

**THE REGULAR MEETING FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION**

Board Room, Education Centre

545 – 11th Street East

Prince Albert, SK S6V 1B1

Monday, September 18, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA (#23R-13)

1. **Call to order by Board Chair Darlene Rowden**
2. **Land acknowledgement**
3. **Declaration of conflict of interest**
4. **Motion to move into Closed Session**
5. **Regular session convenes at 4:00 p.m.**
6. **Adoption of the agenda**
7. **Consent items**
 - (a) Adoption of the Regular meeting – August 28, 2023
 - (b) Administrative Procedure Changes
 - (c) Correspondence
 - (d) Financial Statements – for the Period Ending August 31, 2023 – Preliminary
 - (e) Request from Buckland Fire and Rescue
8. **Business arising from the previous meeting**
9. **New business (Board Committee Reports, Trustees' items and Notice of Motions)**
 - (a) Matters and Motions brought forward from Closed Session of September 18, 2023
 - (b) External Board Committees
 - Verbal Update on Public Section Executive Meeting – **A. Nunn**
 - (c) Provincial Update (if any)
 - (d) 2022-23 Board Development Plan / Board Advocacy Plan – **A. Nunn**
10. **Accountability reports (if any)**

11. Reports from administrative staff
12. Notice of Motion
13. Three key messages for SCC/public from meeting
14. Board members’ forum
15. Adjournment

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Monday, September 25, 2023 Time: 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.	Director and Board Leadership, Governance and Role Clarification Session, Education Centre, 545 – 11 th Street East, Prince Albert
Monday, September 25, 2023 Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.	MLAs meeting, Education Centre, Board Room, 545 – 11th Street East, Prince Albert, SK
Monday, October 2, 2023 Time: 11:00 a.m.	Renaming of Won Ska Cultural , 2005 – 4 th Avenue East, Prince Albert
Monday, October 2, 2023 Time: 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.	Strategic Planning/Board Seminar, Board Room, Education Centre, 545 -11 th
Wednesday, October 4, 2023 Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.	SCC Orientation (Optional), Seminar Room, Education Centre, 545 – 11 th Street East, Prince Albert
Monday, October 16, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.	Regular meeting, Education Centre, Board Room, 545 – 11th Street East, Prince Albert, SK
Monday, October 23, 2023 Time: Full day	School Tours

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Regular Board Meeting Agenda Items

- Consider nomination of a program for the Premier’s Award for Innovation
- Review Board Development Plan
- Review Board Advocacy Plan
- Draft Resolutions for Submission to the SSBA Convention
- Review Auditor’s Plan
- Review Human Resources Accountability Report

Events/Action

- Saskatchewan Rivers Student Voice Workshop (include Strategic Plan review)
- Elders Council / Summer Pipe Ceremony
- MLAs Meeting

Budget Considerations

- Budget Work Plan

OCTOBER

Regular Board Meeting Agenda Items

- Approve Board Advocacy Plan
- Approve Resolutions (if any) for Saskatchewan School Boards Association Annual Convention
- Review Legal Update of any outstanding cases
- Review Draft Annual Report and Provide Direction, if any
- Review Student Learning Accountability Report
- Review School Learning Improvement Plans Accountability Report
- Complete the Board Competency Matrix

Page 3 – Regular Meeting Agenda (#23R-13)
September 18, 2023

Events/Action

- First Nations Representatives Gathering
- P.A.A.T.A. New Teacher Induction Event
- SCC Orientation Session

Budget Considerations

- Review, amend or adopt budget development timelines, principles and guidelines

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

Type of Meeting	Agenda Items	Intent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
<i>Primary Policy Reference:</i>	<u>8.8</u>	

FROM: N. Finch, Director of Education **ATTACHMENTS** [v]

BACKGROUND

RE: ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

- August 28, 2023 Regular Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Regular meeting of August 28, 2023 be approved as presented.

