[](https://www.hrce.ca/)

**School Advisory Council**

**Annual Report – June 2022**

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| School | JL Ilsley High 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). |
| Cari Duggan-MacNeil (Co-Chair)  Dana Holmes (Co-Chair)  Natasha Jessome (parent)  Robin Jensen (parent)  Rhonda Johnson (parent)  Kelly O’Sullivan (community member)  Crystal Lowe Pierce (Nick Pierce) (parents) – shared role of secretary and alternated meetings  Amanda Campbell (Teacher, staff)  Don Reardon (Acting Principal – Sept to Feb)  Marilyn MacGibbon (Principal – Feb to June)  Molly Anderson (student rep)  Alex Godsoe (student rep)  Leva Leving (student rep)  Keri Butler (Vice Principal, staff) |

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| Please describe a summary of work undertaken by the SAC to improve student achievement and school performance. |
| The SAC at JL Ilsley met on five occasions during the 2021-22 school year including several online meetings before COVID restrictions permitted in-person meetings later in the year. Due to new school construction, a separate building orientation was completed for SAC members to show off the new building. Each meeting contained reports from the Principal as well as updates on Student Council activities. The SAC sought input from staff and community prior to meetings that were included as part of each meeting. COVID protocol changes, as well as new building issues, were part of regular discussions at the meetings.  Student updates included upcoming activities and hopes for the new school. Restricted by COVID protocols, the students shared successes of events and weekly themed Fridays as well as other in-school activities such as Orange Shirt Day, Pride week (Last Blast week), and numerous athletics events. Students shared stories of the new school’s benefits and how to support others in the building with random acts of kindness box to bring about experiences that other student identified as positive.  Since the school was still under construction, each meeting contained building updates as part of regular business. The SAC engaged in conversations with community partners about restoration of the school sign as well as possible partnerships with local businesses to establish an online school store and future scholarship programming.  Student Success Plan Goals  **We will improve student achievement in Mathematics**  Improving mathematics scores for ANS and Indigenous students in Math 10.  The SAC offered financial support to supplement classroom resources which were utilized to help engage African Nova Scotian students as well as Indigenous students in mathematics instruction. Classes began using WIPE books, which allowed students to engage in hands on problem solving, allowing for flexibility to make changes and take risks, and engaged students in working with peers and problem solving.  **We will improve student achievement in Literacy**  To improve literacy, the SAC offered funding to create literature circles for Investment and Finance classes. These circles give students real-life examples and focused on financial literacy. Students were able to have discussions on topics such as budgeting, planning for future purchases, and safe investments. This also helped students become more familiar with non-fiction texts, a skill that is needed in many English classes.  **We will improve student well-being**  We did a lot of gathering student voices with a student survey early on in the first semester. This evidence of student voice was used to support student well being in a variety of ways. Other internal and external surveys, and focus groups helped reengage student-led groups such as students’ council and GSA.  Since the start of second semester, our staff Equity team has been working towards improving school culture and climate.  Through our work with Otis Daye, we are ensuring that everyone is working together through a culturally and linguistically responsive, accepting, respectful, and supportive manner that honours all students’ cultural identities and values their experiences and world views.  Next year we hope to have our Equity Team support our TST with a goal of moving equity towards instruction.  We are planning a series of workshops, assemblies and activities to engage students in expectations of the building as well as fostering a positive school culture and climate.  The opening week of school will set the tone of positivity, acceptance and equality.  Staff will participate in PD sessions and team building activities with an equity focus prior to student arrival.  Staff will then transfer these activities and experiences to students in their opening instruction and setting of classroom norms. |

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| Please list any significant milestones and success stories that the SAC would like to highlight. |
| * Regular, engaged conversation about student experiences and well-being in the school. * Regular, engaged conversation about staff experiences and well-being in the school. * Regular updates and discussion about PD progress and efforts focused on the Math 10 performance of African Nova Scotian students. * Purchase of material to support learning in classrooms (WIPEbooks) as well as communication boards for school-wide communication and celebrations of learning.   One of the biggest successes for the SAC this year was the new school tour events. The SAC, in collaboration with school admin, hosted several “School Warming” tours. Community partners were invited to an event on Sunday, November 21st, followed by two evening sessions for parents/guardians on Monday, November 22nd and Tuesday, November 23rd. Those in attendance participated in a drum circle and then were broken off into small groups to take a tour around the school with student guides. Highlights of the building were shared. One highlight was the Wishing Tree. The Wishing Tree for Peace was an idea that began with Yoko Ono in the 1980s (<https://www.imaginepeacetower.com/yoko-onos-wish-trees/>) and has continued around the world since. During the tour, guests were invited to write down their wishes and desires for the new school (or for any other reason) on small pieces of paper before attaching these written wishes on a branch on a wish tree. The wishes were sent to Iceland where they joined nearly a million other wishes buried at the base of the Imagine Peace Tower on Viðey Island in Kollafjörður Bay in Iceland. |

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| Please describe any related sub-committee work undertaken by SAC members (e.g., School Options Committee). |
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**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). |
| * JL Ilsley SAC approved funds to be spent on items to support instructional practices in the classroom as well as communication within the school (with students/staff/community). Of the $5901.00, $5,056.71 was spent on the items below:   Financial Literacy Books - $514.17  Communication Boards for increasing communicate learning successes & activities – $2,153.33  WIPE boards to support math instruction – $448.48  Chromebook charging cart to support technology initiatives in the school – $1,660.00 |

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| Expenditures supporting policy development and implementation (e.g., supporting and promoting new policies). |
| N/A |

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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). |
| * JL Ilsley SAC spent $280. 73 on operational expenses to support member participation.   SAC supplies (November) for SAC orientation – $39.12  SAC supplies (February) – $42.04  SAC supplies (June) - $44.97  SAC supplies (January) - $154.60 |

Please return to School Supervisor by Monday, June 20, 2022. Thank you.