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**School Advisory Council**

**Annual Report – June 2025**

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| School | Harry R. Hamilton 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:** Sarah Mullins (Parent)  **Secretary:** Karen Campbell  **Staff members:** Jennifer Corey, Christine Lefebvre, Sacha Hanrahan, Heather Nolan  **NSGEU member and Parent:** Jolene Eastman  **Parents:** Kathryn Fox, Jessica Duncan, Megan Russel, Karen Campbell, Erin Van Dusen  **Community member:** Lorna Trethewey  **Principal and Vice Principal:** Jennifer Cholock and Kara MacGillivray |

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| Please describe a summary of work undertaken by the SAC to improve student achievement and school performance. |
| We are very lucky to have a dedicated and engaged SAC committee and this year we welcomed one new parent and staff member. Through a weekly newsletter and conversations, we encouraged families, with a focus on our families of ANS and Indigenous ancestry, to join SAC, however, they were not able to commit this year.  In September 2024, Sarah Mullins and I (Jennifer Cholock) attended the provincial SAC conference and shared our learning with SAC members, with a focus on the new provincial code of conduct and the ministers commitment to making schools safe and accessible to all students and staff within Nova Scotia.  We began the school year by capturing the lessons learned from our 2023-2024 pre primary start up and were very happy to report that we had a much smoother start, when we welcomed almost 120 Pre-Primary Students in September 2024.  During each of our SAC meetings, we highlighted the successes that our P-2 students were making in Literacy, specifically reading. We also discussed our 2023-2024 Grade 3 Provincial Literacy and Math Assessment and outlined our next teaching steps and professional learning to help support writing from P-5. We shared our short cycle resource and Early Literacy support and provided monthly updates on how the support was improving Literacy and Math.  We also discussed computational fluency and what this daily 30-minute block of learning looks and sounds like within classrooms from P-5 and how it helps students use strategies with flexibility, efficiency and accuracy.  The provincial lunch program was discussed and feedback was provided from SAC members from October onward. As the year progressed, the efficiency of the lunch program evolved and the majority of students enjoyed their hot lunch each day.  Throughout the year, we discussed assessment and evaluation strategies and tools that we used to support our students, such as the core phonics, dibbles and reading assessments that allowed us to group students for explicit phonemic instruction, math running records and daily evidence of learning, which helped us identify strengths, gaps in learning and plan next steps for our students who were not yet at benchmark, including students of ANS or Indigenous ancestry.  The congestion on Hamilton Drive and surrounding streets continues to be a concern for school staff, families and neighbours. Since our PP program expanded, we have more students being dropped off each morning, which has led to more traffic. During the winter months, icy roads, narrow streets, snowbanks and increased traffic makes for more congestion and greater concern. One of our parent SAC members contacted Brad Johns and our local MLA, advocating for support and sharing our concerns. These concerns have yet to be addressed or resolved, therefore, they will be carried over into the 2025-2026 school year.  Our Math, Literacy and Well-Being SSP strategies and criteria for teacher and student success were also regularly shared with our SAC members and their feedback and questions were reflected upon and discussed within TST, grade level and staff meetings. |

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| Please list any significant milestones and success stories that the SAC would like to highlight. |
| As mentioned above, we have a very dedicated SAC and they continued to be very supportive of our school initiatives. Throughout the year, we engaged in very open and honest conversations, that were reflective of the social, emotional, behavioral and academic success of our students.  Our SAC team continued to be a voice for our community members and they do a great job of bringing forth family/community perspectives and/or questions. We value their commitment to our students and families.  This year SAC provided feedback in relation to the Nova Scotia Lunch Program, Updated Code of Conduct, School Success Planning and the revitalization of the wooded area at the back of our school. All initiatives support the academic success and well-being of our students. |

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| Please describe any related sub-committee work undertaken by SAC members (e.g., School Options Committee). |
| We have no sub committees |

**Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:**

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| Expenditures supporting the school improvement plan (e.g., providing resources to support math and literacy instruction). |
| 1. $1714.09- Cover the cost of substitutes (Classroom teachers worked with our resource teachers and examined different ways of collecting, recording and using Math Data to plan instruction 2. $41.03- Decodable books purchased for primary classroom 3. $1482.00- Whole school performance from Dave Carroll- About resilience, determination and hard work. 4. $441.54- Picture books to support P-5 teachers and students 5. $836.81- T-Shirts for our grade 5 students (Class of 2025) 6. $1164.56- Decodable books for our P-3 classrooms 7. $368.50- All classroom teachers got to select 2-3 books for their classroom library 8. $115.35- Teacher Literacy Resource (Powerful Writing Structures) 9. $681.63- Bulletin Boards for hallways   Total= $ 6 845.51 |

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| Expenditures supporting policy development and implementation (e.g., supporting and promoting new policies). |
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| 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). |
| $300 for year-end SAC dinner (estimation) |

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