NO. #2023R-12 (MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023)

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION
NO. 119 FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M. IN
THE BOARD ROOM, EDUCATION CENTRE, 545 11TH STREET EAST, PRINCE ALBERT, SK**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

MRS. C. BLOOM, Trustee

MR. B. GEROW, Trustee

MR. G. GUSTAFSON, Trustee

MR. B. HOLLICK, Trustee

MR. A. LINDBERG, Trustee

MR. A. NUNN, Vice-Chair

MS. D. ROWDEN, Board Chair

MS. J. SMITH-WINDSOR, Trustee

DR. M. VICKERS, Trustee

MR. B. YEAMAN, Trustee

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Mr. N. Finch, Director of Education

Dr. G. Tebay, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. J. Pidborochynski, Chief Financial Officer

Mrs. J. Ward, Administrative Services Officer

D. Rowden, Board Chair, called the meeting to order and provided the land acknowledgement for the school division. Trustees were given an opportunity to declare a conflict of interest.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION:

#23R-84

Moved by A. Lindberg that the meeting move into Closed Session with Board and Administration present.

Carried.

Regular meeting resumed.

OTHERS:

M. Oleksyn, Prince Albert Daily Herald

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

#23R-85

Moved by A. Lindberg that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried.

CONSENT ITEMS:

#23R-86

Moved by G. Gustafson the following consent items be approved:

(a) Adoption of the Regular meeting – June 19, 2023;

(b) Administrative Procedure Changes.

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

(a) Motions from the Closed Session of August 28, 2023:

#23R-87

Moved by B. Hollick that the following motions be brought forward:

***1. That the Board approve the purchase of five new school buses from Legacy Bus Sales.
Carried.***

(b) Public Section Update

A. Nunn reported that the Public Section Executive will be meeting on September 15, 2023 virtually.

A suggestion was made that if a vacancy occurs on the Public Section executive, that the executive have the option to appoint a replacement until the next election of executive.

(c) Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change (SRSC) Report

#23R-88

***Moved by C. Bloom that the revisions to the Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change constitution be approved as amended.
Carried.***

(a) SSBA Information – Bylaws and Amendments / Position Statements

The information from the SSBA regarding the bylaw amendments, resolutions process deadlines for submission was shared. The proposed Position Statements will be voted upon as Resolutions at the Fall General Assembly in November 2023.

Discussion was held regarding a resolution proposing kindergarten every day and co-sponsoring with another school division.

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS:

(a) Human Resources Accountability Report

#23R-89

***Moved by G. Gustafson that the Board confirm that the intent of Policy 13, Item 3 and Policy 16 have been met and that the Human Resources Accountability Report be referred to the Director Evaluation process.
Carried.***

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION:

#23R-90

***Moved by J. Smith-Windsor that the meeting move into Closed Session with Board and Administration present.
Carried.***

THREE KEY MESSAGES FOR SCC/PUBLIC FROM BOARD MEETING:

- Welcome Back;
- Human Resources Accountability Report;
- Purchase of School Buses.

BOARD MEMBERS’ FORUM:

Trustees were given an opportunity to share information on items of mutual interest.

ADJOURNMENT:

#23R-91

Moved by A. Nunn that the meeting adjourn. (4:45 p.m.)

Carried.

SIGNATURES:

Board Chair

Administrative Services Officer

Date of Approval

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

Type of Meeting	Agenda Items	Intent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
Primary Policy Reference:	<u>2</u> _____	

FROM: N. Finch, Director of Education

ATTACHMENTS

BACKGROUND

RE: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES CHANGES

The following Administrative Procedure has been revised to provide flexibility for our students. The changes have been highlighted and the deletions ~~strike through~~ for reference.

- AP 211: Distance Learning

RECOMMENDATION

For Board information.

Administrative Procedure 211

DISTANCE LEARNING

Background

The Division encourages students to participate in face-to-face instruction. However, in some circumstances it may be beneficial and necessary for students to enroll in distance learning. Students must meet the Ministry of Education student enrollment requirements.

