

**Saskatchewan School Boards Association
Executive Meeting Minutes
September 14 & 15, 2023**

Executive Members:

Present – Ms. Smith-Windsor, Mr. Bachmann, Ms. Banks, Mr. Favel, Ms. Gradin (virtual), Ms. Greyeyes, Mr. Niezgoda, Ms. Perreault and Dr. Davidson.

Association Staff: Mr. McKee, Dr. Amendt, Ms. Vu, Ms. Welke.

Regrets: Ms. Horejda, Mr. McNaughton

1. Call to Order

President Smith-Windsor called the meeting to order on Thursday September 14, 2023, at 9:01 a.m.

2. Treaty Land Acknowledgement and Moment of Reflection

3. Additions/Changes/Approval of Agenda

23.09.01 That the Executive approved the agenda as presented.

CD

4. Review/Discuss Delegation(s) Preparation –

The Executive prepared for their discussions with the SARM, University of Regina Dean of Education and the Minister of Education.

4.1 Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)

The Executive met with Vice-President of SARM, Bill Huber and Senior Policy Advisor, Alicia Bay. Topics of discussion included: SK Broadband Committee and rural connectivity; inflation, fuel costs, construction, PST and the economic impact; local government autonomy; funding; succession planning for elected officials and staffing administration; mental health and wellbeing; opportunities for shared advocacy and the importance of meaningful consultation.

4.2 University of Regina – Faculty of Education

The Executive met with University of Regina, Dean of Education Dr. James Nahachewsky. Topics of discussion included: Indigenous education, GDI partnerships; Le Bac, minority language protection; graduate work; technology and AI professional learning/development; teacher supply; Indigenous teachers and language revitalization; faculty development; classroom complexity; inclusive education; parent and community engagement; research priorities and

projects; identity hiring practices; rural education; funding; responding to community needs and sound evidence.

4.3 Government of Saskatchewan – Minister of Education

The Executive met with Minister of Education, Jeremy Cockrill, Deputy Minister of Education Clint Repski, and Chief of Staff Mitch Graw. Topics of discussion included: role of school boards and uniqueness of all 27 boards; shared governance responsibilities; consultation, engagement and partnerships; importance of using structures and committees that are in place; Rapid Access Counselling; mental health; inter-agency opportunities for schools; public trust in education; Provincial Education Plan implementation; class size and composition findings/report; support for growth, inflation and innovation; investment; inclusion; Indigenous education; and, recent Ministerial Directives.

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – no conflicts declared

6. In-Camera Session

(September 14, 2023 – 3:10 – 3:30 p.m.)

23.09.02 That the Executive move into closed session. CD

23.09.03 That the Executive move into open session. CD

7. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

7.1 May 18 & 19, 2023

23.09.04 That the minutes of May 18 & 19, 2023 be approved as amended. CD

7.2 August 18 & 19, 2023

23.09.05 That the minutes of August 18 & 19, 2023 be approved as circulated. CD

8. Business Arising from Minutes – May minutes – Curriculum renewal – make recommendations to the Minister about graduation requirements – report should come out in November.

9. Discussion Items – no discussion items at this meeting

10. Decision Items

10.1 AGM Rules of Procedure

The Executive reviewed and discussed the briefing note with respect to the AGM Rules of Procedure document.

23.09.06 That the Executive approve the AGM Rules of Procedure document. CD

10.2 Life Membership

The Executive reviewed and discussed the briefing note with respect to the Honorary Life Membership for Kelly Berlinic. Janet Kotylak will also receive her Life Membership from 2022.

23.09.07 That the Executive approve an Honorary Life Membership for Kelly Berlinic. CD

10.3. 2023 Proposed Bylaw Amendments

The Executive reviewed and discussed the briefing note with respect to the 2023 proposed bylaw amendments.

23.09.08 That the Executive approve sponsoring the proposed bylaw amendments. CD

11.1 Executive Work Plan

The Executive reviewed the Executive work plan for 2023. SARM and SUMA will be added to the workplan for delegations in 2024.

