Fall General Assembly Nov. 15-17, 2026

SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

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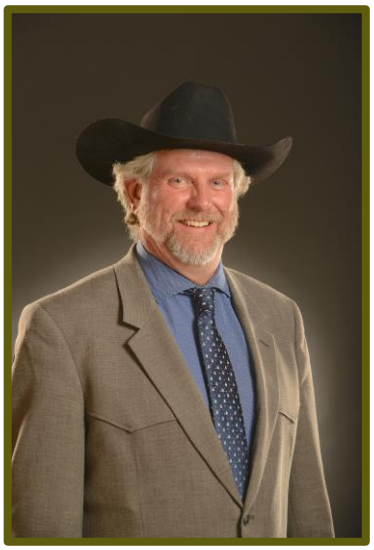
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Most documents for this event are available online at saskschoolboards.ca

Use this QR code to access the event evaluation:

President's Message

Dr. Shawn Davidson, SSBA President



On behalf of the entire Executive, thank you for your attendance and engagement with the SSBA's 2026 Fall Assembly and AGM. This year's theme, *Vision to Impact: Good Governance for Student Success*, reflects the essential role of locally elected school boards in turning shared priorities into meaningful opportunities for learners. Your leadership brings the voices of students, families, and communities to decisions that shape publicly funded education across Saskatchewan.

Over the past year, our Association's work has been guided by our 2025-2030 Strategic Plan and the priorities you, our members, have identified. Our focus remains on good governance, strengthening the importance and impact of locally elected school boards, and advancing education as a priority investment in our province's future.

Our 2026 strategic plan priorities include preparations for provincial collective bargaining and continued advocacy for sufficient, predictable, and sustainable education funding. Early learning, school food programming, and properly resourced inclusive classrooms remain central to our efforts. Together, these priorities reflect our commitment to ensuring every student has the resources and supports they need to succeed.

Learning opportunities continue to support trustees in their service. Indigenous Education and Truth and Reconciliation remain priorities for us, alongside work to inform a Northern, rural, and remote education strategy. This Assembly also offers opportunities to explore our work in artificial intelligence policy, local democracy, and privacy responsibilities.

In addition, the SSBA continues to deliver services relied on by member boards each year. These include legal, labour relations and human resources support, along with the Insurance and Employee Benefits plans that provide stability and risk protection across the sector. The 2026 organizational services review provides an opportunity to assess how our services respond to local needs and sustain the value of shared expertise and the economies of scale achieved through working together.

Your leadership, insight, and participation at this Assembly help shape the direction of the SSBA. Your contributions guide our shared commitment to good governance and a strong, publicly funded education system that keeps students at the heart of every decision. Thank you for your continued service and engagement. It is an honour to serve as your President.

Pipe Ceremony Protocol and Smudging Information

Pipe Ceremony

The Pipe Ceremony is a sacred ceremony for First Nations people and practice varies from regions and teachings. Pipes and ceremony are given as gifts to certain people known as pipe carriers, who are recognized as having extensive cultural knowledge. In the past, the Pipe Ceremony was used to open negotiations/talks between different nations, and it continues to be used today to ask for good outcomes of an event.

Preparations for the Pipe Ceremony are carried out by the pipe carrier and their helper who will provide instructions to the attendees. After everyone has smudged and the medicines are lit, the pipe is passed to participants to either touch or smoke. The passing of the pipe can be repeated several times. To smoke tobacco from or touch a sacred pipe is considered a very powerful way of communicating with the spirit world. The smoke from the pipe carries the collective prayers of the group to the Creator and creates and avenue of dialogue and connection between the human and spirit world.

Everyone is invited to attend the Pipe Ceremony. Participants are requested to read the Pipe Ceremony Protocol below prior to attending.

Protocol for Pipe Ceremony

- Everyone is asked to participate in smudging before the Pipe Ceremony.
- Everyone should remove their hats, eyeglasses, shoes, watch and metal jewelry while smudging and participating in the Pipe Ceremony.
- The pipe carrier/cultural advisor/helper will advise where participants are to sit.
- Those who are able to sit on the floor, are asked to sit on the floor.
- Participants are asked to remain silent and refrain from visiting and conversations while the Pipe Ceremony is underway.
- Women are asked to wear a long dress/skirt that reaches below the knee or cover with a blanket and must not sit cross-legged.
- Women who are menstruating are asked to refrain from participating in the Pipe Ceremony due to the power they hold as life givers.
- Taking photos/videos of the Pipe Ceremony is not permitted.

Smudging

Smudging is a tradition observed by many Indigenous cultures which involves the use of one or more medicines gathered from the earth. Indigenous Peoples in Saskatchewan generally use sweetgrass, sages, cedars and other plants for smudging. To smudge is an act of purifying the body, soul, mind, and physical surroundings for the day. Smudging provides an opportunity for people to stop, slow down, and become mindful and centered. This allows people to remember, connect and be grounded in the event, task or purpose at hand.

Everyone is invited to participate in smudging.

