

Board of Education of Saskatoon School Division No. 13

Meeting of the Saskatoon Board of Education

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

310 – 21ST Street East – 6:30 p.m. – W.B. Doyle Board Room

Please note that all public board meetings are video recorded and [live streamed](#).

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Acknowledgement

3. Agenda

3.1. Adoption of Agenda

Proposed Board Motion: *Move approval of the agenda.*

3.2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4. Celebrating Excellence

4.1. Student Voice – Using Verso as an Engagement Tool

5. Consent Items

The Chair will ask for a motion to receive the items, and to approve all recommendations contained therein. Prior to approving the motion, any trustee may request that a consent item be removed.

Proposed Board Motion: *That the board approve the consent items as presented.*

5.1. Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2025

Proposed Board Motion (if removed from consent items): *That the board approve the minutes of the committee of the whole and regular board meetings held February 11, 2025.*

5.2. Secure Destruction of Records

Proposed Board Motion (if removed from consent items): *That the board approve the secure destruction of 153 boxes of accounting files from 2010 through 2017, and 10 boxes of employee files from 2017 that are eligible for destruction per the SSBA Records Retention and Disposal Guide (Sept. 2019).*

6. Reports from Administrative Staff

Information

6.1. **Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Update and Annual Report 2023-2024 Annual Report**

6.2. **Tariff Impact Update**

Decision

6.3. **Strategic Plan Accountability Report: Character and Engagement**

Proposed Board Motion: *That the board approve the Strategic Plan Accountability Report: Character and Engagement, to be included as part of the director of education's 2024-2025 evaluation.*

7. **Delegation**

8. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

9. **Unfinished Business**

9.1. **Items Arising from the Committee of the Whole**

10. **Reports of Trustees**

11. **New Business**

11.1. **2024 School Board Election Invoice**

Proposed Board Motion: *That the board approve the payment of \$ 426,347.06 to the City of Saskatoon for 2024 election expenses.*

11.2. **Election – Candidate Disclosure Forms**

12. **Notices of Motion**

13. **Questions by Trustees**

14. **Comments and Questions from the Public (must be related to a specific agenda item)**

- Members of the public will have five minutes each to ask their question or make comments, for a total of 20 minutes per meeting.
- All comments or questions about specific agenda items must be submitted in writing by noon the day before the meeting being considered. If the Monday before the Tuesday board meeting is a statutory holiday, the request must be submitted by noon the Friday before the meeting.
- Information on the process for speaking at a board meeting can be found at [Board Meetings - Saskatoon Public Schools \(spsd.sk.ca\)](https://www.spsd.sk.ca/BoardMeetings).

15. **Adjournment**

Proposed Board Motion: *That the board adjourn to the call of the chair or the board meeting of Tuesday, April 15, 2025.*



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: STUDENT VOICE – USING VERSO AS AN ENGAGEMENT TOOL

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Celebrating Excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

Academic excellence, character, engagement, and well-being of students are at the heart of Saskatoon Public Schools' strategic plan. The plan highlights our vision of each student being known, valued and believed in. It emphasizes Saskatoon Public Schools' commitment to creating learning experiences that inspire all students to reach their potential and the importance of relationships, equity and accountability.

CURRENT STATUS

Bedford Road Collegiate has been a Following Their Voices school since 2014. Following Their Voices (FTV) seeks education that promotes accelerated learning with a focus on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students where learning is joyful, culture is affirmed, and students are given real choice for their future. In 2023-2024, Bedford Road piloted the Verso suite of tools along with six other FTV schools across the province. This year, all Following Their Voices schools in Saskatoon Public Schools (SPS) are using Verso with students. These SPS schools include Mount Royal Collegiate, Bedford Road Collegiate and King George School. The Verso tools are three-fold, offering teachers the opportunity to increase clarity of learning outcomes (Clarity Pack tool), invite students to share how their learning is going (Student Check-in tool), and effectively collaborate as colleagues (Peer Observation tool). Additionally, the tool is being piloted by teachers as part of a provincial strategy at Caroline Robins School.

Leanne Kadyschuk, educational consultant and Mike Waldron, a teacher from Bedford Road Collegiate will share about the why of the tool, including the imperative for teacher clarity and feedback for increased effectiveness. Then they will showcase how each of the tools function including the positive impact on targeted responsiveness to students. Lastly, they will show the teacher dashboard of student results and how this can be used to influence increased student engagement.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Brent Hills, Deputy Director of Education Colleen Norris, Superintendent of Education	February 26, 2025	None



SASKATOON BOARD OF EDUCATION

5.1

MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Approval of Minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

CURRENT STATUS

Attached are the minutes from the February 11, 2025 committee of the whole and regular board meetings.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Daniel Burke, Chief Financial Officer	February 25, 2025	Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

Proposed Board Motion (if removed from consent items):

That the board approve the minutes of the committee of the whole and regular board meetings held February 11, 2025.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saskatoon School Division No. 13 of Saskatchewan, held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Members Present: Board Chair Kim Stranden, Trustees Angela Arneson, Donna Banks, Kirk Jones, Vernon Linklater, Tanya Napper, Anne-Marie Rollo, Jennifer Scherman, Kevin Schmidt, Ross Tait

Regrets: No regrets

Following discussions in Committee of the Whole, Trustee Banks moved that the board rise and report. CARRIED (10)

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of the Saskatoon School Division No. 13 of Saskatchewan, held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Board Chair Kim Stranden, Trustees Angela Arneson, Donna Banks, Kirk Jones, Vernon Linklater, Tanya Napper, Anne-Marie Rollo, Jennifer Scherman, Kevin Schmidt, Ross Tait

Regrets: No regrets this evening

1. Roll Call

2. Acknowledgement

Chair Stranden called the meeting to order, read the roll call into the minutes, acknowledged that the meeting was being held on Treaty Six territory and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Nakoda, Lakota, Dakota and Sauteaux nations, and the homeland of the Métis and Michif people.

3. Adoption of Agenda and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Napper moved approval of the agenda

CARRIED (10)

There were no conflicts of interest declared by any board members.

4. Celebrating Excellence – Montessori Programming in Saskatoon Public Schools

Superintendent Haywood introduced principal Shauna Strueby, teacher Amber Nikolaisen and student Atlas Mah who is in Grade 6 in the Montessori program at City Park School. Amber Nikolaisen talked about how the work cycle in the program helps build confidence in students and teaches them essential skills. Atlas Mah talked about how the work cycle in the program helped him stay productive and the tasks placed on the board at the beginning of the week gave him the ability to learn time management. Atlas also gave the board a demonstration with a multiplication board.

5. Consent Items

Trustee Arneson requested agenda item #5.2 Correspondence be removed from the consent item listing.

- 5.1. Approval of Minutes: Trustee Arneson moved that the board approve the minutes of the committee of the whole and regular board meetings held January 14, 2025.

CARRIED (10)

6. Reports from Administrative Staff

Information

- 6.1. City Centre School Project Update was presented for information.
- 6.2. Tariff Impact Discussion was presented for information.
- 6.3. Supports for Learning and John Dolan Financial Deficit was presented for information.

Decision

- 6.4. Strategic Plan Accountability Report: Early Learning: Trustee Jones moved that the board approve the Strategic Plan Accountability Report: Early Learning, to be included as part of the director of education's 2024-2025 evaluation.

CARRIED (10)

7. Delegations

No delegations.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the minutes.

9. Unfinished Business

- 9.1. Request for Proposal - Stationary Supplies: Trustee Schmidt moved the board approve the contract for stationary supplies for five years with two one-year options, starting March 1, 2025, and ending February 28, 2030, to Novexco Inc. operating under the brand name Hamster, based on their proposal dated November 20, 2024.

