

## **Joseph Howe Elementary School Advisory Council**

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

20th May 2025, 6pm

#### **1. Attendance (names and positions held)**

- Michael MacDonald – Principal
- Phill Thomas – Vice Principal (Acting)
- Sara Jennex – Teacher
- Julie Tannous – Teacher
- Laura Hutt – Schools Plus Outreach
- Samantha McPhee – Parent
- Sheleema Flint – Parent
- Chloe Talarico – Community Member
- Marika Paris – Parent
- Whitney Clayton – Community Member
- Natalia Diaz-Insense (Walking School Bus)

#### **Apologies**

- Jade Paris - Parent
- Paula Adams – Community Member
- Fatima Hussain– Parent
- YouthNet community representative

#### **1. Call to order.**

#### **2. Introductions**

- Welcomes
- Natalia Diaz-Insense

#### **3. Approval of March minutes**

- Minutes reviewed and approved
  - All members agreed minutes to be true and correct reflection

#### **4. Business arising from earlier meeting**

- Approval of Purchases
  - White board tables for classrooms (Approx. \$4000)
  - SAC agreed the purchase of 10 tables

- PALS
- Playground update - in PTA minutes

## 5. School success plan

- P – 3 Data collection April, 2025
  - 70.7% of students (total population) are meeting reading benchmarks
  - 69.6% of students (ANS descent/African descent) are meeting benchmarks
  - 33.3% of students (Indigenous descent) are meeting benchmarks

## 6. New business

- HRM Walking School bus
  - MM – investigated possibility e.g. to support attendance
  - Natalia Diaz-Insense – running a pilot program
    - Support school team to walk more and limit car use
    - Reduce congestion
    - Provide help for families to support with drop off for school
      - Run by volunteers – same as a school trip
      - Looking to have support from adults e.g. seniors
  - Survey sent home and results reviewed
  - Trial planned – like bus, go to “walking stop” - next academic year
    - Natalia to go to Beautification Day (14<sup>th</sup> June) to share
    - Distribute posters/flyers to the parent resource centre/library
- Joseph Howe Behaviour Matrix
  - Reviewed by SAC
    - Feel that the matrix is clear and will be useful for school
  - MM – How do we share this information with parents?
    - Shared the progressive nature of the new school code of conduct
      - Google form possible?
      - Have a copy sent home in backpack
      - Curriculum night is a good time
  - Teaching for students will take place (MM) for each expectation
  - Implementation of PBIS reviewed

## 7. Finances

- SAC grant -
- Student Support Grant -
- Healthy Schools Grant -

## 8. 2025 – 2026 Registration

- Total population – 348
  - We are currently looking at registration for the 2025 – 2026 school year. It looks like we will begin the year with between 340 – 350 students.

## 10. Special Reports/School Events

- Lunch
  - Choir Friday, Imhotep – Dal on Tuesdays,
  - YMCA youth transitions program Wednesday (Grade 5)
  - Thursday LEGO club
  - Tunnel Vision running now
- LM3 assessment
- Fire station school trips
- Black Excellence Day (Choir went to Dartmouth High)
- Joe Howe clothing
- Staff community walk-around
- Chess club/tournament
- Waste assembly
- Grade 4 swimming
- LC Swimming
- LC Hope Blooms

#### **11. AOB**

- Principal thanks for the SAC team

**12. Next meeting:** October 2025

**9. Adjournment:** 7.00pm