Agenda

2026 FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VISION TO IMPACT: GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS | DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT - REGINA

SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

1:00 p.m.	Registration Desk Opens *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
1:00 p.m.	Board Chairs Council *(Campania)*
4:30 p.m.	Catholic Section Meeting *(Lombardy Room)*
4:30 p.m.	Public Section Meeting *(Umbria Room)*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 a.m.	Pipe Ceremony *(Verdi)*
7:30 a.m.	Registration Desk Opens *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
8:15 a.m.	Welcome/AGM Opens *(Trentino/Tuscany)* • SSBA President Address • SSBA Interim Executive Director Address
8:45 a.m.	President and Vice-President Nominations
9:00 a.m.	Presentation by the Office of the Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan
9:55 a.m.	Partner Greetings • STF
10:00 a.m.	Coffee Break
10:15 a.m.	Annual General Meeting of the SSBA • 2027 Strategic Plan and Budget • Intro to AGM Procedures
11:00 a.m.	Networking Groups: – Closed Session *(groups and room locations on reverse)*
12:00 p.m.	Luncheon Buffet *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
12:45 p.m.	Student Entertainment – Regina Catholic Blue Jazz Band *(Trentino/Tuscany)*
1:00 p.m.	Partner Greetings • LEADS • SASBO
1:10 p.m.	General Insurance Plan Annual Report • Jerome Niezgoda
1:20 p.m.	Employee Benefits Plan Annual Report • Ronna Pethick
1:30 p.m.	2026 SSBA Services Review – Dr. Christopher Cameron, Objective Research and Evaluation Inc.
2:00 p.m.	Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 (continued)

4:30 p.m.	Meetings Recess for the Afternoon
6:00 p.m.	Cash Bar Reception *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
7:00 p.m.	Association Banquet and Awards *(Trentino/Tuscany)* • Greetings from Hon. Everett Hindley, Minister of Education
7:15 p.m.	Buffet Dinner *(Trentino/Tuscany)*
8:00 p.m.	Awards Presentation • Greetings from the Lieutenant Governor
8:45 p.m.	Networking

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

7:30 a.m.	Smudging *(Verdi)*
7:45 a.m.	Breakfast buffet *(2nd floor Pre-Function Area)*
8:30 a.m	Greetings from the Saskatchewan Opposition
8:45 a.m.	President and Vice-President Elections
9:30 a.m.	Indigenous Constituency Election *(Campania Room)*
9:30 a.m.	Session for Boards not in Elections –Artificial Intelligence Policy Advisory – Dr. Alec Couros *(Trentino/Tuscany Room)*
10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break
10:30 a.m.	Central Constituency Election *(Campania Room)*
10:30 a.m.	Session for Boards not in Elections –Protecting Local Democracy: Lessons Learned – Nancy Pynch-Worthylake & Alan Campbell *(Trentino/Tuscany Room)*
11:15 a.m.	Urban Public Constituency Election *(Campania Room)*
11:15 a.m.	Session for Boards not in Elections – Fundamentals of Privacy Law for School Divisions – Monica Couture, SSBA Legal Services *(Trentino/Tuscany Room)*
12:00 p.m.	2026 Fall General Assembly *(Trentino/Tuscany Room)* • Introduce New Executive • Oath of Office
12:15 p.m.	AGM Adjourns Lunch to go

Networking Groups

SOUTHERN BOARDS
(Lombardy Room)

Chairs:
Lisa Grudnizki
Jerome Niezgoda

- Chinook SD
- Christ the Teacher RCSSD
- Good Spirit SD
- Holy Family RCSSD
- Holy Trinity RCSSD
- Prairie South SD
- Prairie Valley SD
- South East Cornerstone SD
- Sun West SD

CENTRAL BOARDS
(Umbria Room)

Chairs:
Ronna Pethick
Élizabeth Perreault

- Conseil scolaire fransaskoises
- Horizon SD
- Light of Christ RCSSD
- Living Sky SD
- North East SD
- Northwest SD
- Prairie Spirit SD
- Prince Albert RCSSD
- Saskatchewan Rivers SD

NORTHERN BOARDS
(Verdi Room)

Chairs:
Kimberly Greyeyes
Nathan Favel

- Creighton SD
- Ile a la Crosse SD
- Northern Lights SD

URBAN BOARDS
(Campania Room)

Chairs:
Lori Kidney
Donna Banks

- Greater Saskatoon RCSSD
- Lloydminster RCSSD
- Lloydminster SD
- Regina RCSSD
- Regina SD
- Saskatoon SD

SSBA Scholarship Recipients



Hudson Bjerkness is the recipient of the 2026 Degree Program Scholarship, sponsored by AON. Hudson graduated from John Paul II Collegiate in the Light of Christ Catholic School Division and is enrolled in the Engineering program at the University of Saskatchewan.



Aliya Limbada is the recipient of the 2026 Technical / Trade Program Scholarship, sponsored by Manulife. Aliya graduated from Sheldon Williams Collegiate in the Regina Public School Division and is enrolled in the Practical Nursing program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Partner Greetings

Government of Saskatchewan

Hon. Everett Hindley, Minister of Education



On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, welcome to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) 2026 Fall General Assembly.

It's my privilege to serve as Minister of Education and work in partnership with our province's education sector to help deliver the positive experiences that give Saskatchewan students their best start in life. For the 2026-27 academic year, this is being facilitated by $2.5 billion in operating funding being provided to Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions.

Funding is only part of the equation. Saskatchewan's education system depends on the people and organizations that support it every day, including the important advocacy and leadership provided by the SSBA. The General Assembly's theme this year, *Vision to Impact: Good Governance for Student Success* emphasizes the connection between objectives and outcomes, which is fundamental to everything we do in education.

For our part in government, we appreciate the experience and expertise represented by this organization. We look to your collective voice to better understand and identify the challenges and opportunities that exist in our education system.

I commend the SSBA for everything you continue to do on behalf of students, schools and communities. Along with everyone at the Ministry of Education, I look forward to not only continuing to reinforce our education system in collaboration with your members but also enhancing it.

Please accept my best wishes for a constructive and meaningful Fall General Assembly again this year.

Partner Greetings

Canadian School Boards Association

Shali Baziuk, President



On behalf of the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA), I want to recognize and thank you for your dedication to public education and the important role you play in serving students, families, and communities across Saskatchewan.