CARRIED (10)

- 9.2. Request for Proposal T2425-0004 – Caretaking/Janitorial Supplies: Trustee Tait moved that that the board approve the contract for caretaking and janitorial supplies for three years, starting March 1, 2025, and ending February 28, 2028, to Swish Maintenance Limited and Imperial Dade Canada Inc., based on their proposals dated December 11, 2024. CARRIED (10)
- 9.3. Tender Results: Aden Bowman Collegiate Replacement of Roof Section 9: Trustee Tait moved that the board award the tender for the Aden Bowman Roof Replacement project in the total amount of \$683,603.25 plus applicable taxes (for the base price only) to Seal It Up Roofing Ltd. CARRIED (10)
- 9.4. Tender Results: Bedford Road Collegiate Replacement of Roof Section 1 and 1A: Trustee Linklater moved that the board award the tender for the Bedford Road Roof Replacement project in the total amount of \$417,271.83 plus applicable taxes (for base price only) to Seal It Up Roofing Ltd. CARRIED (10)
- 9.5. Tender Results: Evan Hardy 2025 Various Improvements: Trustee Scherman moved that the board award the tender for Evan Hardy 2025 Various Improvements project in total amount of \$703,158.21 plus applicable taxes (includes base price and separate prices 1a,1b, 3, 4 and 5) to Wells Construction Inc. CARRIED (10)
- 9.6. Tender Results: Prince Philip 2025 Exterior Façade Upgrade Phase 2: Trustee Rollo moved that the board award the tender for Prince Phillip 2025 Exterior Façade Upgrade Phase 2 project in the total amount of \$605,514.05 plus applicable taxes (includes base price and separate prices 1, 2 and 3 only) to Saskatoon Fire & Flood Ltd. CARRIED (10)
- 9.7. Board Subcommittee Minutes: Trustee Banks moved that the board approve the minutes of the Board Governance Committee meeting of September 24, 2024. CARRIED (10)

10. Reports of Committees and Trustees

- Trustee Arneson reported on attending the School Community Council meetings for all her schools: Sylvia Fedoruk School, Centennial Collegiate, Willowgrove School and Dr. John J. Egnatoff School. She also reported on attending the School Community Council Assembly meeting. Trustee Arneson talked about the concerns from her constituents regarding the removal of the “I’m the boss of me” programming.
- Trustee Schmidt reported on his attendance at the School Community Council/ SPC meeting at Colette Bourgonje School and his tour of John Dolan School, Hugh Cairns V.C. School Indigenous Knowledge Day, SSBA School for New Trustees. He also attended the MIT Basketball tournament and was on the panel for elementary school principal selection.

- Trustee Rollo reported on her attendance at School Community Council, which included Evan Hardy Collegiate and is looking forward to a tour of Jim Pattison Children’s Hospital.
- Trustee Tait reported on his attendance at School Community Council meetings.
- Trustee Jones reported on a meeting with the principal at Holliston School, the MIT Basketball Tournament, SSBA School for New Trustees and a School Community Council meeting at Brevoort Park School. He also reported on his meeting with the University of Saskatchewan Professor Jerry Stiller regarding up-and-coming teacher candidates.
- Board Chair Stranden reported on her attendance at Ernest Lindner School’s School Community Council meeting, School Community Council Assembly and Board Chair Council Meeting.
- Trustee Scherman reported on attending Silverspring School Community Council Meeting, Silverwood School Math and Muffins event and a few elementary school basketball games. She reported on visiting Marion M. Graham Collegiate, the Heritage Chinese Language School New Years Celebration and SSBA School for New Trustees. Trustee Scherman is also attending the Johnson Shoyama Governance Program. She also wanted to acknowledge Staff Appreciation week.
- Trustee Banks reported on her attendance at the SSBA Executive meeting, School Community Council meeting at Fairhaven School, potluck supper for EAL students and families at Lester B. Pearson School. She also reported on attending wâhkôhtowin’s School Community Council meeting, SSBA Indigenous Council meeting, SSBA School for New Trustees and Tommy Douglas Collegiate Improv Night. She also attended the School Community Council Assembly meeting, Fortress Council meeting, was on the secondary vice principal selection and Tommy Douglas Collegiate Open House. Trustee Banks also attended the MIT Basketball Tournament.
- Trustee Linklater reported on his attendance at the Indigenous Council meeting and the online School Community Council Assembly meeting.
- Trustee Napper reported on her attendance at École Henry Kelsey Community Council meeting, École Forest Grove School event Pay Day/Play Day, SSBA School for New Trustees, School Community Council Assembly, she was on the panel for the secondary principal selection and the Johnson Shoyama Governance Course.

11. New Business

- 11.1. 2025-2026 Academic Calendar: Trustee Jones moved that the board approve the proposed 2025-2026 school year calendar. CARRIED (10)

12. Notices of Motion: There were no notices of motion this evening.

13. Questions by Trustees: There were no questions from trustees this evening.

14. Comments/Concerns/Questions from the Public: There were no comments/concerns/questions from the public.

15. Adjournment

Trustee Napper moved that the board adjourn to the call of the chair or the board meeting of Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

CARRIED (10)

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Secretary of the School Division

Board Chair



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: SECURE DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

Based on Administrative Procedure 175: Preservation and Disposal of Records, and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association’s (SSBA) Records Retention and Disposal Guide (Sept 2019), certain records are eligible for destruction.

The following boxes (153) of accounting files from 2010 through 2017 are eligible for destruction (boxes were smaller starting in 2016-2017, resulting in more boxes this year compared to prior requests):

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Supplies Invoices (Operating, Capital, US)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Cheque Registers and Returned Cheques	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Journal Entries and Related Support Documents					x	x	x
School Generated Funds					x	x	x
Bank Statements and Reconciliations					x	x	x
Receipts and Back-Up					x	x	x
Tax Documents					x	x	x
Financial Adhoc Reports	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Audit Support					x	x	

The following boxes (10) of employee files from 2017 are eligible for destruction:

- three boxes of non-teacher/SCEA/CUPE 8443 files
- one box of support staff sub files
- three boxes of teacher sub files
- three boxes of teacher files

Saskatoon Public Schools has a contract with Access (formerly known as Crown Enterprises) for secure destruction that adheres to the policies and guidelines of both our school division and the SSBA.

CURRENT STATUS

A motion is required to securely destroy 153 boxes of accounting files from 2010 through 2017, and 10 boxes of employee files from 2017 that are eligible for destruction per the SSBA Records Retention and Disposal Guide (Sept. 2019).

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Jason Dunk, Chief Technology Officer	February 26, 2025	None

RECOMMENDATION

Proposed Board Motion (if removed from consent items):

That the board approve the secure destruction of 153 boxes of accounting files from 2010 through 2017, and 10 boxes of employee files from 2017 that are eligible for destruction per the SSBA Records Retention and Disposal Guide (Sept. 2019).



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION UPDATE
AND ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Celebrating Excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

The Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation (SPSF) is an independent charity working in partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools to support students, schools, and teachers with a focus on literacy, wellness, and innovation while recognizing the vital role that public education plays in our society.

The Saskatoon Board of Education is the sole member of the Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp.

CURRENT STATUS

Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation celebrated a major milestone in June 2024 with the completion of the \$20M Early Learning Equal Start (ELES) Campaign. ELES funds full-day, everyday kindergarten in 25 schools (29 programs), Page Turners and Camp Brain Power. Through additional funding, SPSF launched a significant awareness campaign throughout Saskatchewan prior to the November 2024 provincial election.

SPSF also fundraises and supports other essential programs such as Canpotex Cheer Crates, Power Up Projects and All In for Literacy Day. SPSF has also partnered with SPS Public Health Agency of Canada grant – Good Food for Learning Project.

SPSF continues to meet with the provincial government to secure funding for full-day, everyday kindergarten. ELES funding as it currently stands will run out June 2026.

SPSF is grateful to Saskatoon Public Schools' trustees and the entire school division for their commitment to the organization.

Attached is a copy of the 2023-2024 Report Card for Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation Corp. Zeba Ahmad, CEO, SPSF, will be in attendance to provide an update on current activities and goals and present the 2023-2024 Report Card to the board.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Shane Skjerven, Director of Education Zeba Ahmad, Chief Executive Officer, Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation	February 26, 2025	2023-2024 SPSF Report Card



Saskatoon Public
Schools Foundation



Report Card

2023-2024





Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation



Pictured left to right

Front: Rylund Hunter, Fatima Coovadia, Allison McMillan, Stephanie Yong, Zeba Ahmad

Back: Dylan Smith Charlene Scrimshaw, Brennen Mills, Colleen MacPherson, Michael Pidwerbeski, Brooke Klassen, Barry MacDougall, Marla Adams

Not pictured: Michael Linklater, Christine Marie, Shane Skjerven

Outgoing Board Members: Wayne Brownlee, Nicola Bishop-Yong

Advisory Members: Daniel Burke, Wayne Brownlee, Ray Morrison, Janet Uchacz-Hart, Jesse Radu, Matt Coutts.

Volunteer Board Chair and CEO Message

SPSF operates on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries in the past and the imprints we'll make together going forward. We give thanks to this traditional land.

Children represent the future. When we look at children, we see unlimited potential and that fills us with a sense of hope. The goal of Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation (SPSF) is to ensure that every single child has the opportunity and ability to reach their full potential. This is without a doubt a bold and challenging goal. It intersects and is impacted by factors and forces outside the control of a school foundation, or an education system more generally. Nonetheless, it is our duty to pursue it. We at SPSF believe that early education is our best avenue to pursue that goal, that it can be the difference between children having an opportunity to succeed or not.

The research is clear, if a child does not achieve grade three reading level by the end of the third grade, they become four times less likely to graduate high school.

At present, approximately 30% of children in Saskatchewan do not reach this critical benchmark, with that number rising to nearly 60% in certain neighbourhoods and communities across the province. The outcome is that 5000 students every year in Saskatchewan do not graduate from high school on time.

We challenge you to ask yourself:

1. Have we, as a society, set up those 5000 students for success?
2. How does this trend impact the social and economic realities in our communities? What will that impact look like if the trend continues?
3. What can be done to help?