11.2 SSBA Strategic Plan Report

The Executive reviewed and discussed the SSBA Strategic Plan report for September. The report was received and filed.

12. Reports from President and Administration

12.1 President's Report

The President provided updates related to recent correspondence, media relations, provincial and federal legislation, recent research reports, committees, and advocacy. She also provided updates from the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA), Provincial Bargaining - Government Trustee Bargaining Committee, Board Engagement Meetings, Public Section, and meetings with the Minister of Education Dustin Duncan in June, and the Saskatchewan Child and Youth Advocate re: the Desperately Waiting Report Review. The report was received and filed.

12.2 Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director's report highlighted recent activity related to the SSBA Strategic Plan, SSBA Building Update, Saskatchewan Broadband Action Committee, and current issues arising. Regular meetings continue with the Deputy Minister of Education as well as with the Executive Directors of SASBO, STF and LEADS. The report was received and filed.

12.3 Communications and Strategic Services

The Executive reviewed the briefing note from Communications and Strategic Services with an update with respect to recent activity, communications, and media requests. The report was received and filed.

12.4 Board Development

The Executive reviewed the briefing note from Board Development Services with highlights from February to September 2023. The report was received and filed.

12.5 Corporate Services

The Executive reviewed the briefing note from Corporate Services and financial for April to July 2023. The report was received and filed.

12.6 Employee Benefits Plan and General Insurance Plan

The Executive reviewed the briefing notes with respect to Enterprise Risk Management mid year update, General Insurance Plan Loss Prevention seminar survey results, Employee Benefits Plan seminar survey results and Employee Benefits Plan and General Insurance Plan staffing updates. The report was received and filed.

13. Executive Members' Reports

- 13.1 Vice-President**
- 13.2 Catholic Constituency**
- 13.3 Central Constituency**
- 13.4 Conseil scolaire fransaskois Constituency**
- 13.5 Indigenous Constituency**
- 13.6 Northern Constituency**
- 13.7 Southern Constituency**
- 13.8 Urban Public Constituency**

Each Executive member provided a brief update to the Executive regarding their constituency and committees with which they have been involved and other meetings. The Executive member reports were received and filed.

14. Committee Reports

14.1 Resolutions and Policy Development Committee

An update was provided from the Resolutions and Policy Development Committee regarding their meeting of August 1, 2023. Janet Foord will be the Parliamentarian for the 2023 annual general meeting. The committee report was received and filed.

14.2 Executive Human Resources (HR) Committee Report

An update was provided from the Executive HR Committee regarding their meetings of March 1, 28, May 15, June 21, and August 29. The committee report was received and filed.

14.3 Board Development Committee Report

An update was provided from Board Development Committee regarding their meeting of June 5, 2023. The committee report was received and filed.

14.4 Audit and Investment Committee Report – no report

14.5 General Insurance Plan Committee Report – no report

14.5.1 Cyber Insurance Working Advisory Group

The committee reminded the Executive of the upcoming virtual presentation from Regina Public School Division.

14.6 Executive Policy Review Committee Report – no report

14.7 EBP Advisory Committee – no report

14.8 Provincial Bargaining Committee – no report

15. Presentations/Activity – no presentations

16. Information Items

- 16.1 2023 Association Event Calendar
- 16.2 Committee List and Executive Liaison List
- 16.3 2023 Activity Report – Mosaic Extreme School Makeover/Walk to Breakfast
- 16.4 The Saskatchewan Employment Act and regulations – consultation on the employment standards provisions.
- 16.5 2023 Mid-Year Professional Development Report

17. Identification of future agenda items

The Executive reviewed the future agenda items. The following changes were made:


- Remove SSBA Operations – Discussion Robert’s Rule of Order and Membership Engagement – Feedback on WAG – Associate Membership
- Add Membership Engagement - Vacancy on boards – get feedback to understand how boards are handling.

-
18. Meeting Evaluation

The Executive reviewed the Evaluation results from the May to August meetings. The link for the September Evaluation form was provided to the Executive.

Adjournment

President Smith-Windsor adjourned the meeting on September 15, 2023.



Executive Director



President