

John MacNeil Elementary
School Advisory Council

Chairperson:
c/o John MacNeil Elementary
62 Leaman Dr
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 2K9

Meeting on Nov 25th, 2025, at 3:00pm

Attendance: Present – Ewi Jr, Minakshi, Elizabeth, Robyne, Melissa, Megan, Neil, Jan

Absent – Leunifer, Velda

AGENDA

1. JMES Nov 2025 –
 - a) *AI updates – Teachers are receiving PD and offered workshops after school to improve their understanding and use of AI. – Members pleased with AI education and focus*
Chris Cocek will be in to speak to all classrooms grade 2-5 on AI online safety. He is also coming to Parent teacher to set up a presentation for parents.
 - b) *Playground updates – Ewi has been busy in contact with many reps in the community. Both he and Jan have received updates from Counsellor Sam Austin, and MLA Sue LeBlanc who are helping with engagement with parks and rec. latest updates are the Jupiter equipment will be changed in 2026 calendar year and the large playground in 2027 calendar year.*
Melissa is going to investigate project funding (discretionary fund to support playground progress – possibly hosting a science fair or whole school event.
SAC funding – Funding for the year has come in.
 - c) *Holiday Concert – must be postponed due to Mr. Powell recovering from a complex concussion which has caused him to miss a significant amount of time. The plan is to host a spring concert in place of the holiday concert. This information will be shared after the SAC meeting.*
2. Request to discuss - Academic Progress, reviewing our child grades, test scores, assignments - *inclusivity, curriculum structure in English, math, science, social studies, physical education and health and arts.* All information was shared and discussed around following the provincial curriculum and SAC chair offered to all teachers his support however they could benefit from it.
3. Request to discuss - strength and areas for improvement in specific subjects - *focus on areas where data shows success and highlight specific practices that the school can celebrate and share.* – Team approach, grade level planning, collaborative team teaching, new programs integrated to support learning Think SRSD, Acadience, UFLI etc.
4. Operations – We had a complex plumbing issue due to the construction on Leaman drive. Halifax Water responded quickly to the repair however it did cause school to be closed. Operations have confirmed the work is complete and fixed.
5. Finances
 - a) Purchases- Approved one classroom teacher request for \$95.12
6. Other:

SAC chair brought new ideas to the team. Two projects – 1. Ewi is communicating with Dal Kinesiology to see if they have members who would like to run multi-sport

after school programs at JMES from End of January to march break. 2. The school team is looking at ideas for decals to put on the floor/wall for sensory stimulation. We also shared info about the Tim's foundation project starting in January. This is a leadership program for grade 5 students.

NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting date: Tuesday January 27th – 3pm