Procedures

1. The Division is able to provide access to the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation (Sask DLC) as the only option for distance learning courses with a variety of methods:
 - 1.1 Registration in Sask DLC:
 - 1.1.1 Students can register as full-time students in Sask DLC through their community school. Grades 9-12 Students are required to take a full course load in order to meet the requirements for graduation. Distance learning is offered by Sask DLC, and as such students will have to adhere to the corporation's policies for online learning.
 - 1.2 Secondary registration within Sask DLC:
 - 1.2.1 Students can register with Sask DLC as a secondary school to take courses and remain registered in their school. If students wish to register for a course with Sask DLC, they must contact their school administration to begin the registration process. Once approved by the Superintendent of Schools responsible for distance learning, the principal will arrange for the registration and provide guidance at the school for those students enrolled in any Sask DLC courses.
 - ~~1.2.2 Approval for this type of request is made by the Superintendent of Schools responsible for distance learning in collaboration with the school administration team. Approval of registration is given only when the school has exhausted their local ability to deliver the programming required at the school level, and the course is a necessary part of the student's graduation requirements or necessary for post-secondary program requirements.~~
 - 1.2.2 Approval for each request will be considered by the Superintendent of Schools responsible for distance learning, in collaboration with the school administration team. Approval may be given:
 - When a student possesses the independent ability to successfully complete the courses.
 - To support a legitimate need for the student's graduation plan,
 - When the school has exhausted their ability to deliver the programming required at the school level.
2. Access to SRPSD School Division services for full time Sask DLC students:
 - 2.1. The Division will provide Sask DLC students with access to common educational resources, such as libraries, provided they do not interfere with school-based operations.
 - 2.2. The Division will provide Sask DLC students with access to driver education through the school in their attendance area.
 - 2.3. Upon request of the Sask DLC student support team, the Division may consider providing direct therapeutic services by Division-employed professional service providers if such services are necessary. The direct therapy services shall occur on a prioritized basis at a location chosen by the Division-employed professional services providers.
 - 2.4 Sask DLC students may participate in extracurricular activities providing:

- 2.4.1 Sask DLC students participate as part of the school in their attendance area.
- 2.4.2 Travel costs are born by the parent.
- 2.4.3 Participation is limited to availability of space on teams and clubs. Opportunities to participate will only be granted if there are positions open – positions on teams of clubs will be filled first by students attending the school as regular students.
- 2.4.4 Participation in any co-curricular or extracurricular activity can be ended at the discretion of the principal.
- 2.4.5 Students in Grades 9 – 12 are subject to the rules and regulations of the SHSAA. Home-based education students begin the process of participating in school sports by contacting the principal.
- 2.5 Sask DLC students may participate in co-curricular events providing:
 - 2.5.1 Co-curricular events are activities that support the provincial curricula.
 - 2.5.2 The supervision of the student is the responsibility of the parent.
 - 2.5.3 Fees and travel costs are born by the parent.
 - 2.5.4 Sask DLC students obey the rules and comply with the expectations of all students participating in the event.
 - 2.5.5 Principals have the authority to end the participation of the Sask DLC student in any school-based activity at their discretion. Sask DLC students begin the process of participating in co-curricular events by contacting the principal.
- 2.6 A student may attend graduation ceremonies at their attendance area school by notifying the principal by March 1.

Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 176, *The Education Act, 1995*
Section 8 Regulation Act

Revised: September 8, 2015; August 30, 2021; May 1, 2023; August 28, 2023; September 18, 2023

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
<i>Primary Policy Reference:</i>	<u>2</u> _____	

FROM: N. Finch, Director of Education **ATTACHMENTS** [v]

BACKGROUND

RE: CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you card re: retirement – T. Kristiansen
- Thank you card re: retirement – P. Grassick

RECOMMENDATION

For Board information.

Thank you to the
SRPSD Education Board
for the lovely banquet
on June 12th as well as
the \$50.00 retirement
gift! I really

appreciate both gestures!

I had a rewarding
career and many great
memories. I worked
with many great people
as well! Thank you!

Judy Kristensen

SRSD Board of Education,

Thank you for the lovely evening of recognition and supper. Also, thank you for the monetary gift.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Pam Grassick

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

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<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
<i>Primary Policy Reference:</i>	<u>2.8</u>	

FROM: J. Pidborochynski, Chief Financial Officer **ATTACHMENTS**

BACKGROUND

RE: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – for the Period Ended August 31, 2023 - preliminary

The Statements of Financial Position and Operations have been prepared in accordance with the Canadian public sector accounting standards and the format specified in the Financial Reporting Manual issued by the Ministry of Education. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

The accompanying financial statements will be reviewed in detail with specific reference to the budget percentage remaining for the period.

