



School Advisory Council Annual Report – June 2026

School	St. Stephen's Elementary School
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SAC Chair:			
SAC Parent members: Tom McNutt Julia Grady Amanda Misener Melissa Sheppard	SAC Community Members: Shanan Pictou	SAC Staff Members: Trista Kirchner Heather Cosgrove-Smith	SAC Students Members: NA

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

- **25-26 SAC requests for participation**
 - Feedback survey from the Provincial SAC Conference
 - HRCE School Advisory Council Feedback & Question Submission from our Regional Executive Director
- **The SAC regularly reviewed the HRCE/Provincial Priorities for this year at each meeting.**
 - P-3 Reading Initiative
 - Grade 4-6 Math Priority
- **The SAC regularly reviewed Student Success Planning and Data throughout the year.**
 - Math— We will improve achievement in mathematics for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry
 - Literacy— We will improve achievement in literacy (reading & writing) for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.
 - Well-Being— We will improve well-being at our school for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

- Reviewed Grade 3 & 6 Math Provincial Assessment Results
- Reviewed Grade P-6 Classroom-based reading and math assessment results.
- Provided feedback regarding Provincial Code of Conduct.
- SAC Provincial PD Full Day Workshop where there were workshops on:
 - Funding for School-Based Initiatives (SAC Innovation Fund): We will look at putting in a proposal. We looked at some of the successful proposals at the October SAC Meeting and discussed the possibility of applying for funding for bicycles and painting a bike route on the pavement behind the school.
 - SAC Innovation Fund was discontinued in Spring 2026.

The SSES SAC Supported funding for:

- P-3 decodable texts to support classroom guided reading and home reading programs
- School-wide bulk purchase of white boards for every student to support Math Fluency and Literacy work

Healthy Schools Grant...We used this grant to:

- increase outdoor play equipment for each class and grade
- added to our display of flags representing where our students come from (culturally safe spaces)
- assisted with field trips cost by funding bussing
- Assisted in funding December SSES Holiday Event (SSES Celebrates the Holidays December 11th)
- Purchase of butterfly larva for grade primary classes.

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

- The biggest milestone of this year was the launch and implementation of the Provincial School Code of Conduct as well as the implementation of the P-2 (2nd year) and 3-6 (1st year) provincial literacy curriculum documents.
- This year, we welcomed approximately 330 students and 14 P-6 classrooms and 2 Pre-Primary rooms.
- 18 Pre-Primary students left our St. Stephen's family and returned to their new community school at SJAM.
- This year we invited our community to take part in various school events such as Halloween Dance, Mi'kmaq Heritage Month and activities, Toy Bingo, Parent/Teacher and Student-Led Conferences, December Holiday Celebration Event, African Heritage Month, Valentine's/Winter Dance, Winter Skate at the Oval, SSES Spring Music Showcase and Spring Fair.

- We hosted a Scholastic Book Fair in the fall and we also took part in the Coins 4 Books campaign through Tattletales. All of these events reduced costs to buying books for our library and our classrooms.
- The SSES SAC Supported funding requests to support various Literacy and Math books and materials.
- Staff also collaborated with some parent volunteers to facilitate a Lego club every Friday at lunch from January until March.

SSP Math

- The focus on Computational Fluency in Grades P-6 continues to reflect the gains we observed last year.
- This year teachers continued to focus on developing understanding in computational fluency using a combination of Math talks and games during daily Math fluency blocks.
- Teachers also worked on deepening their understanding of assessment and how to determine where students were in their understanding in relation to grade and term.

SSP Literacy

- Our focus on implementing the UFLI phonics program has had a positive impact on our P-2 students.
- Work continues to be needed in writing from P-6 where our focus this year will be on the reciprocity between reading and writing and the implementation of the new P-2 and 3-6 Literacy curriculums.
- This year P-2 teachers were in the 2nd year of implementing the new literacy curriculum and 3-6 teachers taught from a new Literacy curriculum framework that was introduced in September.
- Teachers took part in PD sessions focused on the implementation/soft-launch of the new literacy curriculum, using the Writing Revolution 2.0 resource to support planning more focused writers workshop lessons, and on the continued use of Mentor texts to support Readers and Writers workshops.

SSP Well-Being

- This year, all classes continued to take advantage of opportunities to improve students' engagement and well-being by taking learning off-site.
- Classes used public transit to get to access museums, the art gallery, public gardens, etc.
- Through the use of the Student Support Grant, Healthy Schools Grant, and support from our PTA we were able to generously subsidized either in part or in full many field trips especially those that required HRCE student transportation (the school bus).
- The average cost to travel by bus was approximately \$500.00 per trip.

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

No Sub-Committee work has been undertaken.

Statements of Revenues and Expenditures:

SAC Grant : \$5338.00			
Vendor	Resources	Cost	Total Grant remaining
West Coast Literacy	Books for P-2 Assessment	\$127.68	\$5,210.32
Owls Nest Bookstore LC	SEL Books	\$61.95	\$5,148.37
Sylla-Sense	Classroom Decodables	\$3,425.58	\$1,722.79
West Coast Literacy	Classroom Decodables	\$707.70	\$1,015.09
Amazon	Whiteboards (whole school)	\$722.00	\$293.09
Operational Expenses	Food for meetings	\$336.00	-\$42.91
Total Spent		<u>\$5,380.91</u>	

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

- \$4322.00 P-3 decodable texts for all P-3 classes to support teaching reading.
- \$722.95 School-wide bulk purchase of white boards for every student to support both Math and Literacy work.

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

NA

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).

\$336.00 SAC Meeting Food for Meetings over seven meetings.