This past year, SPSF further expanded Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten to 29 programs in 25 schools. As a result, almost 700 young learners and their families benefit from full-day early education programming, every day of the week. This is made possible by the remarkable success of Early Learning Equal Start. Thanks to committed donors we met our fundraising goal and raised over \$20 million to date! We are proud of and thankful to all of the generous donors who have made that investment on behalf of our community.

We believe all children in Saskatchewan should have the opportunity to attend and benefit from Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten. Data shows that children who attend Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten have better educational outcomes than the children who attend half-day. Over 80% of Saskatchewan residents support reinstating public funding for full-day, everyday kindergarten. Our children deserve better.

While we continue to fundraise in order to deliver our Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten program, we strongly believe that this is an educational initiative that should be offered to all students across the province, funded by the Government of Saskatchewan. Despite several conversations with the Government of Saskatchewan, there has been no progress on seeing this exceedingly important (and popular) initiative implemented. Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten is the SPSF plan, and we invite the Government of Saskatchewan to make it their plan.

The work of Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation would not be possible without the generous support of our donors and fully committed teachers and staff of Saskatoon Public Schools. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you. SPSF Board and Staff remain fiercely committed to ensuring students have opportunities and tools they need to prosper. We are determined to fight for the future of every single child. The staff of SPSF is small in numbers, but mighty in enthusiasm and effort. We are in the business of changing lives and the work of our staff and our Board continues to amaze and inspire! Thank you!

The role of SPSF is to support students, particularly those who require additional assistance for a variety of reasons. But of equal importance, is our role in educating and advocating within the community regarding the value of investing in our children. We invite you to read through our Report Card and see how your donations are supporting students, families and staff of SPS.

Imagine a future where all students in Saskatchewan were able to realize their full potential. Now, let's make that a reality.

RYLUND HUNTER, Volunteer Board Chair

ZEBA AHMAD, CEO

SPSF Team



SPSF staff and summer assistants, Teah Lennea and Jesslyn Leibel



Pictured left to right: Krysta Shacklock, Zeba Ahmad, Debra Lishchynsky, Carly Fuentealba

SASKATCHEWAN HAS A LITERACY PROBLEM

Kids aren't achieving the key milestone of Grade 3 reading level by Grade 3. This makes them 4x less likely to graduate.

THE SOLUTION:

Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten makes a difference.

Research shows over 80% of Saskatchewan children that have attended Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten achieved Grade 3 reading level by Grade 3.

WHERE WE ARE:

Through the generosity of donors, SPSF currently provides funding for 29 full-day, everyday kindergarten programs in 25 Saskatoon Public Schools.

We're seeing the benefits and positive impact of this initiative for **over 700 learners!**



WHAT WE KNOW:

28%

Every year, more than 28% of students have not achieved grade-level literacy by Grade 3

3RD

Saskatchewan has the 3rd lowest literacy rates in Canada

4x
LESS
LIKELY

Grade 3 literacy is a critical marker; kids are 4x less likely to graduate if they haven't achieved it



Low literacy is linked to poor health, poverty, high unemployment and crime rates

60%

In many neighbourhoods, across Saskatchewan, up to 60% of students do not achieve the critical milestone of grade-level literacy

HERE'S WHY:

- ✓ Improved literacy
- ✓ Fun, positive learning experience
- ✓ Easier transition to Grade 1
- ✓ Save money on daycare
- ✓ Open up childcare spots

Imagine a Saskatchewan where all students are able to realize their full potential, graduate and contribute to the economy.

EARLY LEARNING EQUAL START

2023–2024

Funds 3 Key Initiatives:

- Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten
- Page Turners (on Page 10)
- Camp Brain Power (on Page 11)

Full-Day, Everyday Kindergarten SPS schools:

- Brevoort Park
- Brownell
- Buena Vista
- Caroline Robins
- Caswell
- College Park
- Dundonald
- Fairhaven x2
- Forest Grove
- Holliston
- Howard Coad
- James L. Alexander
- John Lake
- King George
- Lawson Heights
- Lester B. Pearson x2
- Mayfair
- North Park Wilson
- Roland Michener
- Sutherland x2
- Vincent Massey
- Wâhkôhtowin
- Westmount
- Wildwood
- W.P. Bate x2



The Kindergarteners of 2023/24 are the class of 2036. That is only if we help them learn and stay on track to graduate, which involves achieving grade-level literacy skills by Grade 3.

2036

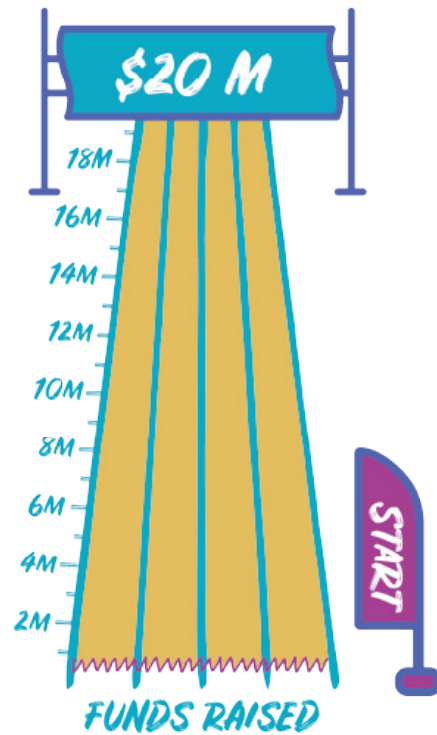
THE VICTORY LAP

The Early Learning Equal Start campaign was launched in 2020 with an ambitious goal of raising \$20 million to support literacy within Saskatoon Public Schools. We have reached that milestone and are running our Victory Lap! While we have reached our goal, we are still far from being done!



Thank you to Campaign Co-Chairs

Michael Linklater, Alice Kuipers, and Wayne Brownlee— alongside 18 Full-Day, Every Day Kindergarten classes. Students engaged in activity stations focused on SPSF’s pillars: Literacy, Wellness, and Innovation.



THE VICTORY LAP

DONOR WALL

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Thank you to all our Early Learning Equal Start donors for your support. Because of you we have reached our goal of raising \$20 Million!

**BROWNLEE FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

BHP

**JOHN & CATHIE
ESTEY**

**ROBERT & SANDRA
STROMBERG**

**JERRY & TINA
GRANDEY**



**ALICE KUIPERS &
YANN MARTEL**



**GREG PORTER &
PATTY KIRK-PORTER**

**COLLEEN &
WALLY MAH**

**PATRICK BOOT &
CATHERINE WEENK**



**CATHY & KEITH
MARTELL**



**DANDAN XIANG &
BAI YUGUANG**



**CHRISTOPHER
BURLEY**



**GREGORY &
OLIVIA YUEL**

**LYLE & CAROL
MINOGUE**

**MONIKA
VISVANATHA**

**GRANT & SHANNON
ISAAC**

**DON & CAROLINE
GORSALITZ**

**MIKE
LEVINE**

**ZEB
AHMAD**

**GARTH
MACDONALD**

**MARLA & SETH
ADAMS**



**RHONDA &
GREG KELLER**

**ANNE
NEUFELD**

**ALICE
LABERGE**



**MARK & BRETT
THOMPSON**

**GARNET & SHIRLEY
MORRIS**

**BARRY & LAURIE
GREEN FAMILY**

**GLENN &
JODI WIG**



**ALLISON STROMBERG &
TERRY JOHNSON**



**SHERYL
RIIS**

**LOREN
MACLENNAN**

**MICHAEL
LINKLATER**



**MARY & TONY
BANKS FUND**



**GORDON & MAUREEN
HADDOCK**

**PETER
MARTIN**

**ANITA
CHAKRAVARTI**

**BROOKE
KLASSEN**

**MARY
MOGFORD**



**JEFF
MONTGOMERY**



**STEPHANIE
HUGHES**

**DAVID & CATE
SOFFER**

**JUDY & MIKE
THIESSON**

**ASIT & ILA
SARKAR**

**LEANNE
BELLEGARDE, KC**

**RAY & CINDY
MORRISON**

**MARY'S HOPE
FOUNDATION INC.**

**SHANNON &
RYAN ROGAL**

**SAKEENA
AKHTAR**

**IRIS
NIKOLAICHUK**

**JIM
JUTRAS**

**DR. THOMAS
WILSON**

**RICH CHAPMAN &
ANDREA JORDE**

**BARRY
CHAPMAN**

**STEPHANIE
YONG**

**GARY
SMITH**

**CHERYL
SUTHERLAND**

**EMERALD
PUBLISHING**

**HERB
MCAULL**

**DARIEN
MOORE**

**JESSE RADU &
LAURA OLSON**

**RYLUND
HUNTER**

**VERONIQUE
LOEWEN**

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF
CANADA DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION**



EARLY LEARNING EQUAL START

ALL IN

Join Us.

Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation is going All In to build an endowment to ensure all students have equal opportunity for learning success. You can help make that change!

Every Dollar Matters

Please help us build a \$5 Million All In Endowment to continue the important work of Early Learning Equal Start.

Establish a legacy of readers

Equal learning is a fundamental right. Early childhood literacy is the foundation for preventing poverty, improving health, and building strong economies.

How you can help			Monthly Contribution
Nutrition		1 Student for 1 Day	\$10
Camp Brain Power		1 Student for 1 Day	\$25
Page Turners		1 Student for 1 Day of Tutoring	\$50
Cheer Crate		for 1 Family	\$100

DID YOU KNOW A CHILD WHO ISN'T READING AT GRADE LEVEL BY GRADE 3 IS 4X LESS LIKELY TO GRADUATE?



Every contribution empowers a student to succeed.

Sign up for monthly giving!



EARLY LEARNING EQUAL START

ALL IN

All In for Literacy Day September 28th, 2023

All In for Literacy Day celebrates education and the hard work of the schools and teachers by providing a fun and educational day for students while bringing awareness to the daily challenges faced in our schools and community.

We partner with local businesses and community partners to create a special day for all. The block outside the Saskatoon Public Schools Board of Education building is closed to traffic, and over 500 students from Saskatoon Public Elementary Schools are invited downtown for a “street-fair” with activities and performances centered around literacy, innovation, wellness, and reconciliation.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, All In for Literacy Day is free for all attending schools with bussing, food, and take-home items.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



mutual insurance



"THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!"
- TEACHER, MAYFAIR COMMUNITY SCHOOL



PAGE TURNERS

546 STUDENTS

For 2023-24 SPSF was proud to offer this vital program in all eligible Saskatoon Public Elementary Schools to **546 students**.



Launched in 2013 to address literacy and equity needs, Page Turners, now part of Early Learning Equal Start, invites struggling readers in Grades 2-3 to be paired with retired master-level teachers to help them progress toward grade-level reading while improving confidence and skills. Students who would benefit from tutoring are invited to participate in an 8 week session over 24 hours of tailored 1-on-1 instruction.

In 2023-2024, tutored **students achieved over a year's growth** in reading proficiency on average.

POWER UP PROJECTS

Each year SPSF provides grants to classrooms and schools for innovative and supplemental projects that provide unique learning opportunities for students.

\$40,850

awarded to **12 innovative projects** in 2023-24.

Power Up Projects Highlights:

- ✓ \$1500 - Vincent Massey School - Cougar Coffee Cart
- ✓ \$1500 - Marion M. Graham Collegiate - MMGCI School Store
- ✓ \$2000 - Estey School - ACTIVATE
- ✓ \$2500 - Lester B. Pearson School - Garden Boxes Upgraded with Irrigation System
- ✓ \$2500 - Sylvia Fedoruk School - Elders in the Classroom
- ✓ \$2850 - Lakeridge School and Willowgrove School - 3-Day Culture Camp at Brightwater
- ✓ \$3000 - City Park School and Sylvia Fedoruk School - Circus Arts
- ✓ \$5000 - Nutana Collegiate - Indigenous Science Integrated Course
- ✓ \$5000 - Mount Royal Collegiate - Project Horse Power
- ✓ \$5000 - Bedford Road Collegiate - Hand-Drum Making
- ✓ \$5000 - Centennial Collegiate - Mechatronics Inventor's Kit
- ✓ \$5000 - Montgomery School - Laser Cutter



Since 2013 Camp Brain Power connects Grades 1-3 students with a quality weeklong summer camp program to focus on their literacy skills, physical activity, engagement and well-being. Held August 12-16, Camp Brain Power helps ensure students enter school in the fall with confidence and renewed enthusiasm.

Camp Brain Power is offered completely free for all students within Saskatoon Public Schools. Lunch and snacks provided daily with support from the Summer Snack Program.



BHP



TD READY COMMITMENT

DAKOTA DUNES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SPSF thanks BHP and TD Ready Commitment for their multi-year contribution to Camp Brain Power.

Nutritional Support



Over **1,000,000 breakfasts, lunches, and snacks** were served in 2023-24 to approximately **5000 students**.



Nutrien generously contributed \$150,000 to the Nutrien Food4Thought Program which supported 13 elementary and 5 secondary schools.

Additional donors:

- ✓ Sunrise Foods International
- ✓ SaskMilk
- ✓ SIGA
- ✓ Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation



Good Food For Learning – Growing Universal Lunches in Saskatoon:

In partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools, CHEP, the University of Saskatchewan, and Sask Polytechnic SPSF was awarded a **\$2.9 Million multi-year grant** from the Public Health Agency of Canada to launch and grow a universal lunch program in Saskatoon Public Schools.



Twice a year SPSF assembles and delivers Cheer Crates to Saskatoon Public Schools families identified by staff as requiring extra support during school breaks. In October and February, over 1500 families received a Canpotex Cheer Crate thanks to the generosity of corporate and individual donors, teachers, and our many volunteers.

Each Canpotex Cheer Crate is valued at over \$100 and consists of food including dairy products, eggs, bread, fruits and vegetables, cereal and canned goods, as well as books, hygiene items and fun activities for the whole family.



Thank you to Canpotex for their generous multi year gift to fund groceries for Cheer Crates



SPSF hosted the 4th annual Spring for our Students online auction in support of essential literacy, wellness, and innovation initiatives within Saskatoon Public Schools. Spring for our Students provides a unique opportunity to offer auction packages that celebrate the season while supporting students and recognizing local businesses.



Thanks to the **Sargeant Hugh Cairns VC Armoury** personnel, over **100 volunteers** including various local companies and the **Saskatoon Industry Education Council** team.

Additional donors:

- ✓ Federated Co-operatives
- ✓ Saskatoon Co-op
- ✓ Saskatchewan Egg Producers
- ✓ Saskatchewan Health Authority
- ✓ Our Lady of the Prairies Foundation

After receiving her Canpotex Cheer Crate, a young mother and Saskatoon Public high school student called to personally thank the Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation (SPSF):

“She was crying and at a loss for words... Cheer Crate will make a huge difference for her and her daughter, and she is so so grateful. She couldn’t believe how amazing everything was!”

Event Sponsor:



SPSF Champions:

Sarah Tehseen, City Park Vet, Kindrachuk Agrey Architecture, SaskTel

Friends of SPSF:

Connect Energy, Core Benefits and Leipert Financial Group, Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation, Konica Minolta, Mega Group, SIGA

LIGHTLY GRILLED

PRESENTED BY GRAHAM



GRILLEE

Christian Braid
Marion M. Graham Grad '99



EAT. DRINK. LAUGH.

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

RARE 🔥🔥🔥

Graham Group

MEDIUM RARE 🔥🔥

Saskatoon Fire & Flood

MEDIUM WELL 🔥🔥

NexGen Energy, Dakota Dunes CDC, MNP, Victory Majors, Robertson Stromberg

WELL DONE 🔥

SIGA, Assante Wealth Management, BDO, North Ridge Development Corp, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Aero Delivery, Echo Properties

IN-KIND

MD Mechanical, SIEC, RSVP Event Design, Studio 54, Great Western Beer, Stella's Baklava, POP Wine Bar, Boryski's Butcher Block, Saskatoon Club, TCU Place, Sasktel Centre

LIGHTLY GRILLED COMMITTEE: Brennen Mills, George Rathwell, Robin Koroluk, Stella Spanos, Curtis Korchinski, Christian Braid, Janet Uchaz-Hart, Crystal MacLeod, Lauren Rennie, Carly Mysko, Zeba Ahmad.

The 11th annual Lightly Grilled, held May 24th, welcomed Christian Braid, Marion M. Graham Grad '99 and owner of Braid Flooring & Window Fashions, as our "Grillee" on the hot seat! Guests were entertained by "Grillers" Aaron Loraas, Brett Marcoux and John Nasser, while emcee, Tiffany Paulsen, led the evening's program.

A NEW RECORD
\$164,023 RAISED!