Details of major variances in actual to budgeted revenue are detailed as follows:

1. Grants – Increase due to Jordan's Principle funding offset by decrease in enrolment.
2. School Generated Funds – Increase due to fundraising.
3. Other – Increase in interest income.

Details of major variances in actual to budgeted expenses are detailed as follows:

1. Instruction – Jordan's Principle, Mental Health Capacity Building and Michif Language Program salaries.
2. Plant – Minor renovations/projects still in progress.
3. Transportation – Decrease in fuel costs.
4. Complementary Services – Salary adjustments for Pre-K program done at year-end.
5. External Services – Following Their Voices payment to Saskatoon Public School Division, Family Resource Centre expenses not included in budget.

Capital Purchases

1. Buses - \$1.1M, Computer equip - \$540K, vehicle - \$49K, EC Rink - \$142K and other equipment - \$230K.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board accept the financial statements as presented.

Saskatchewan Rivers School Division No. 119
Statement of Financial Position
As at August 31, 2023

	Current Year Actual	Prior Year Actual	Variance
Financial Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	25,328,299	25,613,495	(285,196)
Other Receivables	164,261	788,993	(624,732)
Portfolio Investments	4,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Financial Assets	29,492,560	28,402,488	1,090,072
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	4,913,320	5,981,334	(1,068,014)
Liability for Employee Future Benefits	3,221,600	3,221,600	-
Deferred Revenue	2,120,039	195,611	1,924,428
Total Liabilities	10,254,959	9,398,545	856,414
Net Financial Assets	19,237,601	19,003,943	233,658
Non-Financial Assets			
Tangible Capital Assets	55,318,252	58,314,979	(2,996,727)
Inventory of Supplies for Consumption	137,828	137,828	-
Prepaid Expenses	646,524	700,857	(54,333)
Total Non-Financial Assets	56,102,604	59,153,664	(3,051,060)
Net Assets	75,340,205	78,157,607	1,924,428
Accumulated Surplus			
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of the Year	78,157,607	83,592,214	(5,434,607)
(Loss) earnings from Operations	(2,817,402)	(5,434,607)	2,617,205
Accumulated Surplus	75,340,205	78,157,607	(2,817,402)

Saskatchewan Rivers School Division No. 119
Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus
For the Period from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023

	Current Year Actual	Current Year Budget	Budget Remaining	Budget % Remaining	Prior Year Actual	Actual Variance
REVENUE						
Property Taxation	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	-	-
Grants	99,006,610	98,376,971	(629,639)	-0.64%	97,912,425	1,094,185
Tuition and Related Fees	2,611,949	2,648,673	36,724	1.39%	2,607,242	4,707
School Generated Funds	2,881,805	2,280,000	(601,805)	-26.39%	2,304,343	577,462
Complementary Services	2,041,824	1,941,824	(100,000)	-5.15%	1,923,808	118,016
External Services	2,515,924	2,159,195	(356,729)	-16.52%	2,528,426	(12,502)
Other	2,027,919	1,219,208	(808,711)	-66.33%	1,374,167	653,752
Total Revenue	111,086,031	108,625,871	(2,460,160)		108,650,411	2,435,620
EXPENSES						
Governance	562,236	518,204	(44,032)	-8.50%	440,426	121,810
Administration	3,594,523	3,567,224	(27,299)	-0.77%	3,375,752	218,771
Instruction	79,951,619	77,556,541	(2,395,078)	-3.09%	77,711,891	2,239,728
Plant	15,353,446	16,638,656	1,285,210	7.72%	15,560,368	(206,922)
Transportation	7,577,847	7,827,227	249,380	3.19%	7,405,430	172,417
Tuition and Related Fees	121,592	69,072	(52,520)	-76.04%	81,100	40,492
School Generated Funds	2,648,660	2,300,000	(348,660)	-15.16%	2,351,613	297,047
Complementary Services	1,556,460	2,072,682	516,222	24.91%	1,906,312	(349,852)
External Services	2,536,789	2,239,265	(297,524)	-13.29%	5,251,526	(2,714,737)
Other Expenses	261	500	239	47.80%	600	(339)
Total Expenses	113,903,433	112,789,371	(1,114,062)		114,085,018	(181,585)
(Deficit) surplus for the Period	(2,817,402)	(4,163,500)	1,346,098		(5,434,607)	2,617,205
Accumulated Surplus, Beginning of Year	78,157,607	78,157,607			83,592,214	(5,434,607)
Accumulated Surplus, End of Period	75,340,205	73,994,107			78,157,607	(2,817,402)
Tangible Capital Assets						
Tangible Capital Assets - Beginning of Year	58,314,979	58,314,979	-	0.00%	62,768,547	
Tangible Capital Asset Purchases	2,076,273	1,244,500	(831,773)	-66.84%	(2,279,764)	
Amortization	(5,073,000)	(5,073,000)	-	0.00%	(2,173,804)	
Tangible Capital Assets - End of Period	55,318,252	54,486,479	(831,773)		58,314,979	

