2020 Adopted Resolutions Work Plan

October Update

AGM 20-01 BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA create a working committee to engage member boards in drafting a position statement on Indigenous Education, to be brought to the membership for adoption.

Complete – Ted Amendt - Discuss with the Indigenous Council and SSBA Executive and create a working committee. Working committee meets in Spring to draft position statement. The draft position statement is submitted to member boards through the typical position statement feedback processes in 2021. Draft position statement presented to the membership at SSBA 2021 Fall Assembly for adoption. A working committee has been approved. The committee will meet in Spring 2021. The committee completed the draft Position Statement and submitted to 2021 Fall Assembly, where it was adopted with unanimous support.

AGM-20-02 WHEREAS Board of Education trustees may choose to enter other areas of politics while serving as a school board trustee, BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA Executive establish a Working Advisory Group (WAG) to create guidelines for Boards and trustees, and the SSBA Executive to follow so that they can continue to responsibly fulfill obligations and duties in this situation.

Complete – Jill Welke - The Executive Policy Review Committee (EPRC) has this on their workplan for 2021 to research and identify best practices to develop a policy for the SSBA Executive and to create guidelines for Boards and Trustees. The SSBA has approved an Executive Policy that was developed by the EPHRC (Fall 2021). The Committee has adapted the Executive Policy and the guidelines were approved by the Executive in March 2022 for distribution to Board Chairs Council and then all member boards following the 2022 Spring Assembly.

AGM-20-03 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association engage education sector partners and First Nations and Métis educational authorities, as appropriate, to call on the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Government Relations to review and renew the Local Government Elections Act and Regulations with the intent of creating more opportunities for the election and participation of Indigenous school board trustees.

Ongoing – Darren McKee - Following up on the letter sent in November 2020 outlining the adopted resolutions, this issue was raised with the Minister of Education on January 26 and October 4, 2021, and with the Minister of Government Relations on October 14, 2021. Issue was raised again with Minister in February 2022 – research (discussion paper and call for feedback) is underway with boards to understand the diversity in the province and what enabling legislation could look like. Further follow-up required. Consultations with member boards occurred in April and May. A report summarizing the consultations and providing options and a recommendation was submitted to the Minister of Education and Minister of Government Relations in June. The SSBA President subsequently met with the Minister of Government Relations. The Minister of Government Relations indicated that they may open the LGEA. Ongoing advocacy underway as no indication this is a priority for Government Relations in terms of changes to the LGEA.

Working on meetings in partnership with SUMA and SARM on shared areas of advocacy including the LGEA.

AGM-20-04 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association work to create a common definition of 'diversity' that all school divisions can use to build their plans for addressing racism and discrimination.

Complete- Darren McKee - Initial research was conducted looking at existing definitions in the sector or related organizations. This research was reviewed and considered as part of the development of a Proposed Position Statement Inclusive Education. The common definition was adapted from the Inclusive Education document released by the Ministry of Education and the SSBA Proposed Position Statement. Feedback has been received and no changes are recommended to the common definition. The definition was distributed to members following Fall Assembly 2022.