Public education is one of the cornerstones of a strong, inclusive, and democratic society. It provides children and youth with opportunities to learn, grow, discover their potential, and develop the knowledge and skills they need to contribute meaningfully to their communities. Our public schools bring people together, embrace diversity, and help build a shared future in which every student has the opportunity to succeed.

At the heart of this work is a commitment to ensuring that every student has access to a quality education, regardless of their background, circumstance or ability. Fulfilling that commitment requires strong public schools, dedicated educators and staff, engaged families, and communities that recognize education as a shared responsibility and a long-term investment in our collective future.

Locally elected school board trustees are essential to this commitment. As representatives of their communities, trustees provide a vital connection between the public and the education system. We listen to the concerns and aspirations of families, bring local perspectives to important decisions, establish strategic priorities, and help ensure that public education remains responsive to the needs of the communities it serves.

Our role is about more than governance. It is about public service, accountability, community leadership, and the belief that decisions affecting students and schools should be informed by the voices and experiences of the people those decisions touch. Through public deliberation, thoughtful stewardship of resources, and a focus on student success, trustees help sustain public confidence in our education system.

In a province as diverse as Saskatchewan, local representation matters. Communities have distinct needs, strengths, histories, and aspirations. Locally elected trustees help ensure those perspectives are heard while working toward the common goal of providing equitable, high-quality learning opportunities for all students.

Across Canada, school board trustees share a commitment to public education that transcends provincial and territorial boundaries. The CSBA is proud to bring trustees together to exchange ideas, strengthen governance, advocate for students, and affirm the importance of publicly elected, locally governed education.

As you continue your work, I encourage you to take pride in the difference you make. The decisions you help shape today influence not only the experiences of students in our classrooms, but also the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our communities for generations to come.

Thank you for your leadership, your willingness to serve, and your unwavering commitment to students and public education. Your work matters, your voices matter, and the democratic principle of local representation remains an important part of Canada's public education tradition.

Together, let us continue to champion public education as a public good and ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn, belong, and thrive.

Partner Greetings

League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents

Nigel McCarthy, President



On behalf of the Saskatchewan League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents, it is my privilege to welcome Trustees, educational partners, delegates, and guests to the 2026 SSBA Fall Assembly.

This assembly is an opportunity to pause, reflect, and engage in partnership for the future of public education in Saskatchewan. The partnership between school board governors and senior educational leaders is fundamental to building strong, responsive, and equitable learning environments. Governance that guides vision and policy, and system leadership translating strategy into practice ensures that every student in every corner of our province has the support, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive.

Our collaboration, shared wisdom, and unwavering commitment to student centered decision making turns challenges into opportunities. Over the course of this Fall Assembly, as you gather to discuss policy, share best practices, and chart paths forward, please know that LEADS stands alongside you as a dedicated partner in leadership.

On behalf of LEADS, I extend our sincere appreciation to the SSBA Executive, your Executive Director, planning committee, and staff for their tireless efforts in organizing this event. To all attending trustees and leaders, thank you for your steadfast service and dedication to the children and communities of Saskatchewan.

Partner Greetings

Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials

Ryan Martin, President



On behalf of SASBO's Executive Board and Executive Director, it is an honour to bring greetings to trustees and guests at the Fall General Assembly.

This year's theme, Vision to Impact: Good Governance for Student Success, speaks to the powerful work done by trustees and the SSBA on behalf of the students in Saskatchewan schools. As trustees you are called to provide the foundation to allow teachers and all school staff to support every student and to work for success for all.

School business officials also play a vital role in student success by creating safe, well-resourced classrooms and learning environments and responding to key challenges such as staffing, cybersecurity, finance and transportation. They ensure safe and clean facilities and resource management. These officials support from behind the scenes to ensure the stage is set for that success. Together we work with trustees and the educational staff to support a world class education for our children and youth.

We continue to value our strong relationship with the SSBA, and the collaborative spirit shared among all of Saskatchewan's education partners. We have a common goal of student success and well-being, and we work together to ensure every student has the opportunity and support to grow and thrive and dream of a positive future.

School trusteeship is a path of service. Your vision and good governance truly support student success. As you share ideas and strengthen partnerships, SASBO wishes you a successful and visionary Fall General Assembly.

Partner Greetings

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation

Samantha Becotte, President



On behalf of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and more than 14,000 teachers across the province, I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Fall General Assembly.

This year's theme, *Vision to Impact: Good Governance for Student Success*, speaks to the connection between decisions made at the board table and what students and teachers experience in schools. The priorities established by trustees help shape learning environments across the province. Through those decisions, trustees play a foundational role in supporting a strong public education for all students.

Open and honest conversations with education partners help ensure decisions reflect what students and teachers are experiencing in schools. The progress made at the Violence-Free Policy Table shows what can be achieved when partners listen to one another and work together toward a shared response. It is an important step, but it is only the beginning. Continued collaboration and action are needed to ensure that schools have the resources and supports needed to address increasing rates of violence, growing complexity, and other challenges facing students and teachers.

A high-quality public education can have a lasting impact on every student across Saskatchewan. Teachers are committed to helping students build the knowledge, skills and confidence they need for the future, but teachers can not address increasingly complex needs on their own. Adequate classroom supports, learning resources and professional services are essential to ensuring students receive the education they deserve.

Your leadership matters. As elected representatives, trustees have a responsibility to bring local realities to the board table, make decisions informed by the experiences of students, teachers and families and use their public voice to advocate for the resources schools need.

By working together, we can strengthen public education and communities across the province. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to public education. I wish you a productive and successful assembly.

Partner Greetings

CUPE Saskatchewan Education Workers Steering Committee

Karla Sastaunik, Chairperson



On behalf of the CUPE Education Workers Steering Committee executive and the more than 7,000 CUPE members working in education support roles across Saskatchewan, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending this year's Fall Assembly.

