

## SSBA Award of Distinction Nomination for Kevin Waugh

### **Background**

The Saskatoon Public School Division is Saskatchewan's largest school division with 45 elementary schools, 10 secondary schools, two associate schools and one alliance school and a combined enrolment of more than 24,000 students.

The schools support learning and serve a wide range of socio-economic communities, from the more affluent suburban communities to inner-city neighbourhoods and its student population includes learners with diverse needs. Saskatoon Public Schools has been a leader in welcoming and integrating new Canadian students and their families into our school communities and providing the services they need to succeed.

The Board of Education and division administration have remained committed to the board's two strategic learning priorities -- Literacy for Life and Collegiate Renewal -- and as a result have seen positive, year-over-year improvement in the data that tracks student learning and achievement.

### **Nomination of Kevin Waugh**

On behalf of the Saskatoon Public Schools, it is an honor and privilege to put forward Kevin Waugh for the Award of Distinction.

Kevin Waugh believes in publicly funded education for all students and in elected and accountable boards of education. He has dedicated countless hours to the betterment of all students in our province as a member of the Saskatoon Board of Education and his involvement with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and served as a strong voice for public education.

Kevin's commitment to his role as a trustee is evident in his completion of the Professional Director Certification Program with Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and Brown Governance. He was the first Saskatoon Public Schools Trustee to start and complete the course and became an advocate in encouraging fellow trustees of the merits of completing the course.

As a trustee, Kevin contributed his leadership skills and passion for the education community in many ways. During his nine years on the board he was a member of the board's discipline and a human resources committee, served terms as vice-chair, represented the Board of Education on the Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation board of directors, and was the Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association representative. A full list of his board contributions is included as part of this nomination.

*"Kevin was a significant contributor at the board table and in the community. He is passionate about education and staying connected to his local school communities and bringing their perspective forward. He consistently caused us to think about things through many different lenses and always asked the difficult questions that needed to be answered before we made difficult decisions regarding both local and provincial issues. He is passionate about public education and the importance of education in today's society. He is also deeply committed to and extremely proud of his family."*

*-- Ray Morrison, chair of the Saskatoon Board of Education*

At a provincial level, Kevin was an active participant and supporter of the work done by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association and in 2012 was elected as the Urban Public Constituency Representative, an opportunity that allowed him to serve as advocate for public education and the needs of students as part of a broader constituency.

*“Working with Kevin Waugh on the SSBA Executive was a pleasure. Kevin always expressed his views with passion. When I think of Kevin many attributes come to mind; hard working, politically astute, knowledgeable about current events and the education system, eager to express his opinions to the fullest, willing to listen to others views, and not afraid to stand up for what's best for students. Working with Kevin it was evident that he is a true people person. Wherever you happened to be with Kevin he seemed to know someone and everyone knew him. He was a person who you could count on to debate vigorously and yet still walk away from the meeting, enjoy a meal with colleagues and share a good laugh. He was truly an asset to the education system during the time he served as a trustee.”*

*-- Janet Kotylak Southern Constituency Representative*

In addition to his contributions at the board table, Kevin was a founding member of the Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Board and worked to support the Foundation's efforts to support learning in Saskatoon Public Schools. When it came time for the Foundation's first celebrity roast fundraiser, Kevin was brave enough to allow himself to be roasted.

One example that helps to illustrate Kevin's personal appreciation for student learning outside of the classroom was when he welcomed a Grade 9 student, the child of a friend, into his professional life as a sports broadcaster during *Take Our Kids to Work Day*. It was a positive experience that introduced the student to the world of media and influenced the student's perspective and appreciation for what it takes to work in this profession. It was also a learning experience for Kevin, as the student introduced a media veteran to the new social media of Twitter by helping Kevin set up his account.

Kevin's contributions extend to the larger community as well. His involvement with local organizations includes work with the YMCA as a board member and chair of the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign, as well as involvement with the Saskatoon Food Bank, KidSport, the Belonging Project –Engaging Vulnerable First Nations, Metis and Inuit Youth in Education, and the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame. Kevin received the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal in recognition of his long-standing involvement and commitment to the local community.

