



School Advisory Council Annual Report – June 2024

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

Chair: Christina Dorey

Principal: Jacquelyn Reid

Vice Principal: Emily Ripley-Davis

Parent: Rynne Hamblin, Nicole Evanson, Rose Marshall, Adrienne Kidd

Staff Member: Cheryl Brann

Staff Member: Stephanie Dube

Community Member: Tammy McMullin

Members at Large: Taralee Dubray, Justine MacDonald, Tasha Pitcher, Darlene Joyce

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

Student Success Planning was at the forefront of each meeting agenda. We shared our short-cycle strategies, the success of our students, and how we use data to inform our instructional next steps. This year our Student Success Plan included goals in literacy, mathematics, and well being, with a specific focus on ensuring the success of students of Indigenous and African ancestry. Each meeting we highlighted the priority work in HRCE (6 Pillars with a specific focus on Phonics and Phonological Awareness & Computational Fluency in all grades this year).

Our SAC is interested and invested in the work we are doing around well-being, and our continued focus on equity, all of which is anchored in the Inclusive Education Policy. We discussed the results of our Wellbeing Survey (grades 4-12). Last year, due to the small sample size of our school, some data could not be extrapolated. This year, we responded by conducting in-house micro surveys to get a sense of how students are feeling at school. These lunchtime 'Hillside Town Halls' provided invaluable information for our staff about how we can improve student's overall schooling experience.

Our SAC was very supportive of these initiatives and voted to use our SAC funds to ensure staff and students had access to the most current materials and resources. During the principal's report all initiatives, activities/events, class configurations and staffing were discussed. We discussed provincial and regional priorities, policies, and changes. We have applied for (and received) many grants this year to help offset the cost of extracurricular experiences. The SAC is instrumental in bridging our school, families, and community partners together.

SAC participated in a Thought Exchange about cell phone use in schools, and the Nova Scotia Provincial Code of Conduct. Emily and Tammy attended a SAC professional development session about the role of the SAC in ensuring the well-being and achievement of students under the Inclusive Education Policy.

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

As a group, we collaborated on several projects. Our SAC submitted a proposal for the Innovation Grant which was available to SACs across the province. We are seeking funding to support the expansion of our Learning Centre.

A significant success for our school community and SAC was being awarded the Indigo Love of Reading Grant. This \$30 000 grant presents an invaluable opportunity for our school to enrich the learning experience of our students, creating a vibrant and engaging environment where students are inspired to explore the world through literature. This grant will allow Hillside Park to enhance the educational experience at our school, particularly in procuring a catalogue of literature that reflects the rich tapestry of cultures and identities represented within our school community. Our SAC was instrumental in helping with our application, writing letters of support and appearing in our video.

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

Along with our SAC roles and responsibilities, we also worked together as a PTG (Parent/Teacher Group). Our focus this year was to celebrate our vibrant school community with opportunities to gather- Ice Cream Social, Halloween Howl, Hillside Family Dance, BINGO Night, and Spring Fling. Our SAC members were instrumental in bringing these evenings and initiatives to life to enrich the schooling experience for our students.

We truly value the partnerships we have forged within our SAC and look forward to continuing the work to enhance the lives and educational experiences of our Hillsideers.

Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:

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

Opening Balance was \$7,821.75. Our SAC voted in favour of funding classroom literature, classroom materials, and flexible seating. We were going to reserve some funds for our Library/Makerspace reimagination but we received exciting news that we are the recipients of the Indigo Love of Reading Grant and we will be embarking on a much larger scale library refresh in the coming months. Expenses this year included:

- Tattletales Literature Infusion 3-5 Classrooms and Guided Reading Novels \$1,502.67
- Tattletales Literature Infusion P-2 \$1,576.64
- Decodable Books for Phonological Instruction \$877.50
- Magnetic Letter Tiles and Trays to support Phonological Instruction \$493.30
- Wipebooks to support Math Workshop (Based on "Building Thinking Classrooms" book) \$429.28
- Flexible Seating and Furniture for Classrooms 984.07

Total Funds this year (\$5863.46)

Remaining Balance (\$1958.29)

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

N/A

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

N/A

Please return to School Supervisor by Monday, June 14, 2024. Thank you.