

## Orange Shirt Day Proclaimed in Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association encouraged everyone to wear orange to school on Sept. 30 and to reflect on residential schools, for the first officially recognized “Orange Shirt Day” in the province.

“Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity to gather together in our schools and our communities to recognize residential school survivors and their experiences,” said Regina Rochdale MLA Laura Ross on behalf of Deputy Premier and Education Minister Don Morgan. “Saskatchewan students learn about the history of residential schools in a variety of classes starting in elementary and continuing through high school. Ensuring that our citizens understand this part of our history is essential as we move forward with First Nations and Métis people on a path of reconciliation.”

Orange Shirt Day is part of a larger movement in the country to provide opportunity for First Nations, governments, schools and communities to unite in a spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.



*Regina Public Schools Board Chair Katherine Gagne, Regina Rochdale MLA Laura Ross and SSBA President Connie Bailey attended an Orange Shirt Day recognition event, held at École Connaught Community School in Regina.*

“Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity to ensure discussion happens about residential schools,” said Connie Bailey, SSBA president. “We know it is important to build understanding about this history of our province and country.”

The Orange Shirt Day movement is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, B.C., in 2013. It grew out of the account of a young girl having her new orange

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## Orange Shirt Day Proclaimed in Saskatchewan (continued)

→ shirt taken away on her first day of school at the mission.

At the SSBA Spring General Assembly in April, members passed a resolution to request that the

Government of Saskatchewan officially recognize Orange Shirt Day.

"We are pleased that the provincial government has officially proclaimed this day," said Vernon

Linklater, chair of the SSBA's Aboriginal Council, which proposed the resolution. "We encourage people across the province to join us in recognizing this day."

### Orange Shirt Day Photos



*Students, staff and community members participated in an assembly recognizing Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30 at École Connaught Community School in Regina.*



*SSBA President Connie Bailey brought greetings to those gathered for the recognition assembly on Sept. 30 at École Connaught Community School in Regina.*



*A team of SSBA staff members named "Iskwewuk" participated Sept. 30 in the Glen Anaquod Memorial Tipi Raising Competition at the University of Regina.*



*Staff members of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and Saskatchewan Association of School Business Officials wore orange for Orange Shirt Day.*



## President's Welcome to Fall Members' Council

**CONNIE BAILEY**  
**SSBA PRESIDENT**  
*(as excerpted from remarks delivered Sept. 22, 2016, at Members' Council, held in Saskatoon.)*



Good evening and welcome to Members' Council.

I want to begin my remarks this evening by thanking the Board Development Committee of the SSBA for all of its work in organizing the events that bring us together each year.

The Committee has chosen a theme for the 2016-17 year that I believe is apt. The theme is "Today's Students – Tomorrow's Saskatchewan." Our students truly are our province's future and their success is the goal of all of our efforts in the education sector.

The work of the SSBA, your provincial association, also continues with a goal for continuous improvement. We are focused on our three areas – Advocacy, Services and Board Development.

Our advocacy efforts have evolved to respond to the changes and challenges of this year and we have endeavoured to speak clearly, strongly and passionately about the work of school board trustees and divisions and the importance of investing in education.

We have repeated that message and witnessed its sharing in the media and beyond. People understand the importance of having a strong education system that is funded as an investment in our future. Today's students are tomorrow's Saskatchewan, indeed.

We continue to focus on service improvement to ensure we are serving and supporting our members in the most efficient and effective ways.

We are proud of the success we enjoy by working together through our association in these areas, and the efficiencies we have achieved.

Last, but not least, board development continues to be an integral role for our association.

Your association works hard to ensure that professional development, including the Professional Director Certification Program, is beneficial to members.

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*President Bailey shared remarks with attendees at Members' Council.*

## President's Welcome to Fall Members' Council (continued)

→ We thank our trustees for their commitment to growth and improvement as leaders.

The times we face are exciting and challenging as we look toward the future. As we respond, we must be Student First and continue to focus on our overarching goal – that by 2025, Saskatchewan has a globally recognized education system that others wish to emulate.

As we have our sights set toward the future, we are right now, once again – or maybe it is just continuous – in a time of change.

As I was thinking about what needs to be said here tonight, I was reminded of how boards of education came to exist in Saskatchewan and what their true purpose has always been for over 100 years – ensuring all children get an education.

With school board elections this fall, we have the opportunity to engage with our communities. The feedback we hear at the local level about the future of education in our province is invaluable. At the same time, our constituents will know we are listening and working hard to bring forward their views in our decision-making.

The meaningful conversations we have with our own communities are what will enable us to continue speaking with the voice of the public, as trustees have strived to do for more than a century.

I want to take a moment to thank all those who are running as trustees again in this election.

Your willingness to lead and to serve is very important. I also want to thank those among us who might not be running again for the years of

commitment and dedication they have offered to our education system in this province.

As a local level of government, it is critical for us to bring the local voice to the forefront.

We are responsible to the families and communities we serve and have the privilege and the obligation to advocate for change that is consistent with the input and feedback we get at the local level.

We know school divisions work tirelessly to help students succeed.

Let us participate actively in the important conversations happening in our sector and beyond and do so with the knowledge and confidence that we are close to our communities and we do speak with a voice entrusted to us by the residents of our great province.

Thank you.



