

2018-2019 BOARD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Background:

In the spring of 2014, the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Board ratified a renewed policy framework for the school division. As part of the policy renewal process, the Board committed to developing an annual plan to help guide the Board's development activities for the year. It is the responsibility of the Vice-Chair to draft the Board Development Plan, for the consideration of the Board annually (Policy 6.7).

Purpose:

The primary purpose and benefit of developing a Board Development Plan is to align Board development activities with the Board's Three Year Strategic Plan and the Board Advocacy Plan.

Process:

During the September 24, 2018 meeting of the Board, trustees reviewed the 2017-2018 Plan and had the opportunity to provide input into its renewal. At its fall Board-Director seminar, topics related to Board development were also discussed. The Board's collective feedback forms the basis of the 2018-2019 Board Development Plan. The plan will further be strengthened through the Board's planned annual self-evaluation (Policy 8.13). As per the Board Annual Work Plan, the Board Development Plan will be brought back for review in January of 2019 and April of 2019.

Guiding Principles:

The Board believes that an effective Board Development Plan will:

1. Strategically support the Three-Year Plan & the Education Sector Strategic Plan.
2. Utilize SSBA Board Development services & personnel, including regional workshop offerings.
3. Focus on internal, local initiatives, opportunities, and partnerships.
4. Support effective and ongoing Trustee development that allows for effective and locally responsive education governance.
5. Develop processes to equip its Board with the knowledge and competencies necessary to govern the Division.

Board Development Focus for 2018-2019:

Where possible, the following topics shall be addressed during or in conjunction with existing scheduled meetings of the Board of Education:

1. **Truth & Reconciliation**
 - Participate in professional development opportunity through the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (October 29th, 2018)
 - Continue with the implementation of an Elder's Council

2. **Strengthen Governance and Board Development Processes**
 - Implement a self-assessment and monitoring process that aims to strengthen the Board's acquisition of governance-specific knowledge and competencies

3. **Communications/ Public Relations/Social Media**
 - Review and implement recommendations related to the Board Communications Plan as developed by Jill Welke, SSBA (February, 2018)
 - Consider hosting a regional workshop that focusses on communications "tools"

4. **Vulnerable students**
 - Enhance the Board's knowledge of existing mental health supports for students in the division
 - Continue to monitor alternative programming in consideration of unique program mandates, available resources and partnership involvement

5. **Cree language immersion programming**
 - Review existing programs in Saskatchewan
 - Consider touring an existing Cree language immersion program in Sask.
 - Enhance understanding of available curriculum supports

In addition to internally, Board-driven opportunities for Board Development, trustees will have the opportunity to attend professional development offerings specific to education governance, including:

- *The National Congress on Rural Education* in Saskatoon, March 31 to April 2, 2019
- *The Canadian School Boards Association Congress* in Toronto, early July 2019
- *The National Trustee Gathering on Aboriginal Education*, TBD