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
<i>Primary Policy Reference:</i>	<u>2.2</u>	

FROM: J. Pidborochynski, Chief Financial Officer **ATTACHMENTS**

BACKGROUND

RE: REQUEST FROM BUCKLAND FIRE AND RESCUE

Please find attached to this report the request of Buckland Fire and Rescue for the provision of a bus for training and enhancement of fire training and rescue techniques. The buses will be provided from our retired unit inventory.

The Board is to be kept apprised of any future media events or announcements.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receive the report.



PO Box 823
Prince Albert, SK, S6V 5S4
Phone: 306-922-3473
E-mail: info@bucklandfire.com

August 4, 2023

Attn: Neil Finch, Director of Education
545 11 Street East
Prince Albert, SK, S6V 1B1

RE: Bus Donation for Provincial Training Program

To whom it may concern,

Buckland Fire & Rescue has been awarded the one-time opportunity to receive provincially funded training through SGI and the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency. The Transportation Rescue Extrication Program offers training and equipment to Saskatchewan fire departments. This training course will be held at the Buckland Fire Hall from October 21-23, 2023. As part of the course requirements, we need to acquire one to two school busses to complete the training.

It would be greatly appreciated, if you are able to help with our request through a donation of one to two school busses. This course will be offered to members of Buckland Fire & Rescue and other surrounding departments. This training will ultimately provide greater community safety, including that of your students and staff.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact me.

Regards,

Paul See
Buckland Fire Chief
306-940-9609

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

Type of Meeting	Agenda Items	Intent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Board Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Item
<i>Primary Policy Reference:</i>	<u>2.8, 6.6, 8.14, 9.4</u>	

FROM: A. Nunn, Chair, Board Development Committee **ATTACHMENTS** [v]

BACKGROUND

RE: 2022-2023 BOARD DEVELOPMENT PLAN / BOARD ADVOCACY PLAN

The 2022-2023 Board Development Plan and the Board Advocacy Plan are attached for information and discussion. These plans will need to be reviewed and updated for the current school year.

RECOMMENDATION

For Board information and discussion.



2022-2023 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 Board Development Committee to draft the Board Development Plan, for the consideration of the Board annually (Policy 9.4).

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:

As per the Board Annual Work Plan, the Committee shall facilitate the completion and review of the Board Competency Matrix (Policy 9, Section 4.2.2) by September annually. A draft of the Board Development Plan will be brought back on an annual basis for consideration in November and for review in April. The Board Development Plan will be further strengthened through the Board's planned annual self-evaluation (Policy 8.13).

