Seconded by: Pat Caruso Abstained: One <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>A motion was made to amend the motion by: Bruce George Seconded by: Larry Ellis Opposed: One <b>Motion Carried</b></p>
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		<p>their concerns. Need to back up and look at the roles of the school. The Board has full accountability in establishing boundaries. This is done through policy, which delegates to administration who produces the results. School council does provide input into curriculum, school culture and spirit. It is not just a parent council, there are teachers elected to Parent Council. We have had our success and growing pains. Our Parent Council has more latitude than any other school in Edmonton. The proposed amended bylaws will be permanent. Parent council will become a sub-committee.</p> <p>Further general discussion ensued.</p> <p>At this point it was put forth by Bruce George to make a motion to amend wording to reflect change but keep the essence of the old wording. Mrs. King said that there was already a motion on the floor.</p> <p>Further general discussion.</p> <p>Mrs. King suggested tabling the original motion and she would strike a committee to take another look at parent Council's role and bring the information back to a special meeting. Mrs. Hiebert agreed that this would be a good idea.</p> <p>Mrs. King asked Mr. Hicks if he would withdraw his original motion.</p> <p>He agreed and withdrew his motion.</p> <p>Mr. George suggested that the committee be chosen now and Mrs. King agreed.</p>	
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		<p>Mrs. King asked if there was anyone who wanted to sit on the committee. Five people agreed to sit on the committee. They are:</p> <p>Dr. Doug Lobb Don Wilson Peggy Mak Bruce George Graham Hicks</p> <p>Penny Hiebert wished it known that she felt there should be an administrative member on this committee as well.</p> <p>Mrs. King noted that this committee will be made known by newsletter and/or by special notice to parents.</p>	
<p>00-11-01-10</p>	<p>Parent Council Positions: - ESC (1) acclaimed - Elementary (2) acclaimed - Junior High (2): One position acclaimed, one position open</p>	<p>Mr. Sproule gave an over view of what parent council has done over the past year and introduced last year's parent council:</p> <p>Elizabeth Tóth Barb Kindrachuk Darlene Zelazo Marcie Sharpe Karima Gangji (Volunteer Coord.) Ron Palmer (Community Member) Mary Healy (Teacher) Bill Crockett (Teacher) John Sproule (Chair)</p> <p>Mr. Sproule extended the appreciation of all their help and efforts over the past year. Mrs. King presented Darlene Zelazo, Barb Kindrachuk (crest received by Bob Kindrachuk on her behalf) and Karima Gangji with a crest as thanks for their contributions over the past year.</p> <p>Parent Council had a busy year with such projects as the spring dance, school pictures, book fairs, maintenance of the honour roll, etc. Did many profitable fundraisers over the year. Parent Council helped purchase year-end book awards, Orf instruments, laminator, phone headset for Mrs. Tkaczyk, etc. We would like to thank Mrs. Pearson for doing all the school laminating. Thank you to Nancy Dafoe and Joanne Killin for operating the consignment shop and the uniform shop. Thanks also to the organizers of the staff breakfast last year.</p> <p>A moment was taken to address parking concerns. Misericordia Hospital Security provides help with traffic flow and things are improving now that parents are familiar with the system. The Security Guard patrolling our pick-up/drop-off area has the children's best interests at heart and is very strict with enforcing the rules.</p>	

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		<p>Surveys are issued under Parent Council. The Parent Survey is very useful our dealings with Alberta Learning and provides valuable information. Feedback from teacher survey goes back only to teachers and the Board of Directors.</p> <p>As a final note, Parent Council members are wearing down. Please let us know if you would like to help out. This year's Parent Council members are:</p> <p>Liz Tóth Ed Cox Barb Kindrachuk</p>
00-11-01-11	Message from Students' Council	<p>The Students' Council President Dominika Bereznicki-Szyling welcomed members at the AGM meeting.</p> <p>The Students' Council represents and organizes events and activities for junior high students. President is in charge of facilitation of activities for the school.</p> <p>Students' Council would like to propose that a student representative sit on Parent Council. They would also like to add another colour of uniform top to help distinguish junior high students from elementary students.</p> <p>Jeff Vaasjo is the Vice-President of Students' Council, the Treasurer is Peter Leveille who keeps track of expenses and the Secretary, Bartek Padjasek takes minutes at Students' Council meetings.</p>
00-11-01-12	Question Period	<p>Mrs. King opened the floor for questions from members.</p> <p>It was brought to our attention that a member has noticed that the stones by Laurier House are a magnet for kids who like to play with rocks and to ask parents to remind children to leave the rocks alone. It was also suggested by a member that the above go in the next newsletter.</p> <p>Q. Charter Renewal. It is going to a second evaluation. Is there any problem with our renewal? A. We did a mini 2<sup>nd</sup> evaluation with the understanding that this was okay with Alberta Learning. Mr. Cymbol went over recommendations and put it into letter format and took it to Alberta Learning. The Attorney General said that Alberta Learning could not accept this mini evaluation and that Aurora School must do a full evaluation. Alberta Learning said that not to worry, that we must follow procedure.</p> <p>Q. Have all Charter Schools received their charter renewal? A. All Charter Schools that have come up for renewal have been renewed.</p> <p>Q. Can we pool with other Charter Schools, i.e. resources? A. Our Charter will not allow that. We can operate another school under our charter as long as it is our charter. It is a good idea to have more than one school. Having 3 or 4 campuses feeding into a high school for example. We need more of a presence so we are harder to get rid of.</p>

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		<p>Q. Are we actively looking for alternative locations? A. We are here for at least two more years. We are looking at all alternatives.</p> <p>Q. Are there any teachers at this meeting? A. This meeting is for members only.</p> <p>Graham Hicks took the floor at this point and thanked all the Board of Directors, especially Debra King for their time and contributions to Aurora School. He also thanked Ross Johnston and John Sproule for their time and contributions to the school. Graham Hicks noted that we had a great year.</p>
00-11-01-13	Adjournment	The Annual General Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.