



School Advisory Council Annual Report – June 2023

School	Hillside Park
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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
Parent	Ryanne Hamblin
Parent	Allison Hakkert-Sly
Parent	Rose Marshall
Parent	Nicole Evanson
Staff (teacher)	Cheryl Brann
Staff (teacher)	Stephanie Dube
Community member	Tammy McMullin
Principal	Jacquelyn Reid
Vice Principal	Emily Ripley-Davis
Members at Large:	
Tasha Pitcher	
Amani Alzubairi	

Please describe a summary of work undertaken by the SAC to improve student achievement and school performance.
<p>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 are using data to inform our instructional next steps. Each meeting we focused on the priority work in HRCE (reading in P-2 and fact fluency in 3-5)</p> <p>Our SAC was interested 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). Due to the small sample size of our school some data unfortunately cannot be extrapolated. We will be conducting in-house micro surveys to get a sense of how students are feeling at school.</p>

Our SAC was very supportive of these initiatives and was keen to spend our SAC grant 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. Staff are committed to looking for innovative ways to enhance student learning through events, presenters and other initiatives. 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 school closures/inclement weather. Christina and Jacquelyn attended a SAC professional development session about the role of the SAC in ensuring the well-being and achievement of students.

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

A true cause for celebration was receiving a \$10 000 donation from our city Councillor Paul Russell. Our SAC chair, Christina Dorey, advocated for this support and in collaboration with Jacquelyn and Emily, we proposed funding for a Learning Commons in our Library.

This will help to purchase new flexible seating in the library and some classrooms, which is a great addition to our Library Makeover/Makerspace. Our SAC has also offered to help with the Library project once we get underway.

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

This was a growing year for our SAC. 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.

The past few years living in a global pandemic have been challenging and isolating. Bringing a sense of togetherness was a priority for our work this year now that restrictions have been lifted and we are able to do so.

We are also in the process of forming a sub-community to assist in the growth and maintenance of our community garden.

Our Chair, Christina Dorey, connected with our City Councillor, Paul Russell, to discuss securing funding for a Library Makerspace/Learning Commons Makeover.

Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:

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

- Opening balance \$12,795.31
- Levelled Books to support P-2 reading priority (\$968.12 Blueberry Hill, \$770.40 PM)
- Copies of *Shifting the Balance* and *UFLI (University of Florida Literacy Institute)* for teachers to support phonological awareness and the science of reading (835.55)
- Guided reading books to support literature circles/book clubs in grades 3-5 (\$2494.49)
- *A Little Spot Program* to implement social/emotional teaching and learning which supports one of our Well-being strategies (3 educator kits for \$599.97)
- Classroom resources to support the Math Fact Fluency initiative in grade 4-5 (*Building Thinking Classrooms, Figuring Out Fluency* (multiple grades) \$226.58)
- Classroom library books to support a love of reading, ensure high-quality, high-interest, culturally diverse texts across classrooms (\$1231.94)
- We had discussed using a portion of SAC funds on creating a Makerspace in the Library but we secured a grant from Brilliant Labs and will use that as our start-up. Next year we will revisit adding to the project.
- Total spent this year- \$7126.78
- Remaining balance of **\$5,668.53**

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

We purchased a Mi'kmaq Drum. To honour our commitment to Indigenous Education, we open each school assembly with the Mi'kmaq Honour Song (\$132.25)

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)

N/A