*“Kevin has been a significant fixture in Saskatoon for four decades. He has spent most of his adult life serving the public and working together with all demographics. In his role as a School Board Trustee, Kevin had always been about supporting programs and organizations that assist young people in finding their career pathway and transitioning from high school. “It takes a community to raise a child” and Kevin is a testament to that statement through his work with so many organizations that work collaboratively to make that happen. “*

*-- Janet Uchacz-Hart, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Industry Education Council*

*“Kevin's priorities are family and community. He has been married to his wife Ann for 38 years and they have two children and one grandchild. Kevin is a supporter of many local organizations, has taken a leadership role in numerous charitable initiatives and many non-profit boards. He has helped organize fundraisers, including children's initiatives such as KidSport and the YMCA, and worked with the Saskatoon Food Bank and Saskatoon Sports Tourism. He has also been involved with provincial and national sport governance boards.”*

*-- Henry Dyck Big Brothers Big Sisters Director of Fund Development*

Kevin continues to be an advocate for education funding not only from a provincial perspective, but also nationally. He has been a Member of Parliament since October, 2015 and one of his first roles was to introduce a Private Member's Bill, C-241, that would see all school divisions throughout Canada receive 100% of Goods and Services Tax refunded back to the school divisions. This would be an increase from the current 68% rebate. He has relentlessly pursued this initiative throughout the country. He attended the Canadian School Boards Association Congress in Winnipeg, Manitoba this past July to inform and communicate the importance of this bill. He continues to advocate for education even after he has left his role as a school board trustee.

On behalf of the Saskatoon Public Schools Board of Trustees, we respectfully submit Kevin Waugh as our nomination for the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Award of Distinction for 2016. We believe because of his outstanding work both as a Trustee and with stakeholder organizations who work with youth, that he is a very worthy candidate.

### **Service as a Saskatoon Board of Education Trustee**

- Sworn in as a member of the Board of Education at the inaugural meeting – Nov. 7, 2006
- Board Discipline Committee member – Nov. 7, 2006, to inaugural meeting 2007
- Board Discipline Committee member – Nov. 13, 2007, to inaugural meeting 2008
- Saskatchewan High Schools Athletic Association representative – Nov. 13, 2007, to inaugural meeting 2008
- Vice Chair – second six-month term 2008-09 school year
- Board Discipline Committee member – Nov. 18, 2008, to inaugural meeting 2009
- Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Board member – Nov. 18, 2008, to inaugural meeting 2009
- Re-elected and sworn into the Board of Education at the inaugural meeting – Nov. 3, 2009
- Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Board member – Nov. 3, 2009, to inaugural meeting 2010
- Board Discipline Committee member – Nov. 2, 2010, to inaugural meeting 2011
- Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Board member – Nov. 2, 2010, to inaugural meeting 2011
- Vice Chair – second six-month term 2011-12 school year
- Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Board member – Nov. 8, 2011, to inaugural meeting 2012
- Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Board member – Nov. 6, 2012, to inaugural meeting 2013
- Board Discipline Committee member – Nov. 19, 2013, to inaugural meeting 2014.
- Board Human Resources Committee member – Nov. 24, 2014, to inaugural meeting 2015
- Saskatchewan High Schools Athletics Association representative – Nov. 24, 2014, to inaugural meeting 2015
- Resigned from the Board of Education Nov. 16, 2015

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2010-2016 Canadian Tire/ Food Bank Golf Tournament Committee
- 2014-2015 Sport Tourism Board
- 2014-2015 Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame Board Member
- 2013-2015 Saskatoon KidSport Chair
- 2013 Belonging Project – Engaging Vulnerable First Nations, Metis and Inuit Youth in Education
- 2013 Saskatoon KidSport Breakfast Chair
- 2013 Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre Sponsorship Chair
- 2008-2015 Media coordinator Canadian Golf Tour Dakota Dunes (SIGA)
- 2007-2015 Board member Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame
- 2006-2008 Chair, YMCA Strong Kids Campaign Saskatoon
- 2000-2006 Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame Board Member
- 1999-2004 Board member Saskatoon YMCA
- June 2005 Received Saskatchewan Centennial Medal for community involvement