The Education Workers Steering Committee is proud to represent the voices and experiences of education support workers across our province. Our members work in more than 40 classifications, including Educational Assistants, library staff, administrative support, custodial services, and many other essential roles that help our schools and students thrive.

As education workers, we see firsthand what is happening in our schools every day. We understand the challenges facing students, families, educators, and support staff, and we know the difference that properly supported education workers can make in creating safe, inclusive, and welcoming learning environments.

Over the past year, the EWSC has continued to build relationships, raise awareness, and advocate for the supports education workers need to do their jobs safely and effectively. We have also continued our work toward stronger coordination among education locals and building a more united voice for education workers across Saskatchewan.

We believe education workers are an essential part of public education, and our voices belong at the table when decisions are being made about the future of Saskatchewan's schools.

The challenges facing public education are significant, and now more than ever, we need to work together. By building strong partnerships, listening to front-line experiences, and standing united in support of students and education workers, we can help build a public education system that works for everyone.

We look forward to continuing to work alongside the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and our other education partners to strengthen public education and ensure Saskatchewan students have the safe, supportive, and inclusive schools they deserve.

Partner Greetings

SEIU-West

Lisa Zunti, President



This year's theme, Vision to Impact: Good Governance for Student Success, is one our members can relate to. Every decision made at the board table eventually shows up in a student's day: on the bus ride to school, inside the classroom, in the library and even the front office. SEIU-West members are there through it all and see the real difference good governance can make for students.

Every worker in the education sector is a part of the foundation that student success is built upon. In addition to teachers, bus drivers, librarians, educational assistants, and front office staff are a steady, familiar presence that help students feel safe and ready to learn. These workers build trust with students and families and are an important part of the fabric of our school system. When teachers and students can count on this support, everyone in every school can do their best work.

That kind of impact doesn't happen by chance. It grows when support staff are valued, have the resources they need, and can build lasting relationships in their schools. Stability and respect for all education workers leads directly to better experiences for students. And that stability and respect comes from good governance.

Thank you for the dedication you bring to this work and our education system. I wish you thoughtful discussions and a successful general assembly.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: President
Candidate Name: Dr. Shawn Davidson
Candidate Board: Prairie South
Nominator Name: Melanie Mutter
Nominator Board: Lloydminster Public

Candidate Profile: Dr. Shawn Davidson

I am Dr. Shawn Davidson and am seeking re-election for the position of President of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association. I was first elected to the position in 2016 and served for six years, helping navigate the association through some significant changes to accountability and reporting to members, and then through the Covid pandemic. I stepped back for 2 years to the position of vice president, then was returned to the position of President at the AGM in 2024.

I was first elected to the Prairie South Board of Education in 2009, where I have served as chair, vice chair, and most board committees at some point during my tenure. I also continue to serve as the vice president of the Canadian School Boards Association. I have vast experience in school board governance which will serve the SSBA well for the next 2 years. Personally, I am a veterinarian working in Scobey, MT and operate a cattle and horse ranch in the Mankota area together with my spouse Melanie and family.

Over the past 2 years I have come to a greater appreciation of the opportunity you all as members have bestowed upon me as your leader, and this is not an opportunity that I take lightly. Being a key advocate for publicly funded education and the importance of local voice in that public endeavour is of vital importance. I anticipate the next 2 years to be challenging for our sector, as we continue to recognize the locally elected as the key decision makers in publicly funded education. I thank you all for the support you have given me in the past and look forward to continuing in this position.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: President
Candidate Name: Kate Kading
Candidate Board: Prairie Spirit
Nominator Name: Mike Richards
Nominator Board: Prairie Spirit

Kate Kading for SSBA President

Strong provincial leadership begins with understanding who you serve. SSBA serves you; the school boards that make up its membership.

Since entering school board governance in 2020, I have immersed myself in Saskatchewan's education sector, its legislation, the complexities of education, and the important role locally elected trustees play in shaping it. I have had the privilege of serving as Board Chair for Prairie Spirit School Division since 2024.

I bring more than 27 years of professional communications experience and 10 years of municipal work, along with policy training through the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. My career has been built around understanding complex issues while making room for competing perspectives and keeping those conversations on track to help find a way forward, even when the issues are difficult.

The SSBA's greatest strength is its membership, and informed leadership starts with transparency and the ability to listen. I bring a commitment to gathering relevant information and distilling issues into concise communication so trustees have what they need to engage and make their voices heard.

Effective provincial advocacy is built on relationships, credibility, and the ability to shake hands on both sides of the Legislative Assembly. I bring strong working relationships across the political spectrum.

The role of President is not simply to represent an organization. It is to connect the membership and turn the collective knowledge and concerns of boards into a meaningful provincial voice. That requires intentional preparation, purposeful relationships, and a desire to serve.

I believe there is tremendous opportunity in what we can accomplish together. Let's continue to build an SSBA that is connected, influential, and focused.

Our strength is not in the positions we hold. It is in the voices we bring together.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: Vice-President
Candidate Name: Lori Kidney
Candidate Board: North East
Nominator Name: Kim Stranden
Nominator Board: Saskatoon Public

Lori Kidney - Vice President

It has been an honour to serve as Vice President of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association for the past two years. The highlight of this role has been getting to know Boards from communities across our province. Every Board has unique challenges, perspectives, and priorities, and listening to those experiences has strengthened my understanding of the important role the SSBA plays in bringing our collective voice forward.

During my term, I have chaired the Student Support WAG and served on the Provincial Bargaining Committee, Audit and Investment Committee, Board Development Committee, and Executive HR Committee. These experiences have reinforced the importance of collaborative leadership, thoughtful decision-making, and ensuring that the work of the Association remains guided by its membership.