Guiding Principles:

The Board believes that an effective Board Development Plan will:

1. Strategically support the Three-Year Plan and the Education Sector Strategic Plan.
2. Utilize SSBA Board Development services and 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 2022-2023:

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

- **Communication:**
 - *Presenting with Confidence* - Monday, October 31, 2022

- **Audit/Budget**
 - *Legal/LAFOIP* - Monday, January 9, 2023 - LAFOIP (C. Trann)

 - *SSBA Finance workshop* - Monday, January 23, 2023 (C. Vu)

- **Time commitment/flexibility** – G. Campeau (two pm half days in April - Monday, April 17 and Monday, April 24, 2023)

- **Cross Cultural Competency**
 - Professional Development offered by the Elder’s Council
 - Sweat lodge Ceremony – May 2023
 - Land based learning- August/September 2023

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:

- Trustee Academy- TBD

- Johnson and Shoyama’s Public Sector Governance Program
<https://www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca/executive-education/public-sector-governance-program.php#NextProgramOfferings>

- Policy Workshop Series
<https://www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca/executive-education/policy-workshop-series.php#OurFacilitators>

- National Congress on Rural Education in Canada -TBD

- CSBA Annual Congress and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education 2023 – July 3-5, 2023

Financial: 2022-23 budget

\$2,010 per trustee Additional pool of \$6,000. The total PD budget is \$26,100 (\$2,010*10 + \$6,000).

2022-2023 Board Advocacy Plan

Background:

As part of the policy renewal process, the Board committed to developing an annual advocacy plan which is to be reviewed periodically and renewed on an annual basis. It is the responsibility of the Vice-Chair to lead the process of drafting and presenting the Board advocacy plan for the coming year and updating the Board regularly on progress (Policy 6.8).

Purpose:

The Board and individual trustees represent and promote the best interests of students through their interactions with families, the public, the media, community partners, provincial organizations and with various levels of government. It is the responsibility of the Board of Education to act as an advocate for students, to continually enhance their experiences, opportunities and wellbeing within the context and mandate of *The Education Act, 1995*. Ultimately, the purpose of advocacy is to influence education policy and to secure sufficient resources in order to meet local student needs identified by the Board of Education. Effective advocacy depends on consistency and persistence, as well as effective engagement.

The Board Advocacy Plan complements the existing Strategic Plan of the Board. It outlines general and specific actions that the Board can take to actualize the stated goals from the Board's strategic planning and guiding documents.

Process:

In June or August each year, the Board reviews the recent Advocacy Plan and has the opportunity to provide input into its renewal. Trustees' feedback forms the basis of the current plan, and there are opportunities throughout the year to provide further input into advocacy. The plan is revisited in November and again in March of each year, or as otherwise determined by the Board through its Annual Work Plan.

Long Term Goal Areas:

The Board identified areas for advocacy efforts align with the focus areas of the Strategic Plan. Advocacy in these areas (see details in Appendix A) occur as a matter of course in interactions with others and when opportunities present. The short-and medium-term goals and actions are outlined on the next pages.

- 1. Learning and Innovation**
- 2. Inclusion and Cultural Responsiveness**
- 3. Mental Health and Wellbeing**
- 4. Citizenship and Relationships**
- 5. Governance and Leadership**

Short Term Advocacy Targets (January 2023 to August 2023):

1. Secure new and sufficient funding to implement the new Provincial Education Plan

Actions/Activities

- (a) Meet with MLAs and Minister of Education to share concerns and request supports to support students in recovery from learning interrupted by COVID and specifically request sufficient funding to implement the new Provincial Education Plan.
- (b) Engage with School Community Councils (SCCs) and parents to ensure they are informed and encouraged to advocate for additional funding to implement the PEP.

2. Eliminate Grade 12 provincial examinations (departmental exams)

Actions/Activities

- (a) Request administration to acquire data (fiscal, academic, or other) that supports the goal of elimination.
- (b) Seek support from other school boards, SCCs, Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association and other organizations (providing rationale/data suggest actions they can take).
- (c) Meet with MLAs and Minister of Education to provide rationale/data and encouragement to end departmental exams in their current format.

3. Develop plans for the end of sexual violence in schools.

Actions/Activities

- (a) Identify board development activities to enhance Board understanding of sexual violence, consent education and related topics.
- (b) Request Ministry of Education include stronger curriculum content that promotes healthy behaviours and prevents sexual violence, especially in the absence of this content after grade 10.

Several of these seven activities will be pursued through three common actions:

- 1) Focused engagement with School Community Councils.
- 2) Meeting with local Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs).
- 3) Meeting with Minister of Education.

