

## School Boards Encouraged By Partially Restored Funding

Saskatchewan's school boards are encouraged that some funding was restored in the provincial budget for 2018-19 that was announced in April, but are calling for renewed investment in education going forward.

"We are pleased that Premier Scott Moe is committed to keeping the promise from his leadership campaign and the government has restored some funding for education," said Dr. Shawn Davidson, president of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association. "Premier Moe said that education must be a top priority and we thank him and Minister of Education Gordon Wyant for their reprioritization of support for our province's students.

"However, we know the funding announced only goes so far in terms of meeting the pressures being faced in classrooms across Saskatchewan," Davidson continued. "We also need to ensure predictable and sustainable funding is in place to support innovation and improvement in the system for many years to come."

School boards have been calling for restored and renewed investment after funding for education was cut significantly in the provincial budget for the previous year, 2017-18. The funding announced in the 2018-19 budget will improve the ability of boards to address pressures facing school division operations, but continued growth and inflation means funding levels remain concerning.

"Boards made many difficult decisions as a result of last year's cuts," Davidson said. "Our members will be working through the funding allocations for their divisions to determine what they mean for the next school year."

Davidson said boards see the efforts made this year to reprioritize funding for education as critical to supporting continued progress in the area of student achievement.

"Our responsibility as locally elected boards is to represent the voices of families and communities in overseeing the operations of our education system," he said. "The provincial government is responsible for funding. We need to be engaged



*SSBA President Shawn Davidson and Vice-President Aleana Young at the Legislative Building for budget day*

and working together and we believe that all students should have the resources they need to succeed and achieve, regardless of where they live in the province or their personal circumstances."

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## Spring General Assembly 2018 – “Local Voice in Action”



*Members of the SSBA Provincial Executive wear jerseys at Spring Assembly in support of the Humboldt Broncos*



*SSBA President Shawn Davidson addresses the membership gathered at Spring Assembly*



*Deputy Premier and Minister of Education Gordon Wyant brings greetings to Spring Assembly delegates*



*Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth Corey O'Soup gives the Keynote Address at Spring Assembly*



*Representatives from Regina Public Schools participate as part of the Student Voice to the Board Panel*



*Representatives from Saskatchewan Rivers participate as part of the Student Voice to the Board Panel*



## Loss Control and Prevention Seminar



*A presentation at the SSBA GIP Loss Control and Prevention Seminar 2018*

Forty delegates from 18 school divisions and one delegate from the Ministry of Education attended the SSBA General Insurance Plan (GIP) Loss Control and Prevention Seminar that was held in Saskatoon in March. Attendees included primarily facilities personnel, along with a few CFOs and HR personnel.

Based on the feedback received, the seminar provided excellent value to participants and the knowledge gained could improve how they manage their facilities, thereby reducing losses.

This was SSBA's first Loss Control and Prevention Seminar since 2012 and it is hoped similar seminars in the future will continue to add value to the SSBA GIP, with respect to loss mitigation and reduction.

## National Congress on Rural Education



*Janet Kotylak, SSBA Southern Constituency Representative, brings greetings to the congress on behalf of the Provincial Executive*



*Jill Welke, SSBA Director of Communications, leads a session on social media engagement and starting that conversation*



*Ted Amendt, SSBA Director of Board Development, Human Resources and Legal Services, leads a session on School Community Councils*



*"The mission of the SSBA is to provide leadership, coordination and services to member boards of education to support student achievement."*

**President:**

Dr. Shawn Davidson

**Vice-President:**

Aleana Young

**Aboriginal Constituency:**

Duane Favel

**Catholic Constituency:**

Jerome Niezgoda

**Central Constituency:**

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**Northern Constituency:**

Jansen Corrigan

**Southern Constituency:**

Janet Kotylak

**Urban Public Constituency:**

Donna Banks

**Executive Director:**

Darren McKee

**Communications Services:**

Jill Welke

**Corporate Services**

Marie Stewart

**Employee Benefits**

**and Insurance Plans:**

Jeff McNaughton

**First Nations and Métis Education:**

Jamie Lerat

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If you would prefer to receive *The School Trustee* by hard copy, please contact the Association at the email address above.

## Calendar Update

### Upcoming Events in 2018:

#### **NTGAE and CSBA Congress 2018**

Halifax – July 4-7

#### **Employee Benefits Plan Seminar**

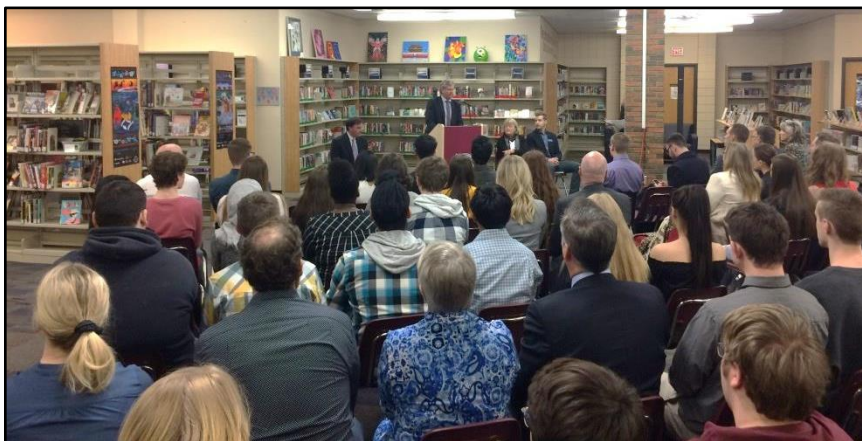
Regina – Oct. 10-12

#### **SSBA Fall General Assembly**

Regina – Nov. 15-17

<https://saskschoolboards.ca/events/>

## Financial Literacy Announcement



*SSBA President Shawn Davidson speaks at the announcement*

In March, Deputy Premier and Education Minister Gordon Wyant announced that writing is set to begin in April for new financial literacy courses that will soon be available to help ensure students are prepared for a successful future.

In response to requests from stakeholders including the SSBA, new financial literacy curricula are being developed for Grade 11 and 12 students. Grades 7-9 teachers will also be able to introduce their students to financial literacy topics by using modules from these curricula in middle-level Practical and Applied Arts courses.

"Our members have adopted recent resolutions in support of developing a personal finance class for high school students and of implementing a provincial strategy to address financial literacy for all students," SSBA President Dr. Shawn Davidson said. "Increased focus on financial literacy has also been a theme commonly identified by students in scholarship essays we have received and student panels we have hosted in recent years."

Curricula are written by ministry consultants along with teachers. Development and implementation is approximately a two-year process.