Advocacy is a critical responsibility of the Vice President, and it is work I value. Investment in education will continue to be an important message, not only on behalf of individual Boards, but in support of a strong, sustainable, publicly funded education system for students and communities across Saskatchewan.

We have made progress in areas including Artificial Intelligence, food programming, and relocatables, while recognizing there is still important work ahead. I am particularly interested in seeing the full implementation of the Provincial Education Plan over the coming years.

I am fortunate to have the time and support to dedicate to this position. I have two grown daughters who are products of public education and now work and attend university in Saskatoon. I also have a husband and a farm in Tisdale – both of which have learned to tolerate my frequent absences while I serve as your Vice President!

Thank you for your trust over the past two years. I humbly ask for the opportunity to serve for two more.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: Central Constituency Representative
Candidate Name: Ronna Pethick
Candidate Board: Living Sky
Nominator Name: Kathrene Bank
Nominator Board: North East

I have had the privilege of representing the Central Constituency on the SSBA Executive for the past two years.

I have worked at federal and provincial government levels, the banking, private, and education sectors and hold appointments as a Justice of the Peace and Marriage Commissioner.

I have served as a trustee for over 30 years. My wide-ranging experiences as a trustee and SSBA Executive member include the following:

- Board Chair – Living Sky School Division Board of Education
- Living Sky LINC Bargaining Committee and CUPE Bargaining Committee
- Sakewew First Nation Joint High School Board of Education
- Government/Trustee Provincial Bargaining Committee in 2010, 2013, and 2026
- Education Relations Board
- Teacher Education and Certification Committee
- SSBA Audit Committee
- SSBA Board Development Advisory Committee
- SSBA Human Resources Committee
- SSBA Employee Benefits Plan Committee
- Public Section Executive member and former Vice-Chair

I believe in building and maintaining relationships through an open two-way communication with those I serve. I believe in life-long learning and, as a trustee, have attended all SSBA Fall Assemblies, Spring Assemblies, Trustee Academies, as well as numerous CSBA Congresses. I successfully passed the School Board Member Education and Certification Program and now hold a Professional Director designation.

I promise to serve you with dedication, integrity, honesty, and openness. I will continue to advocate on behalf of Boards of Education for local autonomy, ensuring that your concerns, issues, and priorities are voiced not only with the SSBA Executive but with government and all of our educational partners. I commit to working with you to best serve Central Constituency Boards and the students we serve.

I respectfully ask for your support to continue to serve and represent you for another term on the SSBA Executive.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: Urban Public Constituency Representative
Candidate Name: Donna Banks
Candidate Board: Saskatoon Public
Nominator Name: Cathy Cornet
Nominator Board: Lloydminster Public

Donna Banks — A Commitment to Public Education

My name is Donna Banks, and I have had the honour of serving as the Saskatoon Public Schools Trustee for Ward 3 since 2009. For the past 17 years, I have dedicated myself to advocating for quality public education and ensuring students have the support, opportunities, and resources they need to succeed.

Throughout my tenure, I have served on numerous Saskatoon Public Schools committees, including as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and as a member of the Governance and Human Resources Committees. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to responsible governance and sound decision-making.

For the past 11 years, I have also served as the Urban Public Constituency Representative for the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), advocating for urban public school boards and the students, families, and communities they serve. I chair the SSBA Policy and Resolution Committee, Relocatable WAG, and the Student Transportation Committee, and currently serve on the Board Development Committee, Student Supports WAG, and Public Constituency Liaison Table. I have also contributed to SSBA event planning, including preparations for the upcoming CSBA Congress in Regina.

After 17 years, my commitment to public education remains as strong as ever. While I am proud of what we have accomplished, I recognize that important work remains. School boards must continue advocating for students, supporting educators, and ensuring every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

The children deserve our very best. If re-elected as your Urban Public Constituency Representative, I will bring the experience, dedication, and collaborative leadership that have guided my work throughout the past 17 years.

I respectfully ask for your support in the SSBA Urban Public Constituency Representative election. Together, we can continue building a stronger future for public education and every student we serve.

Advance Nominations

2026 SSBA Executive Elections
Advance Nomination



Position: Urban Public Constituency Representative
Candidate Name: Tracey McMurchy
Candidate Board: Regina Public
Nominator Name: Adam Hicks
Nominator Board: Regina Public

Tracey McMurchy - Urban Public Constituency

I am honoured to put my name forward for the SSBA Executive and offer my experience, perspective, and commitment to serving Saskatchewan's school boards and the trustees who represent their communities.

I am a trustee with Regina Public School Division, serving my second term. I chair the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the School Community Engagement Committee, and serve on the Priorities, Planning and Policy Committee and the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee.

Professionally, I bring 24 years of public service experience, including education funding, policy development, strategic planning, program administration, health promotion, and regulatory modernization. I am a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) with a Business degree from the University of Regina. I am also the founder of a consulting business, serving clients across Saskatchewan.

Urban boards of every size are managing complex classrooms, aging buildings, and funding that has not kept pace. Those pressures look different in each community. Every urban board's voice is needed in our work with the provincial government, and I commit to listening to each one and carrying your priorities forward with the same weight from the smallest to the largest divisions. We need an executive that is accessible, responsive, and focused on helping trustees do their work. By understanding the realities each board faces and building strong relationships, we can advance the priorities of all our members.

I came to Canada as a refugee from Vietnam. Public education changed my life. It gave me a strong voice, a place to belong, and a future. Every trustee protects that same opportunity for students in their community.

I am seeking this role to contribute, listen, and serve. I would be proud to work alongside you to strengthen our provincial voice. I would be honoured to have your vote.