*Attendees listened to President Bailey's remarks at Members' Council.*



## Presenters at Fall Members' Council



**Hon. Don Morgan**  
*Deputy Premier and Minister of Education*



**Judy Ferguson**  
*Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan*



**Naomi Mellor**  
*Prairie Valley School Division*



**Jamie Lerat**  
*First Nations and Métis Education, SSBA*



**Maureen Jickling**  
*Legal Services, SSBA*



**Darren McKee**  
*Executive Director, SSBA*

## Walk to Breakfast Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mosaic Challenge Winners

Efforts of Saskatchewan schools to improve student nutrition and create healthier environments were celebrated on Sept. 16 with the Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge's Walk to Breakfast.

"Mosaic is proud to have supported schools and students across Saskatchewan for 10 years through the Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge," said Sarah Fedorchuk, Senior Director of Public Affairs at The Mosaic Company. "Improving nutrition and supporting healthy lifestyles for children directly supports our food security mission to help the world grow the food it needs, beginning right here at home."

Since 2006, The Mosaic Company and the SSBA in partnership with Breakfast for Learning (BFL), have hosted the Mosaic Challenge to encourage grassroots initiatives to improve student nutrition. Ten schools across Saskatchewan each

received \$10,000 earlier this year as winners of the 10th Anniversary Mosaic Challenge. Among the winners was Regina Catholic School Division's Mother Teresa Middle School, where the Walk to Breakfast event was held.

"Good nutrition has an essential role in helping kids reach their potential in school and beyond," Regina Coronation Park MLA Mark Docherty said on behalf of Minister of Education Don Morgan. "Our government is investing \$2.3 million in school and community nutrition programs this year to help provide students with healthy food during their school day. I commend The Mosaic Company and the SSBA for also supporting the nutrition of Saskatchewan students. Their contributions are making a difference in the lives of thousands of students each year."

Mother Teresa Middle School's winning project highlights include

integrating Indigenous content and principles, teaching students how to grow their own food and expanding community kitchen opportunities.

"Our students are our future leaders and investing in their learning through nutrition programs is vital to their success," said Kelly Berlinic, Director of Programs and Community Development for BFL. "Breakfast for Learning is proud to work with the SSBA and The Mosaic Company to ensure all students have the nourishment they need to succeed at school."

"School board members firmly believe that all students should have what they need to achieve and succeed, regardless of their personal circumstances," said Connie Bailey, president of the SSBA. "Our Association is proud to recognize the winners and we thank Mosaic and BFL for their commitment to ensuring students' health and nutrition needs are met."



SSBA President Connie Bailey brought greetings to the Walk to Breakfast event held Sept. 16 in Regina.



Sarah Fedorchuk, Senior Director of Public Affairs at The Mosaic Company, brings greetings on Sept. 16.

**Mosaic** EXTREME SCHOOL  
MAKEOVER CHALLENGE





## Focus on Safety for Provincial Students' Day

All students across the province were back in their classrooms in September and the SSBA reminded everyone to keep student safety top-of-mind.

Sept. 6 was officially proclaimed as "Provincial Students' Day" to help ensure safety is the primary consideration for students, families and communities, and especially for motorists who will be driving in and around school zones.

"Our students are our future," said Connie Bailey, president of the SSBA. "Having a special day set aside to recognize students contributes to helping alert all drivers that students are back in school and extra care for their safety should be considered."

The Government of Saskatchewan officially proclaims Provincial Students' Day every year at the SSBA's request.

Provincial Students' Day was first proclaimed in 2010, in response to a resolution passed by the province's trustees at the SSBA 2009 Annual General Meeting.

On Provincial Students' Day, President Bailey brought greetings to the launch event for the Community Safety Education Strategy pilot with Safe Saskatchewan and Prairie South School Division.



SSBA President Connie Bailey brought greetings to the CSES launch event.

### **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD – VOTE ON OCT. 26!**

*Our municipal councillors make decisions that control our policing, fire safety, businesses, water quality and local infrastructure, to name a few. Our school trustees set policies that decide what, when and where our children will learn, who will teach them and who will keep them safe.*

*Locally elected school boards have a vital role in serving Saskatchewan's publicly funded education system. The longest-lasting and most fundamental responsibility of schools boards has been to bring the voice of the public to publicly funded education in our province.*

**Municipal and School Board Elections take place on Wednesday, Oct. 26.**



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

**President:**

Connie Bailey

**Vice-President:**

Ronna Pethick

**Aboriginal Constituency:**

Vernon J. Linklater

**Catholic Constituency:**

Jerome Niezgoda

**Central Constituency:**

Larry Pavloff

**Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency:**

Élizabeth Perreault

**Northern Constituency:**

Joe Daigneault

**Southern Constituency:**

Janet Kotylak

**Urban Public Constituency:**

Donna Banks

**Executive Director:**

Darren McKee

**Communications Services:**

Jill Welke

**Corporate Services and  
Enterprise Risk Management:**

Catherine Vu

**Employee Benefits  
and Insurance Plans:**

Jeff McNaughton

**First Nations and Métis Education:**

Jamie Lerat

**School Board Development,  
Strategic Human Resources  
and Legal Services:**

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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 2016:

#### **School Board Elections**

Oct. 26

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

"Today's Students – Tomorrow's Saskatchewan"

Nov. 13-15

Saskatoon (Radisson Hotel)

*For more information, see the SSBA website under Events.*

## Executive Meetings



*The SSBA Provincial Executive met in Yorkton in August for its annual strategic planning meeting.*



*The SSBA Provincial Executive met in Saskatoon in September.*