

2016 - Spring Adopted Resolutions Work Plan and Assignments

(Updated April 2017)

1. (16-01) SSBA demand that the Government of Saskatchewan provide adequate mental health support for all students in Saskatchewan.

Lead: Ted Amendt. Discuss this item with the Ministry of Education. Consider in the context of the Education Sector Strategic Plan. April 2016 – June 2017.
2. (16-02) SSBA strongly lobby the provincial and federal governments to provide additional one-time funding to those school divisions receiving Syrian refugees and who experienced increased costs to support those students.

Lead: Jill Welke. Raise item with Minister of Education and include in SSBA Communication and Advocacy strategy. April – December, 2016.

In May 2016 the SSBA sent a letter to the federal Minister of Immigration, refugees and Citizenship supporting the Premier's request for funding support. In the 2016 provincial budget released June 1, 2016, there was \$5.4 million of school operating funding targeted to support Syrian refugee students. While school boards in Saskatchewan appreciated this recognition of Syrian refugees in the 2016 budget, the negotiated increases for teacher compensation were not fully funded in the grant which resulted in a difficult budget situation for many school divisions and therefore settlement initiatives are primarily being funded within existing budget and resources. School divisions reported that they are providing support in partnership with the Open Door Society and their Settlement Support Workers in Schools Program (that also likely receives provincial funding – but we do not have this information). The 2017 Provincial Budget did not include targeted funding to support Syrian refugee students. Reduced funding for education in Saskatchewan as a result of the 2017-18 provincial budget will limit the ability of boards of education to mitigate impacts to the classroom. Minister of Education reported that there is no advancement of federal funding at this time.
3. (16-03) SSBA advocate to the Government of Saskatchewan to officially recognize September 30th as "Orange Shirt Day". This day is to recognize the harm of the Indian Residential School System did to the children's sense of self-esteem and well-being and is an affirmation of the province's commitment to ensure that "Every Child Matters".

Lead: Jamie Lerat. Raise this resolution with the Minister of Education for response. April – September, 2016.

Complete.