Sponsors

The Lieutenant Governor's Board of Education Award For Innovation and Excellence in Education

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
of SASKATCHEWAN

CIBC CIBC PRIVATE WEALTH
WOOD GUNDY

THE PROMHOUSE FINANCIAL GROUP

IT Sponsor

ANCHOR
IT DONE RIGHT

Charging Station Sponsor

SaskTel
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MOSAIC
SCHOOL NUTRITION
CHALLENGE

BACKGROUNDER PAGE 1 OF 2

2026 Mosaic School Nutrition Challenge Winners

SCHOOL:	*PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:*
Balcarres Community School (Balcarres) Prairie Valley Board of Education	• Implement land-based learning • Renovate canteen • Indigenous community knowledge transfer
Bulyea Elementary School (Bulyea) Horizon Board of Education	• Expand farm-to-table program • Purchase new equipment & appliances • Implement principles of Reconciliation
Canora Composite School (Canora) Good Spirit Board of Education	• Create an accessible garden • Create an accessible kitchen • Student nutrition education & life skills
Central Collegiate Institute (Moose Jaw) Prairie South Board of Education	• Renovate kitchen • Purchase commercial appliances • Enhance existing nutrition programs
Chief Whitecap School (Saskatoon) Saskatoon Public Board of Education	• Install indoor gardens • Expand Food Studies to more students • Engage Knowledge Keepers in student learning
Cudworth School (Cudworth) Horizon Board of Education	• Renovate food lab • Expand cooking club • Offer PAA cooking classes
Cut Knife Community School (Cut Knife) Living Sky Board of Education	• Purchase appliances • Expand Kids in the Kitchen program • Increase nutrition programs
Delisle Elementary School (Delisle) Prairie Spirit Board of Education	• Renovate kitchen; buy dishwasher, tower gardens • Implement classroom Meal Makers program • Provide take home Kitchen Kits
Dr. Isman Public School (Wolseley) Prairie Valley Board of Education	• Engage elders & mentors in knowledge transfer • Purchase tower gardens, greenhouse • Implement land-based learning
Ernie Studer School (Loon Lake) Northwest Board of Education	• Implement universal nutrition programs • Purchase appliances • Implement culturally respectful food practices

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SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

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MOSAIC SCHOOL NUTRITION CHALLENGE

BACKGROUNDER PAGE 2 OF 2

2026 Mosaic School Nutrition Challenge Winners

SCHOOL:	*PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:*
Kamsack Comprehensive Institute (Kamsack) Good Spirit Board of Education	• Reconfigure & increase kitchen space • Purchase commercial appliances • Increase meal production capacity
Lampman School (Lampman) South East Cornerstone Board of Education	• Renovate Home-Ec lab • Purchase commercial appliances • Implement daily breakfast & snack programs
McKitrick Community School (North Battleford) Living Sky Board of Education	• Enhance existing nutrition programs • Purchase commercial equipment • Expand afterschool cooking program
Midale Central School (Midale) South East Cornerstone Board of Education	• Implement snack & lunch programs • Provide commercial cooking classes • Offer take home nutrition kits
Porcupine Plain Comprehensive School (Porcupine Plain) North East Board of Education	• Purchase indoor hydroponics system • Grow produce to support existing programs • Implement agricultural education
St. Dominic School (Humboldt) Greater Saskatoon Catholic Board of Education	• Implement daily nutrition programs • Purchase kitchen equipment • Hire nutrition worker
Swift Current Comprehensive High School (Swift Current) Chinook Board of Education	• Purchase appliances • Food Studies 30 students stock community fridge • Provide life skills & nutrition education
Walker Elementary School (Regina) Regina Public Board of Education	• Implement daily nutrition programs • Offer cooking classes • Focus on Reconciliation
Walter Murray Collegiate (Saskatoon) Saskatoon Public Board of Education	• Implement lunch program • Install sink & faucet • Purchase dishwasher
William Mason School (Choiceland) North East Board of Education	• Create a nutrition space • Purchase appliances • Implement daily nutrition programs

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SASKATCHEWAN School Boards ASSOCIATION

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

Section 4 of both Saskatchewan School Boards Association Bylaws Nos. 10 and 11 allow the Resolutions and Policy Development Committee (the "RPD Committee") to establish procedures for approval of the Executive.

A. GENERAL

1. The Rules of Procedure are found in both the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (the "Association") Bylaws and these Rules of Procedure.

2. Any procedure not found in the Bylaws or in these Rules of Procedure shall be administered pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order. The Association currently uses *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th ed.*

3. SSBA bylaws allow for two general assemblies (spring assembly and fall assembly) of the association to be held annually, with one being the annual general meeting of the association. In addition, the Executive may call a special general assembly. These Rules of Procedures and relevant SSBA bylaws will apply to the business component in all of these instances.

4. In accordance with Bylaw No. 9, the information submitted by boards of education listing accredited delegates and number of votes each can cast will be used for the purposes of voting on: (1) Bylaw Amendments, (2) Resolutions, and (3) Elections at the general assemblies of the Association (the "general assembly").

5. Boards of education will submit the names of their accredited delegates to the Association prior to the general assembly. An accredited delegate is defined in Bylaw 9.2.

6. In accordance with SSBA Bylaw 9, voting at general assemblies shall be by ballot except voting shall be by show of hands on motions with respect to procedural matters unless, at the discretion of the Chair, a vote by show of hands is inconclusive. On matters where voting is by show of hands, each delegate in attendance at the time the vote is taken shall be entitled to vote, and shall have one vote.

7. Two-thirds of the votes cast are required to adopt an addition to the Bylaws or a Bylaw Amendment, Budget Resolution or Position Statement. In addition, an amendment to a motion to adopt an addition to the Bylaws, a Bylaw

Amendment, Budget Resolution or Position Statement shall require two-thirds of the votes cast to adopt.

