

Vision 2025



Strategic Plan 2021



Our Vision

By 2025, Saskatchewan has a globally recognized education system that others wish to emulate.

Everyone has a stake in the success of education in our province. When schools are strong and students succeed, we all benefit. The more people who care about and get involved with their local schools, the stronger they become. Students and families, community members, social agencies and business people all have a role to play, whether it's in the classroom, the boardroom or at the ballot box at election time.

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.

The work of the SSBA and its member boards remains deeply rooted in the belief that every child in Saskatchewan, regardless of where they live or their personal circumstances, must have the resources and supports they need to achieve and succeed. Collectively, the women and men who serve on Saskatchewan's boards of education are committed to serving children, youth, families and communities.

Guiding Principles

Public education is best governed by locally elected accountable boards of education who:

- Require valid and reliable information to guide the decisions they make in setting and monitoring the strategic direction.
- Receive the supports they require to ensure all students have the opportunity to learn.
- Have the autonomy to make decisions in the best interests of the students and communities they serve.
- Require sufficient, equitable, sustainable, predictable, transparent funding to fulfill their mandate of educating students.
- Value and respect the role of all education and community partners.

Our Mission

Provide leadership, coordination and services to member boards of education to support student achievement.

Our Values

- Personal integrity and courageous leadership - we take pride and responsibility for our work and our decisions.
- Honest relationships built through collaboration, open and transparent communication.
- An atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.



Strategic Intent

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association, as a democratic and voluntary organization, ensures advocacy, leadership and support for member boards of education by speaking as the voice of public education, offering opportunities for trustee development and providing information and services. We are committed to:

- Engagement at All Levels
- Alignment at All Levels
- Accountability for All
- Courageous Leadership

Goals for 2025

- Education is the highest priority social endeavor in the province.
- The Saskatchewan education system is globally recognized and emulated by others.
- Saskatchewan leads in innovative learning practices, curriculum and delivery.
- Saskatchewan has eliminated the education achievement gap for all students.
- All students are achieving their personal best – including our most vulnerable.
- Boards of education are accountable for improved student achievement.

SSBA 2021 Strategic Priorities

Leading and Fostering Connections and Relationships in Education.

Strategic Initiatives & Outcomes:

1. Board and Public Engagement
 - a. Youth, Parent and Community Engagement Strategies – SCC Handbook roll-out
 - b. Local Voices Local Choices – highlighting the good work of boards at the local level
 - c. Provincial Education Plan – facilitate and support boards governance role
 - d. School for Trustees and support/outreach for new trustees:
 - Trustee Academy and School for New Trustees sessions
 - Change management support
 - Mentorship program
2. Advocacy
 - a. Importance of local voice and elected boards in education
 - AGM-20-03 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association engage education sector partners and First Nations and Métis educational authorities, as appropriate, to call on the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Government Relations to review and renew the Local Government Elections Act and Regulations with the intent of creating more opportunities for the election and participation of Indigenous school board trustees

- b. Education Investment– we have eight principles for education funding that have been identified by our members as important
 - c. Inter-agency Connections – improving systems and structures working together for students
 - AGM 18-02 WHEREAS the socioeconomic status of families can affect their physical and mental health, and the health of the family impacts the children’s ability to learn and succeed at school; BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association invite the Ministry of Education to consider the possibility of creating a committee of professionals from Social Services, Health, Justice and Education to explore how the four can work together to help vulnerable children access what they need to be healthy and stay in and succeed at school.
 - AGM-19-08 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association ratify a standing Advisory Committee on Inclusive and Special Education to provide advice and recommendations to the Executive on matters related to the funding and provision of programs and services to students requiring specialized supports in Saskatchewan.
 - d. Technology (as per our Connections Report and recommendations) – focus on access
 - e. Federal and external funding sustainability – mental health, languages, Jordan’s Principle, Pandemic, early learning
 - f. Mill rate and Education Property Tax
3. Services
- a. Comprehensive SSBA Services Review
4. Research Policy that Supports and Builds Capacity for Evidence Based Decision Making
- a. Executive Composition, Memberships Fees and Voting Review
 - b. Inclusive Education – position statement
 - AGM-20-04 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association work to create a common definition of ‘diversity’ that all school divisions can use to build their plans for addressing racism and discrimination.
 - c. Student Transportation Safety
5. First Nations and Metis Education
- a. Responsibility Framework Implementation
 - b. Supporting local partnerships and MOUs
 - c. Indigenous Council
 - AGM 17-11 SSBA advocate for a mandatory Indigenous Studies course in Saskatchewan high schools as part of the required curriculum for students graduating from grade twelve in addition to Indigenous teachings currently embedded into the curriculum
 - AGM-19-12 BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA advocate to the Ministry of Education for a commitment of a trilateral funding agreement that includes Boards of Education (Trustees, LEADS & SASBO members), SSBA and the Ministry. This resolution supports the participation of all Trustees, LEADS & SASBO members to complete the 4 Seasons of Reconciliation, a 3.5 hrs on-line professional development training unit that provides a basic foundational knowledge of Truth and Reconciliation, the Treaties and supporting connections to some of the TRC’s Calls to Action.

d. Indigenous Education – position statement

- AGM 20-01 BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA create a working committee to engage member boards in drafting a position statement on Indigenous Education, to be brought to the membership for adoption.

6. Other Resolutions In-Progress or Prioritized in 2021:

AGM-18-03 BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA advocate to the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Advanced Education for a collaborative approach in the co-construction of a recruitment and retention strategy for Saskatchewan teachers.

AGM-18-04 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association advocate to the Ministry of Education to create and implement an assessment tool, forming a measurement of student knowledge of Treaty Education in Saskatchewan Schools. Lead: Ted Amendt

AGM-18-06 BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA initiate an Executive Composition review with results reported to the members prior to the 2019 AGM.

AGM-19-07 WHEREAS some municipalities expect school divisions to cover the costs for local improvements near public schools (i.e., roadwork, infrastructure) and whereas the school division does not receive provincial funding for these unexpected costs, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association ask the Minister of Education to work with other government departments, including the Minister of Government Relations, to develop a remedy to provide relief to school divisions regarding local improvement costs.

AGM-19-13 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association request that the Government of Saskatchewan provide guidance to school divisions as it relates to the accommodation of immune-compromised students, staff, and volunteers, as well as those who are electively unvaccinated.

AGM-20-02 WHEREAS Board of Education trustees may choose to enter other areas of politics while serving as a school board trustee, BE IT RESOLVED that the SSBA Executive establish a Working Advisory Group (WAG) to create guidelines for Boards and trustees, and the SSBA Executive to follow so that they can continue to responsibly fulfill obligations and duties in this situation.