Thank You to Our Community Contributors:

- ✓ Brent Hills
- ✓ Catherine Weenk and Pat Boot
- ✓ Chelsea Schemenauer
- ✓ Cheryl Sutherland
- ✓ Cindilee Hayden
- ✓ Cora Weenk and James Yausie
- ✓ Corteva Agriscience Canada Company
- ✓ Dakota Dunes CDC
- ✓ Lloyd Inman
- ✓ Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan
- ✓ Marilyn Vaughan
- ✓ Montgomery Agencies Ltd.
- ✓ Our Lady of the Prairies Foundation
- ✓ SIGA
- ✓ Saskatoon Community Foundation
- ✓ Saskatoon Fire and Flood
- ✓ Shane Skjerven
- ✓ Shannon Rogal
- ✓ Sheila May
- ✓ Imagine That Media YXE
- ✓ Thomas and Merne Wilson
- ✓ Tony and Mary Banks Fund
- ✓ Wanuskewin Collective
- ✓ Brownlee Family Foundation
- ✓ Westburne Midwest
- ✓ William Cameron
- ✓ Nutrien
- ✓ Zeba Ahmad

Donations in Memory:

Deborah Sinclair
Doreen Walker
Justin Swan
Linda Inman

The Miller Family -
Kalani, Kaiden, Karl,
and Sashawna
William Elder

Community Sponsored Projects:

Bedford Road Alumni
Hugo Alvarado Art Project
Hope Campaign
SPS Playgrounds

Donations in Honour:

Gretchen Peterson
Jan Sterling
Jason Johnson
Jeff and Laurel Lindgren

Jennifer Reid
Leah and Cole Inman
Wayne and Ina Lou Brownlee

SPSF EXTENDS A HUGE THANK YOU TO SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THEIR ONGOING SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP



JOIN US!

Together, we are making a difference.



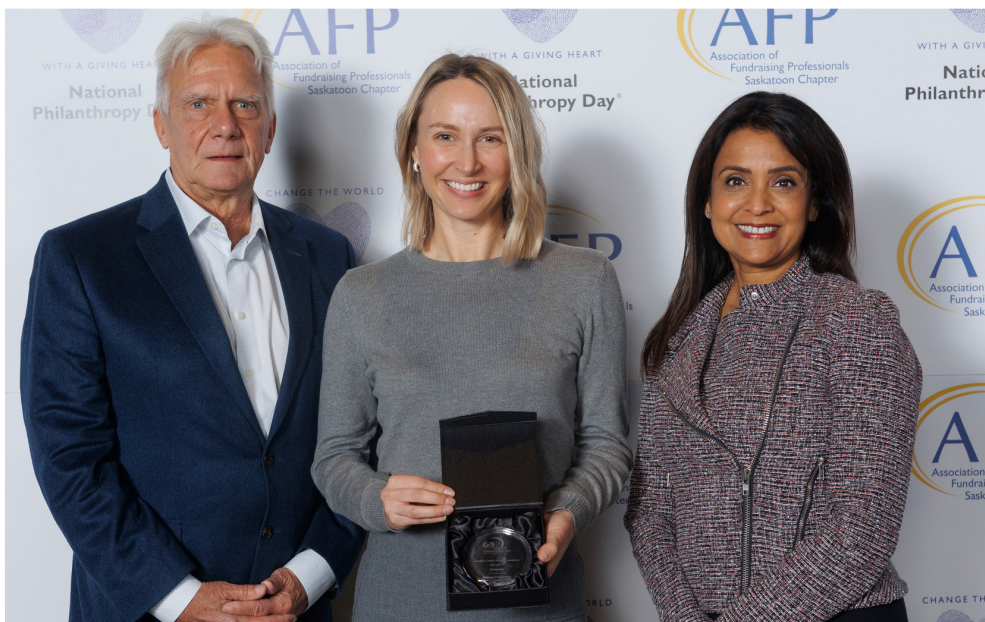
SPSF in the Community

2024 NSBA Business Builder Award - Community Builder.



The Community Builder award is awarded to the NSBA business that demonstrates a clear commitment to operating in a philanthropic and empathetic manner in the community.

2023 National Philanthropy Day



SPSF was thrilled to recognize and thank Canpotex as an honoured supporter.

Pictured: Wayne Brownlee, Maeghan Dubois (Canpotex), Zeba Ahmad

IMAGINE

A Saskatchewan where all students are able to reach their full potential!

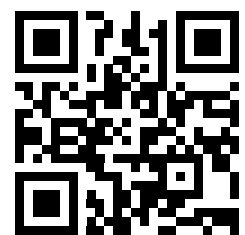


WAYS TO DONATE

Donate online at SPSFoundation.ca

SPSF also accepts cheques, EFTs, credit cards and securities including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.

Cheques payable to:
Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation
310 21st Street E. Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M7
info@spsfoundation.ca | 306-683-8550



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Created by:

ROCK&BLOOM



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: TARIFF IMPACT UPDATE

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

At the February 11, 2025 board meeting, the potential for tariffs to be imposed on goods that the school division imports from the United States of America (USA) was discussed. These tariffs could have a significant impact on operating budgets, Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) budgets and major capital projects. It was explained that although it is uncertain if or when these tariffs would be implemented, administration is currently determining the school division’s exposure and will then identify mitigation strategies to reduce that exposure.

CURRENT STATUS

Administration has since examined areas of school division spending that could potentially have exposure to tariffs and has summarized its findings in the following table.

Area of spend	Exposure to tariffs
Mechanical	Estimated spend per year is between \$500,000 to \$1 million. Almost all manufacturing is American. Assuming a 25% tariff fully passed on to the end customer, the maximum exposure would be \$250,000 annually.
Caretaking Supplies	Estimated spend per year is approximately \$400,000. Supplier still investigating the impact tariffs will have. Assuming a 25% tariff fully passed on to the end customer on all purchases, the maximum exposure would be \$100,000 annually.
Roofing	Estimated spend per year is approximately \$2 million. The vast majority of manufacturing and materials are Canadian. Low exposure.
Flooring	Maximum spend per year is \$500,000. Mix of American, Canadian, Chinese and European manufacturers. Impact will depend on inventory levels and total cost of ownership at time of procurement. Low exposure.
Windows	Estimated spend per year is approximately \$500,000. Manufacturing is Canadian but some raw materials are American. Low exposure.
Classroom Furniture	Canadian product. No exposure.
School & Stationary Supplies	Canadian product. No exposure.
Caretaking Chemicals	Canadian product. No exposure.

Tariffs also pose a significant risk to major capital projects such as City Centre elementary school, Holmwood high school and Brighton elementary school. The Ministry of Education and Ministry of SaskBuilds determines the budget for these projects. Tariffs would increase costs which could lead to a government decision to pause the projects to avoid spending over the pre-determined budget. Tariffs also increase the risk of supply chains being disrupted which would also lead to schedule delays.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Daniel Burke, Chief Financial Officer	February 26, 2025	None



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: STRATEGIC PLAN ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT: CHARACTER AND ENGAGEMENT

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

Academic excellence, character, engagement, and well-being of students are at the heart of Saskatoon Public Schools' five-year strategic plan. The plan highlights our vision of each student being known, valued, and believed in. It emphasizes Saskatoon Public Schools' commitment to creating learning experiences that inspire all students to reach their potential and the importance of relationships, equity and accountability.

CURRENT STATUS

Attached is the accountability report for character and engagement which will be presented by Nicola Bishop-Yong and Paul Janzen, superintendents of education.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Brent Hills, Deputy Director of Education Charlene Scrimshaw, Deputy Director of Education Nicola Bishop-Yong, Superintendent of Education Paul Janzen, Superintendent of Education	February 25, 2025	Accountability Report

RECOMMENDATION

Proposed Board Motion:

That the board approve the Strategic Plan Accountability Report: Character and Engagement, to be included as part of the director of education's 2024-25 evaluation.

At Saskatoon Public Schools every student is **Known • Valued • Believed In**

We will create learning experiences that inspire all students to reach their potential.



Accountability Topic: Character and Engagement

Date of Board Meeting: March 5, 2025

Strategic Priorities:

<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Excellence	<input type="checkbox"/> Well-being
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Character	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Stewardship
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal Business Processes

Commitments:

- Relationships (honouring diversity, welcoming and joyful spaces, and community partnerships)
- Equity (anti-racist/anti-oppressive practice, representative workforce, high expectations)
- Accountability (evidence-based practice, focus on Indigenous student success, ensure safe, caring, and accepting learning environments)

Key Measures:

The key measures for K-12 include:

- Learning Skills/Work Habits from kindergarten to Grade 8 report card
- OurSCHOOL measures related to engagement and character
- Attendance

Targets:

Data Increases (June 2023-June 2024):

- 1% increase in consistent growth in the areas of respect, responsibility and perseverance
- 1% increase in the frequency of grades 1-8 students showing perseverance and responsibility
- Increase students attending 80% of the time or more by 1%
- Increase OurSCHOOL Intellectual engagement, interested and motivated measures for grades 7-12 by 1%

Key Initiatives Employed:

Saskatoon Public Schools is committed to empowering every student to reach their full potential through purposeful character development and engaging in learning opportunities.

Beginning in kindergarten, and continuing until Grade 8, students work to develop their learning skills and work habits. There are seven *learning skills and work habits* included in kindergarten–Grade 8 report cards including responsibility, independent work, perseverance, self-regulation, collaboration, thinking skills and initiative. Learning skills and work habits help students to engage in learning more effectively, develop their potential as independent learners and take ownership over their own learning. In elementary schools learning skills and work habits, particularly responsibility and perseverance, are evaluated and reported on the elementary report card. These skills are evaluated separately from student achievement or course expectations and are not used in determining final grades. These skills are essential for success in collegiate, post-secondary and work settings, shaping them into critical thinkers and responsible global citizens. To support learning skills and work habits, anchor charts defining sample behaviors for each skill have been developed for use in K-8 classrooms. Data on these skills is now included in our data dashboard to inform instructional plans. Additionally, a guide for assessment, evaluation, and reporting has been created to help parents and caregivers better understand how learning skills and work habits are communicated in report cards.