Medium Term Advocacy Priorities (12 – 24 Months)

These areas will be monitored over this school year and the next and actions will be taken as opportunities present themselves. When the Board reviews its Advocacy Plan in June 2023, short term actions for August-December 2023 will likely emerge from the following items:

1. Learning and Innovation Targets

1.1. Secure sustainable funding or in-kind support for SRPSD indigenous language programs.

Actions/Activities:

- (a) Meet with Minister of Education to promote and celebrate our current language programs and promote plan for future.
- (b) Explore partnerships First Nations and Métis and post-secondary organizations
- (c) Identify and communicate with potential corporate sponsors.
- (d) Locate and access federal or international funding programs that support indigenous language programs.

1.2. Use Federal, Provincial and local partnerships and innovations to enhance Early Learning opportunities.

Actions/Activities

- (a) Request the use of Federal allocation to develop a pilot program that provides childcare and provincially funded Pre-K program on alternate days.
- (b) Develop support from other school boards and submit an SSBA resolution to request Minister make full-time Kindergarten mandatory and provincially funded.
- (c) Meet with the Minister of Education to advocate for full day, every day Kindergarten and additional Prekindergarten programs in the school division.

2. Mental Health and Wellbeing Targets

2.1. Secure additional funds for next three years to support students recovering from the unfinished learning caused by the COVID disruptions.

Actions/Activities

- (a) Request report from senior administration outlining the scope and nature of the issue.
- (b) Meet with local human service agencies to build awareness and collaboration.
- (c) Meet with MLAs and Minister of Education to share concerns and request supports, and specifically request sufficient funding to implement the new Provincial Education Plan.

2.2. Establish schools as sites for more appropriate and accessible local mental health supports for students and families

Actions/Activities

- (a) Meet with local MLAs and the Ministers of Health and Education or government/secretariat/mental health action plan.
- (b) Communicate promote the school infrastructure in place to meet mental health needs and advocate for integrated delivery of mental health supports in schools.
- (c) Meet with local Health Region officials to strengthen mental health supports offered in schools, with particular attention to child and youth psychologist need.

Appendix A: **Long Term Advocacy Focus Areas & Broad Strategies**

1. Learning & Innovation

The Board of Education is committed to recognizing, enhancing and promoting learning and innovation opportunities in the school division and will continue to advocate for programs and resources that will enrich the academic experience for all students.

Broad Strategies:

- a) Advocate for additional Prekindergarten programs in the school division.
- b) Advocate for universal full day, every day Kindergarten in SRPSD schools.
- c) Promote the school division's current offerings: dual credit courses, e-learning, industry-specific training opportunities, program enhancement initiatives and strong academics.
- d) Engage post-secondary partners and advocate provincially for dual credit programs, locally developed programs and innovative partnerships that have a positive impact on student learning and transitions.
- e) Advocate provincially for renewal of graduation requirements that reflect the current and future needs of students.
- f) Develop local policy and write a letter to the Minister and Curriculum Committee to have this considered in the renewal of curriculum.
- g) Include parent engagement and student engagement in its advocacy efforts.

2. Inclusion and Cultural Responsiveness

Funding adequacy continues to be a primary concern of the Board of Education, especially as it relates to supporting vulnerable students. The school division has an inordinate number of students and families that are vulnerable. Striving to meet the complex needs of vulnerable students places extra demands on the school division budget, which are not fully recognized through provincial funding distribution. The Board affirms the need to continue to advocate for adequate resources for students with vulnerabilities in order to meet bold provincial and locally determined targets around student learning.

Broad Strategies:

- a) Share information relating to vulnerable student demographics and associated impacts on student learning and the school division budget at planned linkage meetings and with government throughout the year.
- b) Promote staff capacity-building programs that are having a positive impact on the learning and futures of vulnerable students.
- c) continue to respond to the calls to action in the Truth & Reconciliation Report and to be seen as champions of reconciliation.
- d) Advocate for fully resourced inclusive education at the provincial level and raise awareness with SSBA Executive and membership at provincial events.
- e) Advocate for a review of funding distribution weightings and factors that impact the division's capacity to actualize provincial and local plans to support vulnerable students.