8. Fifty plus (majority) of the votes cast are required for adoption of a Resolution. In addition, fifty plus (majority) of the votes cast are required for an amendment to a motion to adopt a Resolution.

9. **Point of Order:** When a delegate believes that these Rules of Procedure are being violated, the delegate can make a *Point of Order* or raise a question of order causing the Chair to make a ruling.

10. **Point of Information:** A *Point of Information* is a request to the Chair, or through the Chair to another delegate or officer (or Association staff member, if necessary), for information relevant to the business at hand.

11. **Resolutions on Emergent Questions – "Suspending the Rules":** One of the purposes of a motion to suspend one or more of the Rules of Procedure is to permit the making of another resolution or to consider another Resolution out of its scheduled order. This procedure to consider a new Resolution or a Resolution out of order is used infrequently, and only when the emergent question must be decided by the Assembly before the Assembly can properly consider the Resolution on the floor or subsequent Resolutions. The delegate making the motion must be prepared to state why a new Resolution or consideration of a Resolution out of its scheduled order should occur. Suspending the rules and taking up a Resolution out of order requires a 2/3 vote. If, at the discretion of the Chair, the vote by show of hands is inconclusive, a vote by ballot can take place.

The usual form of a motion in these circumstances is:

"I move to suspend the rules and adopt the following Resolution: 'Be it resolved that . . .'".

<u>Or</u>

"I move to suspend the rules and immediately take up Resolution ___ as circulated (or as modified as the case may be). The reason we ask for this Resolution to be considered out of its scheduled order is _____.

12. **Destroying Ballots**: At the end of the Assembly a motion to destroy ballots is required. The intention of the motion to destroy ballots is to get rid of all the ballots in the SSBA's possession so that all that remains is the final tallies of each motion.

ElectionBuddy records have safeguards in place so an individual's votes cannot be identified.

The usual form of a motion in these circumstances is:

"I move to destroy the ElectionBuddy records by (*date)*, except for the aggregate results of each election and for each motion."

B. RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS TO THE RPD COMMITTEE

1. Any board of education wishing to submit a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution to the RPD Committee shall:

    a. Provide its Resolution(s) in writing and provide a rationale explaining the background and reasons for the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution.
    b. Provide on each Resolution, where applicable, a simple estimate of the anticipated cost and staff resources that would be required to act on the Resolution.
    c. Identify the Association's Position Statement that the proposed Resolution relates to and how the Resolution relates to the Association's Strategic Plan or provincial priorities.

2. Once the board has submitted its Bylaw Amendment or Resolution(s) to the RPD Committee, the RPD Committee will:

    a. Examine, edit and, where considered necessary, combine similar Resolutions; and
    b. Place each Bylaw Amendment and Resolution in the following order: Bylaw Amendments, Budget Resolution, Resolutions relating to new or existing Position Statements and Resolutions based on the order established by the Association's Position Statements.
    c. In all cases, the order of the items listed in (b) will be at the discretion of the RPD committee to determine.
    d. The committee will make the proposed Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions available to boards of education in advance of the general assembly.

C. RULES OF PROCEDURE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE BUSINESS COMPONENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The RPD committee will select the Chair for the business component of the general assembly.

2. The RPD committee will select the Parliamentarian for the business component of the general assembly.

3. Accredited delegates must be in attendance when a vote is taken in order for their vote to be cast. The Bylaws do not allow voting by proxy.

4. If an accredited delegate does not attend the general assembly or unexpectedly must leave the general assembly, an authorized board member or official should inform the Chair to have the votes of the absent delegate reallocated to another board delegate(s). Changes must be made as soon as possible in advance of the Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions portion of the general assembly to avoid a delay in the proceedings.

5. A delegate can modify or withdraw its own Bylaw Amendment or Resolution at any time before it is considered at the business component of the general assembly.

6. If a delegate wishes to modify its own Bylaw Amendment or Resolution, the correct procedure is to move the modification by stating what words are to be deleted and substituted, or what words are to be added, etc., as the case may be.

   Therefore, the form for a modification utilizes words like:

   - To "insert words" or to "add words";
   - To "strike out words";
   - To "strike out and insert" or to "substitute"

   If a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution is modified then the modified version will be put to the Assembly in its modified form.

7. If a delegate wishes to withdraw its own Bylaw Amendment or Resolution, the delegate shall advise the Assembly of the number of the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution and the fact that it is being withdrawn by the delegate. The Bylaw Amendment or Resolution will not be brought forward to the Assembly for a vote.

   The correct procedure to withdraw a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution is as follows:

   > "On behalf of the Board of Education for *** School Division, I withdraw Bylaw Amendment/Resolution no. ***"

D. RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR DEBATE DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. These Rules of Procedure for debate on Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions during the general assembly are made pursuant to Association Bylaws No. 10 and 11.

2. Resolutions to be presented in the general assembly by the RPD Committee will be moved as circulated to members prior to the general assembly.

3. Each Bylaw Amendment will be read in full when it is moved, unless the delegates vote, by show of hands, to dispense with the reading of the Bylaw Amendment.

4. Only delegates may speak at the microphone during debate.

5. No one shall be permitted to approach the podium during the general assembly, unless invited to do so by the Chair for the general assembly.

6. **Timelines for Debate:**

6.1. For Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions presented by the RPD Committee:

i. When seconding, the seconder will be allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes;

ii. When there is debate on the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution, a delegate will be allowed to speak no more than twice:

a. the first time, for a maximum of 2 minutes; and

b. the second time, for a maximum of 1 minute;

iii. As the seconder has already spoken once, the seconder will have one more opportunity to speak for a maximum of 1 minute prior to the seconder's opportunity to speak in closing debate;

iv. The seconder will be allowed a maximum of 1 minute to close debate.