To support teachers in fostering quality instruction and opportunities for students' character development and engagement, the division has offered professional development, and instructional learning supports in evidence-based instruction, assessment and anti-racist and anti-oppressive pedagogy. Professional learning highlighted the impact of rigorous learning environments, purposeful small and large group instruction, setting learning intentions and success criteria, reducing cognitive load, developing executive functioning skills through consistent routines, and using assessment to engage students and inform instructional decisions. Alongside these curricular learning endeavors, schools offer vibrant extracurricular activities such as sports, music, and clubs, which allow students to explore their interests and passions outside the classroom while developing responsibility, perseverance, and respect.

The Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive (ARAO) learning community further strengthened ARAO education across the division, supporting members in their own professional growth and development. Division professional learning continued to integrate the division's equity self-reflection guide, further promoting and strengthening equity literacy, at the teacher and leadership level. Several elementary schools piloted the *Speak Up* resources, a learning tool developed by Learning for Justice, an organization founded by the Southern Poverty Law Center. This resource offers practical strategies for school staff to address derogatory language and bigotry. Anecdotal evidence suggests that its use has fostered a common language with which to respond to acts of discrimination and helped to foster a stronger sense of belonging. Collegiate learning councils and learning coordinators have engaged in professional learning, *equity through assessment*, which seeks to help collegiate teachers identify, examine and adjust assessment practices that promote or mitigate barriers for student success.

Citizenship education remains a key initiative for fostering character development within classrooms and schools. By integrating Concentus resources developed by the Citizenship Education Foundation into grade-level social studies instruction, students develop essential citizenship skills and competencies, including being enlightened, empathetic, ethical, empowered, and engaged. To support this integration, guides and professional learning opportunities have been developed, helping teachers select high-quality, cross-curricular learning materials. Additionally, division teacher librarians actively curate collections to align with and strengthen this initiative.

Cultural programming for staff and students continues in Saskatoon Public Schools with initiatives such as seasonal sweat lodges, Indigenous Dance Ensemble and Kishkaytaytaahk. In addition, cultural instructional programs such as Following Their Voices (FTV), continue to strengthen student engagement, character and achievement in three schools including Mount Royal, Bedford Road and King George. The FTV program invites teachers to reimagine aspects of their classroom and teaching, specifically focusing on Indigenous student engagement and achievement. This job-embedded professional learning model is centered on collaboration and the pursuit of collective efficacy. FTV aims to ensure that students feel: *known* through responsive, caring interactions and the authentic integration of culture in teaching and learning, *valued* by incorporating student voices in shaping school environments, and *believed in* through high expectations and the use of discursive strategies that foster accelerated success. FTV directly influences student engagement in how it approaches teaching and learning to meet students where they are and meet them as who they are. This includes students feeling a strong sense of shared power in the classroom, through how their teacher shows up with humility and seeks to build family-like relationships. In this space, the students' unique experiences, prior knowledge and talents are integral to the learning journey.

Saskatoon Public Schools is piloting VERSO, a provincial student engagement tool, at all Following their Voices schools and in grades 6-8 at Caroline Robins School. VERSO is a web-based platform that enables teachers to receive real-time feedback from students about their learning experiences, supported by a generative artificial intelligence component that analyzes feedback to enhance instructional practices. This initiative aims to enhance student engagement by equipping teachers with effective tools, professional development, and reflection opportunities that address key relational, environmental, academic, and student agency factors. By fostering supportive relationships, creating a sense of belonging, providing intellectual challenge, and promoting student autonomy, this pilot seeks to create a positive learning environment that encourages self-direction, ownership, and mastery.

Teachers continued to leverage Edsby to enhance transparency in the learning process and amplify student voice, fostering greater engagement and character development. Through ongoing communication, Edsby strengthened collaboration between teachers, students, and parents/caregivers, creating a supportive learning community. By sharing student learning and providing timely feedback, Edsby promoted continuous improvement, motivation, and self-directed learning. Professional learning and support emphasized using Edsby's class, gradebook, and learning story features to provide clear evidence of learning, further empowering students to take ownership of their educational journey.

Saskatoon Public Schools provides the widest range of innovative and diverse unique programming in Saskatchewan offering 27 unique elementary and secondary programs to students in the areas of academics, experiential learning, athletics and language and culture. The unique program offerings

within Saskatoon Public Schools ensures students are engaged in their learning in multiple ways such as flex programming, nature-based early learning, Indigenous language programs, experiential and environmental opportunities, and more. The division continues to explore innovative opportunities to engage students in unique learning.

Data:

Kindergarten to Grade 8 Learning Skills and Work Habits

In elementary schools, learning skills and work habits are evaluated separately from academic achievement on the report card, using a frequency scale. These ratings are included in the January and June kindergarten to Grade 8 report cards. Students rated as *often* or *almost always* are developing these skills appropriately, while those rated as *sometimes* or *rarely* may benefit from additional support to foster growth. The scale includes:

A indicates that the student exhibits the habit almost always.

O indicates that the student exhibits the habit often.

S indicates that the student exhibits the habit sometimes.

R indicates that the student exhibits the habit rarely.

IE indicates that there is insufficient evidence to allow for a rating.

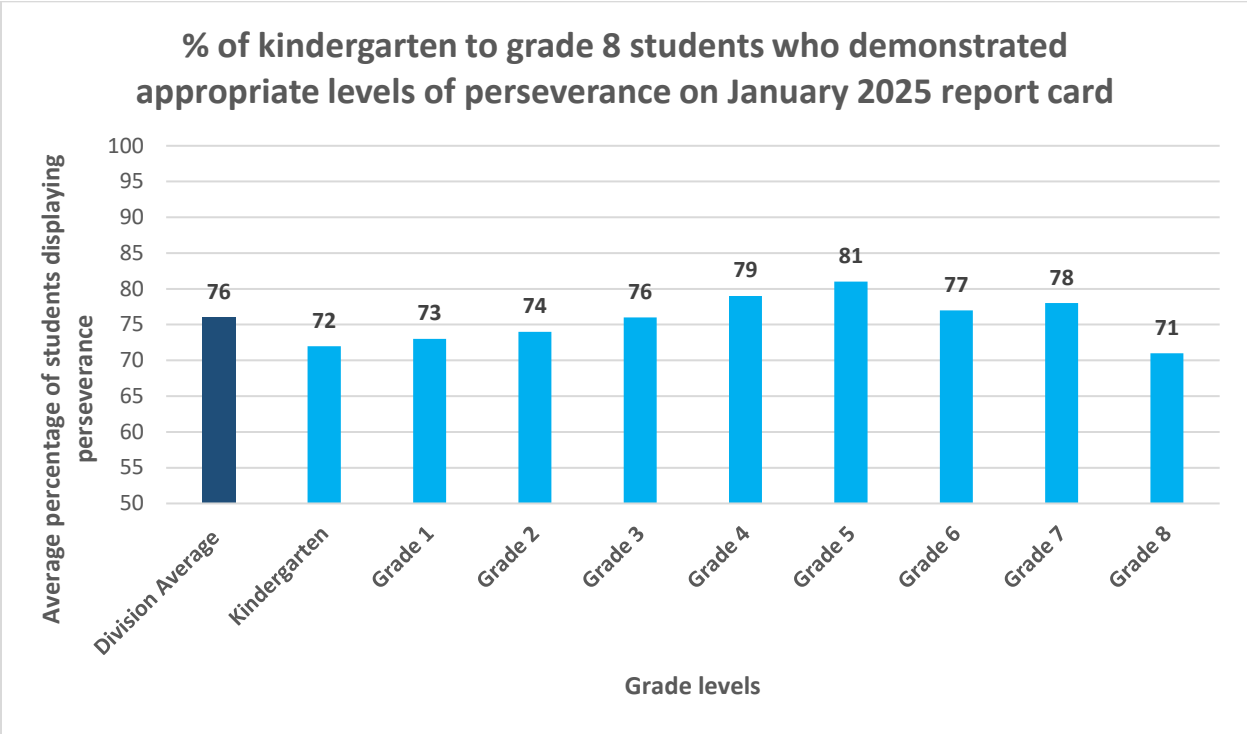
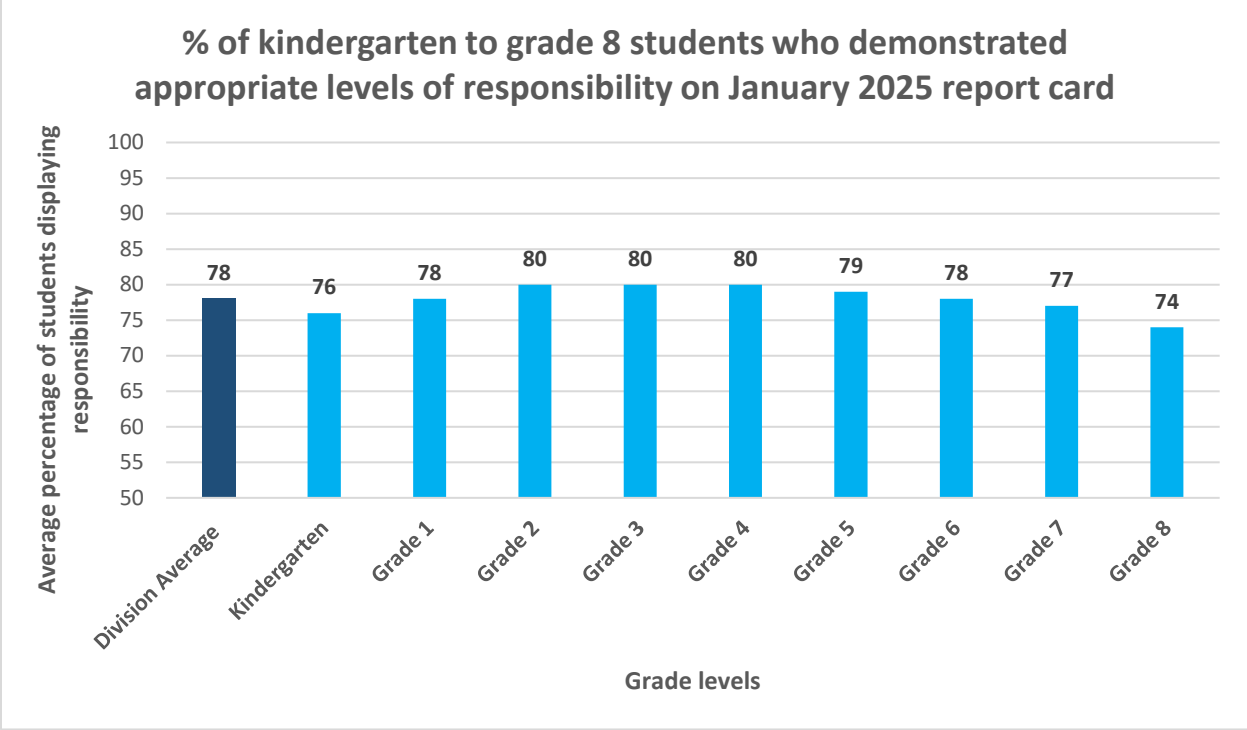
NA indicates that this habit is not yet applicable.