- f) Share strategic goals and diverse stories of student success and anti-oppressive, anti-racist practices in student-first, plain language.
- g) Create a coalition of Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners to consider joint-advocacy efforts and initiatives (i.e. Action on TRC Calls, September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, June 21 National Aboriginal Day, and other opportunities).
- h) Establish advisory mechanisms to ensure the voice of LGBTQ2S+ community, persons with disabilities and other visible and invisible minorities is present in Board deliberations.

3. Mental Health & Well-Being

The Board of Education envisions and works towards communities where students, staff and families are supported to sustain and strengthen their resiliency and mental wellness. Proactive measures to preserve and support mental wellness

- a) Advocate for holistic interventions, supports and partnerships that address the root causes of academic disengagement: poverty, transience, marginalization, mental health and addictions.
- b) Meet annually with MLAs, MPs and Saskatchewan Health Authority leadership to advocate for sustainable, predictable and sufficient funding for mental health programs in schools.
- c) Recognize that schools are easily accessed sites for students to access mental health services and meet annually with MLAs and MPs to advocate for integrated service delivery of mental health supports in schools.
- d) Advocate to the ministries of health, education, social services and justice to raise awareness of local service capacity concerns.

4. Citizenship & Relationships

The Board of Education affirms the importance of public engagement and enhancing positive relationships with students, staff, parents and the public. Positive public relationships and the promotion of the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division's culture of excellence is seen by the Board as an integral part of advocating for students and providing local voice. It is also clear that effective relationships within schools and between schools and families are essential elements for student success. Advocacy will be helpful in strengthening the reciprocal connection between effective relationships and positive citizenship in students, staff and the public.

Broad Strategies:

- a) Continue to support diversity and the welcoming culture of Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division schools.
- b) Publicly recognize and highlight the achievements of all Governor General Award winners in each graduating class.
- c) Prioritize school community councils engagement and capacity building.
- d) Ensure the Board's Communications Committee considers Advocacy Plan goals in its actions.
- e) Continue to support the activities and effective operation of the Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change (SRSC) group and promote implementation of student voice/student leadership structures in other divisions and levels of government.

- f) Include a Communications or Key Messages component on each Board agenda.
- g) Promote the sharing of and response to the data gathered annually from the OurSchool parent survey and the results of the staff satisfaction survey conducted every three years.
- h) Meet annually with local post-secondary partners as part of its linkage meetings
- i) Promote its connection to and the messages of the Public Schools of Saskatchewan (Public Section) that promote the value of public education.

5. Governance and Leadership

The Board of Education believes in the importance of strong local voice and takes seriously its role to provide open and accountable leadership. This includes maintaining strong relationships with the Ministry of Education and seeking out opportunities to engage directly with the Minister and/or Ministry of Education on educational matters. The foundational statements of the board outlined in Policy 1 articulate the Board's beliefs in local government.

Broad Strategies:

- a) Advocate for sufficient needs-based funding, through letter or meetings with the Minister and MLAs, in order to meet student needs and actualize local/provincial goals.
- b) Advocate for a Ministerial review of Sections 55 to 58 of the School Division Administration Regulations, 2017 as they relate to school review, enrolment thresholds and the geographical proximity of schools.
- c) Publicly recognize the strong stewardship of the school division's facilities and maintenance record and advocate for continued provincial support for preventative maintenance funding.
- d) Lobby locally and provincially for a provincial capital infrastructure renewal plan that recognizes the unique context of rural schools.
- e) Advocate for local voice in education by developing local campaigns that contribute to SSBA advocacy initiatives such as Local Voices, Local Choices and Local Government Week (in November annually).
- f) Lobby for flexible and sufficient governance funding to provide effective local voice.
- g) Submit a resolution to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association to restore provincial funding to support school board trustees in becoming certified governance professionals.
- h) Consider the establishment of a local initiative to encourage trustees to become certified professionals in governance.
- i) Seek out formal and informal opportunities to work jointly with the Minister of Education and/or Ministry of Education officials.
- j) Communicate key messages around the strength, stewardship and importance of locally-elected trustees and autonomous boards of education in the province.
- k) Lobby for strategic and targeted funding to address accessibility issues in schools and monitor/respond to the development of provincial accessibility legislation.

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