6.2. For amendments moved to a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution on the floor or a Resolution moved by a delegate from the floor:

i. The mover will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to make the motion;

ii. A seconder is required;

iii. The seconder and other delegates will each be allowed to speak no more than twice:

a. the first time, for a maximum of 2 minutes; and

b. the second time, for a maximum of 1 minute;

iv. As the delegate who is the mover has already spoken once, that delegate will have one more opportunity to speak for a maximum of 1 minute prior to his/her last opportunity to speak in closing debate;

v. The delegate who is the mover will be allowed a maximum of 1 minute to close debate.

7. Amendments to Bylaw Amendments or Resolutions:

7.1 Procedure for Moving an Amendment to a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution

The amendment shall state what words are to be deleted and substituted, or what words are to be added, etc., as the case may be.

Therefore, the form for an amendment utilizes words like:

- To “insert words” or to “add words”;
- To “strike out words”;
- To “strike out and insert” or to “substitute”

If the amendment passes, the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution as amended is then put before the Assembly.

7.2 Amendments - in order

It is essential that a proposed amendment be **germane** to be in order. This requirement for an amendment to be in order is often not understood, and, when an amendment that is not germane is ruled out of order, results in some discord.

To be **germane**, an amendment must in some way involve the same question that is raised by the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution on the floor. The following general rules guide the germaneness of an amendment, although there is no all-inclusive test:

- An amendment cannot introduce an independent question.
- An amendment that is hostile to or even defeats the spirit of the original motion might still be germane, and, therefore, in order.

7.3 Friendly Amendments:

1. A friendly amendment only clarifies wording or corrects a reference but does not otherwise change the intent or wording of the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution.

2. The process for a friendly amendment is:

    i. Any time after the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution has been moved and seconded, a delegate may propose an amendment to clarify wording, indicating that it is a "friendly amendment";

    ii. If the Chair determines that the proposed amendment is a friendly amendment, the Chair will ask the Assembly to indicate, by a show of hands, whether the friendly amendment is adopted. The Chair reserves the right to call for a ballot vote if the show of hands is inconclusive;

    iii. If the Chair determines that the proposed amendment is not a friendly amendment, it must be treated as an amendment to be handled according to normal Rules of Procedure;

    iv. Any amendment not adopted as a friendly amendment must be moved, seconded, debated and voted on according to normal Rules of Procedure.

7.4 Amendments – Out of Order

Some examples of out of order Amendments include but are not limited to:

1. When the Assembly has decided a question, another Resolution raising the same or substantially the same question cannot be introduced.

2. An amendment that merely makes the adoption of the amended question equivalent to a rejection of the original motion.

3. An amendment that would make the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution, as amended, identical with, or contrary to, a Bylaw Amendment or Resolution already decided by the Assembly in the same session.

4. An amendment that would leave an incoherent wording or a wording which contains no rational proposition.

no. ***". . A seconder will be required, followed by a vote to withdraw.

E. RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. At any general assembly where there is a business component requiring voting, the accredited delegates will be permitted 5 minutes to vote electronically at the close of debate on the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution. If the vote is not electronically tallied within this 5-minute timeframe, the Chair will proceed to the next Bylaw Amendment or Resolution and will announce the vote's results as soon as practicable. (If technical difficulties arise with electronic voting, additional time beyond the 5-minute voting timeframe may be granted at the discretion of the Chair.)

2. Votes cast are: for, against and abstain. It is not possible for an accredited delegate to "spoil their ballot" electronically.

3. There shall not be rounding up or down when calculating percentages. Abstaining ballots shall be removed when calculating the percentage.

4. The electronic vote will be automatically tallied as the final vote at the close of debate on the Bylaw Amendment or Resolution and following the 5-minute voting timeframe. An accredited delegate who, for whatever reason, does not cast their vote within the allotted 5 minutes from close of debate will have their vote deemed as "abstain".

F. RULES OF PROCEDURES FOR ELECTIONS

1. The RPD Committee will select the Chair for the Elections.

2. Accredited delegates must be physically present in the room when a vote is taken in order for their vote to be cast. The Bylaws do not allow voting by proxy.

3. If an accredited delegate does not attend the election or unexpectedly must leave the election, an authorized board member or official should inform the Chair to have the votes of the absent delegate reallocated to another board delegate(s). Changes must be made as soon as possible in advance of the elections to avoid a delay in the proceedings.

4. Only members of the boards of education in the Constituency are eligible to vote and run in the Constituency election.

5. Only members of the Constituency and those deemed necessary by the RPD Committee are allowed to be in the room during a Constituency election.

6. The following procedures apply to the election:

    1. The Chair will call for nominations for candidates for Constituency Representative, as the case may be, for President and Vice President. All nominations require a seconder. Nominators and seconders must state their name and name of their board of education.

    2. The person making the nomination will have two minutes to speak.

    3. Board members who used the advanced nomination process will be called on first to formally make nomination.

    4. The Chair will make three calls for nominations.

    5. The Chair will ask for a motion for nominations to cease.

    6. Each candidate will then be given a maximum of five minutes to speak.

    7. Votes are cast.

    8. In the event of a tie, a re-vote will be held. If the numbers are still tied, a second re-vote will be held. If after the second re-vote there is still a tie, the two candidates shall be given the opportunity to agree amongst themselves, and failing agreement, the successful candidate shall be chosen by placing the candidates' names in a container and the official conducting the election will draw one of the candidate's names and that person will be the constituency's representative or alternate to the Executive, as the case may be.

    9. The Chair will announce the results and who is declared elected and tally results including percentages.

    10. The same process will be followed in the election for Constituency Alternate.

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School Boards
ASSOCIATION

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