

Owen Weir's Student Council Blog

Last week at Holy Name School, a mild mannered 5th grade reporter, named Owen Weir, covered the campaign trail. He captured many questions the students were asking about the election along with some observations about this year's campaign.

Question: How many students were running for the council?

Mr. Weir: I would say thirty.

Question: What are the offices and how many people ran for each one?

Mr. Weir: There are eight different offices in the campaign:

- Six people ran for School Service
- Two people ran for Apostolic commissioner
- Five people ran for Spirit & Social
- Two people ran for Boys Sports
- One person ran for Girl Sports
- Five people ran for Fundraising commissioner
- Four people ran for Corresponding Commissioner
- Four people ran for Executive Commissioner.

Question: Who gets to vote?

Mr. Weir: Every year it's the same grades: fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh graders can vote.

Question: How many posters can a candidate put up?

Mr. Weir: Candidates can put up to five posters.

Question: How long are speeches meant to be?

Mr. Weir: Speeches can be up to two minutes at most.

Question: When can Candidates campaign?

Mr. Weir: Candidates can campaign during lunch recess and snack recess.

Question: How do voters get to see the candidates?

Mr. Weir: Students can meet the candidates usually when they have free time at recess, and every candidate makes a speech to the voters the day before the election.

Question: What were some of the campaign slogans and themes?

Mr. Weir: Everyone did a really great job on their posters and speeches, it is hard to not compliment everyone who ran. Here are just a few themes I remember from the week:

- Ryan Glenn ran with the theme carrying the "animal" vote

- Matt Leong had the help of a Panther anime figure on his posters
- Iris Wu ran with a botanical theme with many painted flowers on her posters
- Marc Tran had a long list of celebrities endorsing his campaign
- Cynthia Wong ran with a theme of "your school's best friend"
- Ryan Szeto had stiff competition on his proposed ballot (McCain and Obama)
- Troung Nguyen got the voters listening when he sang his platform
- Alyssa Bonkouski asked the students to join her in keeping Holy Name clean
- Marinel Alcantara used the Panther school colors in her campaign theme

Question: Where were the posters displayed?

Mr. Weir: They displayed on all three floors of the school, and even in the stairwell to the roof.

Question: How long before the election were the speeches given?

Mr. Weir: The day before ballots were cast, the voters gathered in the gym to hear all of the speeches.

Question: What advice would you give to students who want to campaign next year?

Mr. Weir: I would encourage people to try and be in the talent show. This will help them be more recognizable. I also say to try altar serving so students see you at Mass. Another way to get prepared is by trying to meet as many students in other grades as possible.

Question: What was the election outcome?

Mr. Weir: The student council officers elected for the next school year are:

Executive Commissioner **Julia Wong**
Asst. Executive Commissioner **Ryan Glenn**
Corresponding Commissioner **Jenny Xiao**
Fundraising Commissioner **Ryan Kau**
Spirit & Social Commissioner **Cynthia Wong**
Girls Sports Commissioners **Marinel Alcantara**
Boys Sports Commissioners **Darren Kung**
School Service Commissioner **Ryan Szeto**
Apostolic Commissioner **Matthew Leong**