

Vision 2025



Strategic Plan 2023



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

Publicly funded 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 2023 Strategic Priorities

1. Emerging from the Pandemic

- a. Mental health and wellbeing – continued advocacy for inter-agency collaboration – priority in the interim and Provincial Education Plan – focus on inclusion (EDIA). Resolution 19-08
- b. Stakeholder relationships and supporting engagement and connection at the local level (boards, public, families and parent engagement) as per recommendations in the Connections report – community education philosophy – Parent Teacher Home Visits Program and SCC Resource
- c. Reflection post pandemic – partner to hire research consultant

2. Board and Public Engagement - Board Development

- a. Begin planning and engagement for renewal of the SSBA Vision 2025 Strategic Plan
- b. Governance Handbook – awareness renewal, workshops, Trustee Academy
- c. Provincial Education Plan – implementation and supporting the board governance role
- d. Membership Engagement - further SSBA governance exploration and follow-up to WAG
- e. SSBA Affiliate Membership

3. Advocacy

- a. Local Voices Local Choices - importance of local voice and elected boards in education
- b. Independent Schools – Resolution 22-07
- c. Impacts of Poverty – Awareness, poverty reduction – Resolution 22-05
- d. Education Investment
 - Post or pandemic related costs/impact
 - Pre-election budget advocacy

- Capital project funding – project scope and market fluctuations (market price contingency) – transparency – sustainable rural and urban schools plan – processes/collaboration – shortfalls and delays
 - Multi-year funding – predictable and sustainability
 - Local taxation - Mill Rate and Education Property Tax – Resolution 22-06
- e. Technology
- Continued focus on connectivity and cyber security
 - Connections Report recommendation: Advocate for an ongoing task force (that includes student and parent voices) to look at evidence-based recommendations and leading practices for technology opportunities and appropriate use

4. Services

- a. Services Review – Board Development and FNME
- b. Legal Services – implementation
- c. Collective Bargaining – engagement with members - sector group support for bargaining

5. Research Policy that Supports and Builds Capacity for Evidence Based Decision Making

- a. Strengthen the communication and engagement around student achievement by making student success reporting more meaningful and consistent for students, parents, and families (Connections Report Recommendation). Assessment and supports for education - data around impact on learning, skills, what has changed? Resolutions 19-08, 21-08
- b. Committee on Class Size and Composition (research and report next steps - TBD)
- c. Position Statement Renewal:
 - Education Investment – begin engagement
 - Organizational Development – Development of Position Statements 1.1

6. Indigenous Education – Truth and Reconciliation

- a. Responsibility Framework implementation/action – engagement - FNM Leadership development – role for boards as employers
- b. MOU Renewal – support for boards to develop MOUs at local level - MOU renewal with FSIN, SICC and OTC, as well as MN-S.

7. Other Resolutions Still In-Progress or Prioritized in for 2023 (noted in alignment with priorities above:

- 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.
- AGM-21-08 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association recommend to the Ministry of Education that provincial examinations be eliminated at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year for students in the provincial K-12 system.

- AGM-22-05 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association bring awareness to the impacts poverty has on Saskatchewan students and prioritize poverty reduction advocacy in Saskatchewan schools.
- AGM-22-06 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Board Association Executive begin discussions with the Ministry of Education to make joint recommendations relative to the education mill rate.
- AGM-22-07 BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Board Association begin discussions with the Ministry of Education to jointly review and make recommendations on funding, oversight and accountability for all independent schools.