Data on the learning skills/work habits of responsibility and perseverance are key measures in monitoring student character and engagement. Saskatoon Public Schools describes responsible behavior as fulfilling commitments within the learning environment, demonstrating evidence of learning in a timely manner, managing personal behavior, and practicing ethical conduct. Perseverance is characterized by persisting and putting in effort when faced with challenges.

The following graphs show the percentage of kindergarten to Grade 8 students who demonstrated the learning skills and work habits of responsibility and perseverance on the January 2025 report card, as well as cumulative data from January 2023 to 2025 report cards.

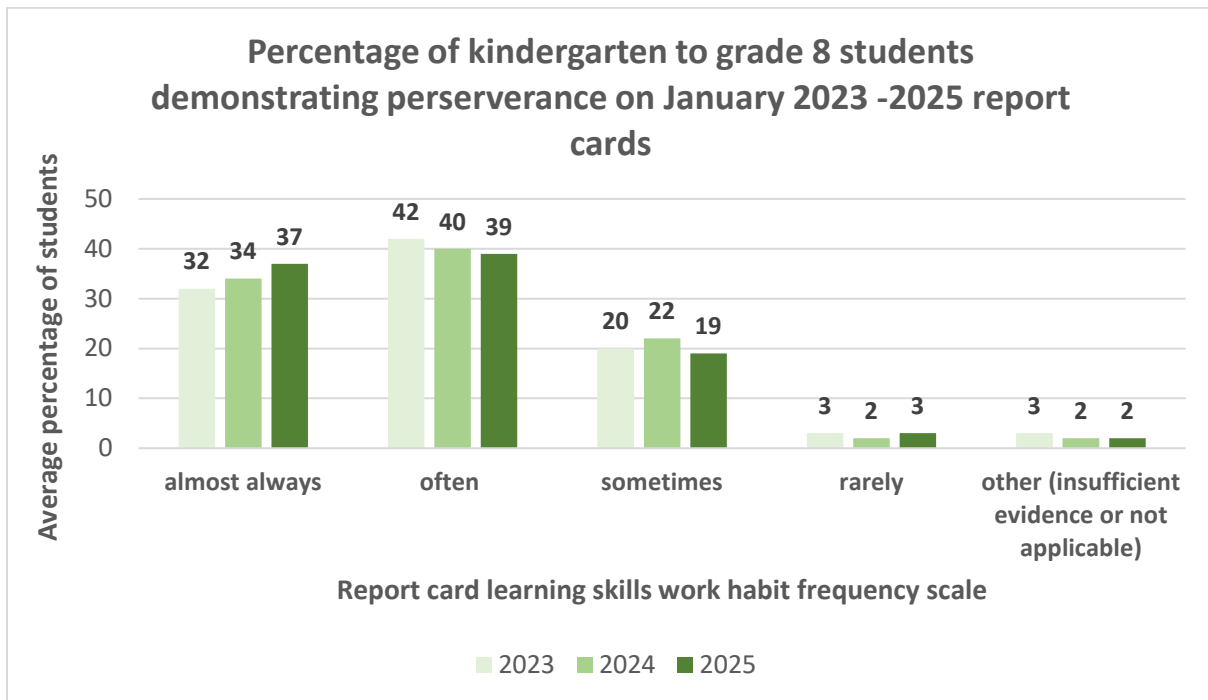
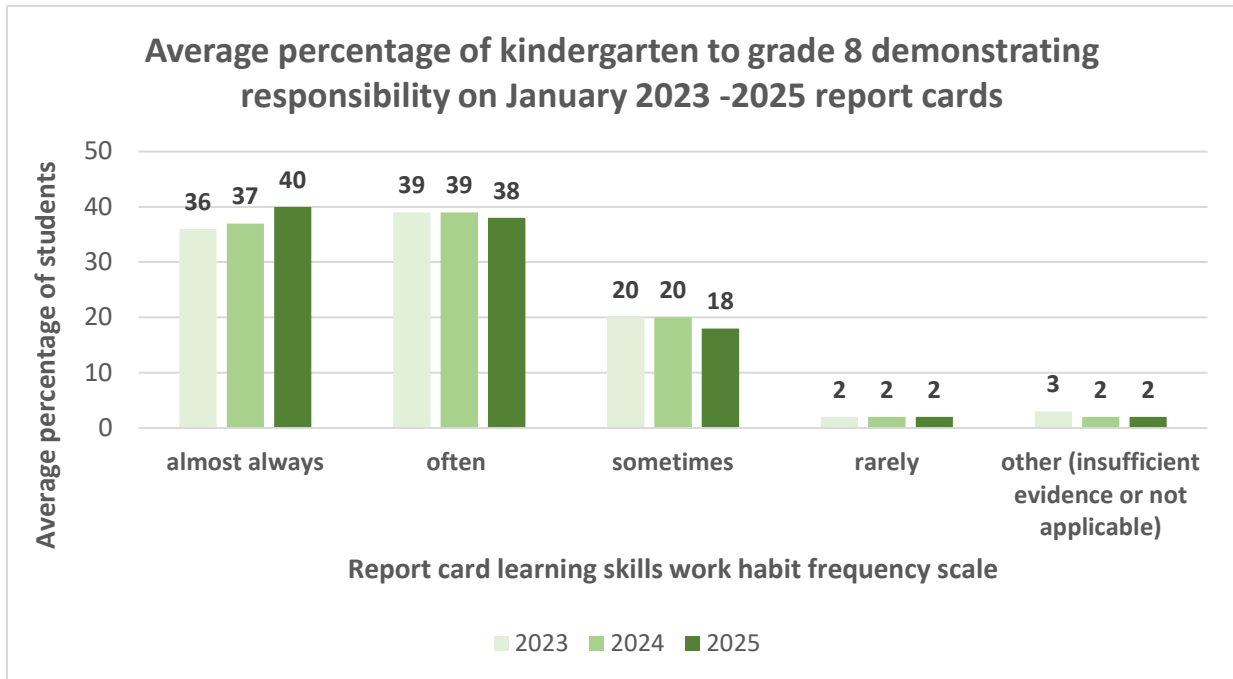
The graph below shows the percentage of kindergarten to Grade 8 students who demonstrated appropriate levels of responsibility on the January 2025 report card. The division average is 78%, with the highest percentages in Grades 2, 3, and 4 (80%) and the lowest in Grade 8 (74%). The data in the graph shows a relatively small variance in responsibility across grade levels, with percentages ranging from 74% to 80%, indicating overall consistency in student responsibility across grades.

