

Joseph Howe Elementary School Advisory Council

MEETING SUMMARY

23rd September 2025, 6pm

1. Attendance (names and positions held)

- Michael MacDonald – Principal
- Phill Thomas – Vice Principal
- Samantha McPhee – Parent
- Sheleema Flint – Parent
- Chloe Talarico – Community Member
- Stephen Osawaru – Parent
- Sophia Ogochukwu – Parent
- Patrick Okiowe - Parent
- Shanika Barrett - Parent
- Shaillender Sardar – Parent
- Taranjeet Sardarni - Parent
- Sara Thompson - Teacher

Apologies

- Jade Paris - Parent
- Paula Adams – Community Member
- Fatima Hussain– Parent
- YouthNet community representative
- Sara Jennex – Teacher
- Laura Hutt – Schools Plus Outreach
- Marika Paris – Parent
- Whitney Clayton – Community Member

1. Call to order.

2. Introductions

- Welcomes
- Review of the role of the SAC and how it supports the school

3. SAC Agreement

- To be reviewed at our October meeting

4. Business arising from earlier meeting

- Development of team of volunteers
 - Work closely with PALS
 - PALS committee for school supplies
 - Reading volunteer -
- Food summit
 - PTA formed partly because of this
- Reading and writing data
 - Will be reviewed at our next meeting

5. School success plan

- This drives school progress
- Goals are set in math, literacy and wellbeing
 - These goals were reviewed and we will continue to provide data updates at SAC meetings.

6. New business

- School Photo
 - Adams photography
 - Pineapple unable to do it this year
 - October 22nd
- Small playground
 - Complaint in for HRM about playground
 - Someone from HRM came in to check
 - Hoping that we are going to be on the capital project list
- School Wide Trip

7. Finances

- ABOUT \$15 000
- SAC grant -
- Student Support Grant -
- Healthy Schools Grant -
 - Physical health

8. 2025 – 2026 Registration

- Total population – 331
 - Slight decrease from last year – pre-primary has fewer numbers this year

9. Special Reports/School Events

- Return to breakfast bins
- School lunches
 - Parent feedback – generally positive so far
- Lunch change
 - Most students outside now at the same time
 - Support student wellbeing (safety)
- One additional class this year
- Tim Horton's Camp
 - Coming in to school to support grade 5's
 - 6-week period
- Hope Blooms Collaboration
- Choir returned
 - Grade 3 - 5
- Art Programs (lunch programs/Mural)
 - New mural on wall
 - Grade 4 and 5 art on Mondays (switch to younger grade)
- Walking School Bus
 - Natalia trying to get interest in having students walking up to the school
- Change in ELST support
 - Used to be Reading Recovery – not using this anymore
 - We have 2 support teachers
- PBIS Expectations
 - Teachers teach students the expectations
 - First 2 weeks Hallway expectations

10. AOB

Growth and Greenhouse at Joe Howe (Sam and Chloe obtained a grant through the SAC)

- Going to buy a greenhouse, butterflies etc,
- Hoping to have trees – hill on big playground
- Hope Blooms will help

Next meeting: October 21st 2025

Adjournment: 7.00pm