



School Advisory Council Annual Report – June 2025

School	John MacNeil Elementary School
--------	--------------------------------

Please list SAC members including names, membership type (i.e., parent, community member, staff), and role (i.e., Chair, Vice Chair).

Diana Quinn – Chair (Community Member)
Velda Colley – Community Member/Grand parent
Lenufer Yeasmin – Community Member
Jan Gillespie – Principal
Neil Finely – Vice Principal
Elizabeth MacPherson – EPA
Megan Douglas – Teacher
Melissa MacKenzie – Teacher
Robyne Gorman – Admin Assistant
Currently looking for more parent participation.

Please describe a summary of work undertaken by the SAC to improve student achievement and school performance.

The JMES SAC has focused work around trying to gain access with HRM/HRCE to have a special needs swing added to our school playground. This has been a challenge with costs and the updates connected to school playground improvements (HRM). The school currently has a small fund of money and is working closely with the HRM team on the potentially of the playground refresh having one included in it.

The JMES Sac has also supported the financial costs of implementing a new writing program SSRD into our grades 1-4 classrooms with covering the costs associated with additional supplies connected to the organization (color coding, individual highlighters etc) as well as the supplies supporting each of the students ownership of their writing portfolio over the course of the year.

The SAC also supported the need for additional decodable books and non-fiction texts in upper grade classrooms. With the support of the ELST's, the SAC approved spending of a series of board approved (bias instrument reviewed) books for classroom use. The non-fiction books support the SSRD Think writing program and the decodable books support students working on improving their reading levels.

Finally, the SAC consulted on the Safe Schools Strategy with a focus on providing feedback on the schools developed Values and Vision Statement as well as our school wide Matrix (Be a JMES Star). There was great feedback about the partnership focus (Schools, families, community). We discussed adjusting some language in our 10 cultural imperatives which guide our work at JMES. Once we have community feedback on our matrix we will share with the SAC at the end of June as well as in September.

Please list any significant milestones and success stories that the SAC would like to highlight.

The SAC with support from Susan LeBlanc (Provincial MLA for Dartmouth North), we were able to engage with the HRM team in a quick and efficient manner, gaining conversations with Sam Austin to problem solve our aging playground concerns.

Please describe any related sub-committee work undertaken by SAC members (e.g., School Options Committee).

The SAC was not required in undertaking any additional committee work.

Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:

Expenditures supporting the school improvement plan (e.g., providing resources to support math and literacy instruction).

Classroom teacher support - \$100 per room to purchase enrichment items for students to access in classrooms (\$3291.75 total)
 National Geographic book sets – (\$1144.62)
 Student incentives (Sunflower Ticket Draws - \$500)
 Butterflies – 4 classroom sets (\$389.30)
 Math Resources – JUMP Math – (\$141.96)
 Total Spent: \$5467.63 (\$179.63 over this years budget of \$5288, however we had some funds from last year remaining)

Expenditures supporting policy development and implementation (e.g., supporting and promoting new policies).

Expenditures covering operational expenses; up to 20 per cent of provincial SAC funding may be used as operational expenses, if necessary, to encourage and support member participation).

--

Please return to School Supervisor by Monday, June 16, 2025. Thank you.