

**St. Agnes Jr. High School  
School Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes Thursday, May 7 2026**

**Attending**

- Chair: Jessica Newman
- Principal: Nancy Martin
- Vice-Principal: Sara Bonin
- Parent Representative: Tara Wight
- Community Representative: Ian Shawcross
- Staff Representative: Peter Ryan

**Regrets**

- Vice Chair: Allana Mills
- Parent Representative: Joana Cardoso
- Secretary: Cathy Chiasson
- Staff Representative: Cierra Thomas
- Community Representative: Ann Giffin
- Parent Representatives: Corinne Strangward
- Student Representatives

**Minutes**

1. Welcome & Call to Order – 11:46 a.m.
  - Roundtable introductions
2. Membership
  - We are going to wait and open up membership in September to fill positions as Jess is planning to step down from being chair for the 2026-2027 school year.
  - Tara, Jess, Ian, and Ann have indicated that they plan to return.
3. Principals Report
  - We had our first ever pride month flag raising! This is going to be an annual tradition!
  - Craft/Bake Sale: The GSA made over \$500!!
  - EAL/Newcomer trip across Halifax: Students were given the opportunity to go biking, touring the YMCA, and a visit to the Public Gardens.
  - Spelling Bee: At student request, we hosted a spelling bee. The top 3 students were all grade 7!

- May 15 was Black Excellence Day! We created a photo wall of all our students who identify as African Nova Scotian called “Excellence in Action”. Staff wore Black Excellence shirts, and many students wore black in solidarity. Students also officially unveiled the Black Joy mosaic.
- Mural and Bench Dedication: Both of these new installations focus on the Indigenous experience. Dr. Harrison had students across the school create a Truth and Reconciliation mural starting with Remembrance and moving on with Hope. Last year, a group of students created a bench that tells the story of the dreamcatcher and focusing on protection, unity and respect. Following this dedication Arlea Walsh – the Indigenous Education Consultant from HRCE led a smudging ceremony with our grade 9’s to end off the year.
- Learning Centre Fun: Mr. Gallant worked with our Learning Centre students to build tool boxes.
- Waterloo Math Competition, grade 7 and 8’s had the choice to write the math competition a few weeks ago.
- Upcoming: End of year! Grade 9 Boat Cruise, Breakfast, Rehearsal, Ceremony
- Yearbooks have arrived!
- Student Success Planning: Focus on comprehension this year, mental math, developing confidence. During ILT we have our SSP teachers 3 literacy, 3 math, 1 from each grade level. We are going to move to full school short cycle goals. Well-being has also improved, though we do wish for it to improve further.
- We were very fortunate to have a student selected to attend Catapult Camp!
- Our Techsploration Team placed second this year!
- We secured 6/20 spots in the O2 program at Citadel next year!
- Grade 6 Orientation went well! We hosted all grade 6’s and then had their parents come in for an information session the following evening.
- We are delighted to welcome our new Schools Plus Facilitator: Patrick Maubert!
- Scheduling and Staffing: Our schedule for the 2026-2027 school year has been completed!
- Changes in Staffing: We are very sad to be losing several teachers to new opportunities next year. Dr. Harrison will be moving to Citadel High School, Mr. Seely will be moving to Ridgecliff, and Mr. Melanson will be moving to the Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education.
- We are excited to welcome Monique Ouelette for our Art program. We are also excited to welcome Jonathan Peverill be taking Andrew’s position.
- We are still looking to fill a 40% position and the latter portion of Klara’s maternity leave.
- Both the male and female identifying softball teams competed in a one day tournament! Neither team won the tournament but everyone had a great time!
- Both our male and identifying flag football teams made it to the finals! Although both teams lost they did have an incredible tournament!
- Track and Field was a great success this year, we were the overall winners for the City. We had a record number of athletes at provincials.
- An award ceremony is taking place on June 18 to celebrate success for students in sports/clubs/activities. 92 awards are being presented!

4. Jess expressed her sincere thanks to the school and SAC for all of their support throughout this year and really leaning into the sense of Gator pride. Very few schools have this much success with the community supports that we have here.
5. Student fees: We will be continuing with student fees next year, at a cost of \$15 per student. This is in the approval process at this time. These monies go towards events, such as Black Excellence Day, school supplies, hygiene products, school wide presentations, etc.

Meeting Adjourned

12:37pm

Next meeting: 2026-2027 school year