Likewise, the graph below illustrates the percentage of kindergarten to Grade 8 students who demonstrated appropriate levels of perseverance on the January 2025 report card. The division average is 76%, with the highest percentage in Grade 5 (81%) and the lowest in Grade 8 (71%). The data in the graph shows a relatively small variance in perseverance across grade levels, with percentages ranging from 71% to 81%, indicating overall consistency in student perseverance across grades.



As shown in the graphs below, a positive cumulative trend in the data shows that the percentage of students consistently demonstrating the learning skills responsibility and perseverance has increased steadily since 2023. 78% of kindergarten to Grade 8 students demonstrated age-appropriate levels of responsibility, while only 20% were deemed to have not yet developed the requisite levels of responsibility mid-way through the year. This shows a 2% increase from the previous year in students displaying responsibility. 76% of kindergarten to Grade 8 students demonstrated age-appropriate levels

of perseverance, while only 22% were deemed to have not yet developed the requisite levels of perseverance by mid-way through the year. This shows a 2% increase from the previous year in students displaying perseverance. In both ratings for responsibility and perseverance, a small percentage of students did not receive a frequency rating and as such are represented as “other” in the data set. This was either due to insufficient evidence for the teacher to provide a professional judgement or that the habit was not yet applicable to the students.



As the percentage of students displaying both responsibility and perseverance increased by 2% for both skills from 2024 to 2025, the target for growth was met.

OurSCHOOL Survey: Character & Engagement Measures

All Saskatoon Public Schools administer the provincial OurSCHOOL student survey each fall. Initially known as the Tell Them From Me survey, it was first used in 2006 before the Ministry of Education provided it provincially at no cost. Schools could add local and division-specific questions to the standard survey to gather targeted student feedback related to school and division initiatives.

In the 2023/24 school year, the Ministry renegotiated terms with the Learning Bar, the survey's owner, resulting in a static provincial configuration that no longer allowed additional questions. Consequently, custom questions added by Saskatoon Public Schools to measure respect, responsibility, and perseverance could no longer be used. Adding these custom questions separately would cost approximately \$2,700 and require different usernames and passwords for students, so the school division opted out. Due to the longevity of the renegotiations, the survey was not conducted during the fall implementation window, however the newly configured survey was administered in the spring of the 2023/24 school year.

For this accountability report and future reports, character will be measured using existing questions within the provincially developed OurSCHOOL survey related to the areas of effort, valuing school outcomes, and expectations for success.

In the area of effort, students in grades 4-6 are asked:

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree:

- *I try hard to do well in Language Arts.*
- *I try hard to do well in Math.*
- *I ask for help when I need it.*
- *I participate in class discussions.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

Students in grades 7-12 are asked:

We want you to think about the (subject area) classes you have had over the past two weeks. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

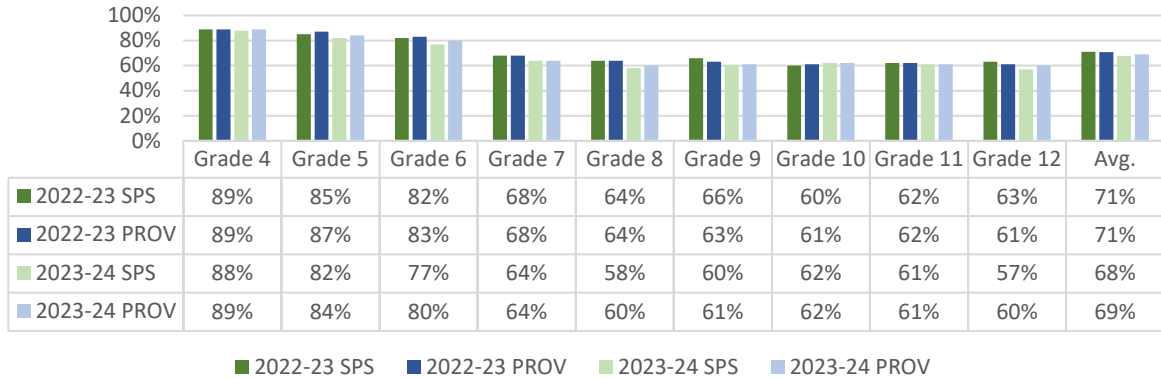
- *I try hard to succeed in (the subject area).*
- *I ask for help when I do not understand a concept or idea.*
- *I participate in class discussions.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

The data are scaled on a 10-point scale. The results are reported as “the percentage of students who are trying hard to succeed.”

Effort: OurSCHOOL Survey

SPS Compared to Province



In the area of effort, there were decreases from the previous year in all grades within Saskatoon Public Schools except for grade 10 which saw an increase of 2%. The province also saw decreases in these same grades and also had a slight increase of 1% within grade 10. The division average decreased overall by 3% while the provincial average decreased by 2%. This overall decrease for both the province and the school division may be attributed to the survey being conducted in the spring as opposed to the typical fall implementation window.

In the area of a student valuing school outcomes, students in grades 4-6 are asked:

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree:

- *What I am taught at school is important.*
- *Doing well in school is important for when I grow up.*
- *What I am learning in Math is important.*
- *What I am learning in Language Arts is important.*
- *What I learn at school is useful in my everyday life.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

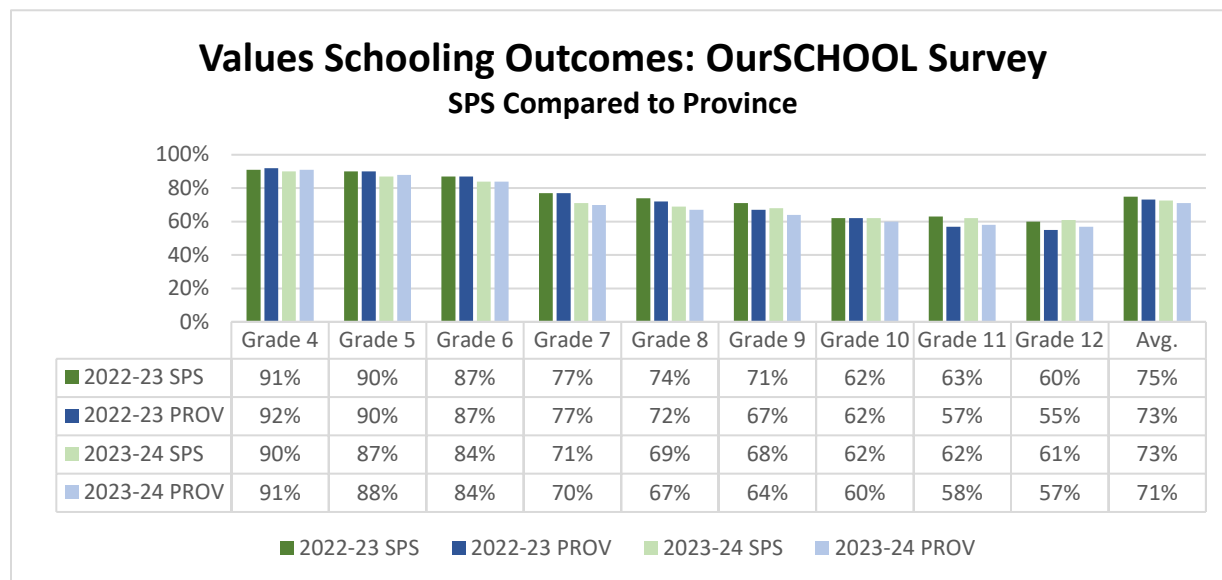
Students in grades 7-12 are asked:

Please indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements:

- *It is important for me to learn what is taught at school.*
- *I am learning the skills I will need for success later in life.*
- *The Mathematics I am learning will be very useful in the future.*
- *The skills I am learning in Language Arts will be useful in the future.*
- *What I learn at school is useful in my everyday life.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

The data are scaled on a 10-point scale. The results are reported as “the percentage of students that value schooling outcomes.”



In the area of values schooling outcomes, there were decreases in all grades except for grade 10 which remained the same as the previous year and in Grade 12 which saw an increase of 1%. Provincially, the increases were in grades 11 and 12 with decreases in all other grades. Both Saskatoon Public Schools and the province saw the overall averages from the previous year decrease by 2%. Again, these decreases may be attributed to the survey occurring in the spring, nearing the end of the school year, as opposed to the fall.

In the area of expectations for success, students in grades 4-6 are asked:

In our school...

- *I must work hard to succeed.*
- *My teachers encourage me to do better.*
- *My teachers expect homework to be done on time.*
- *My teachers expect me to work hard.*
- *My teachers expect all students to do their best work.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

Students in grades 7-12 are asked:

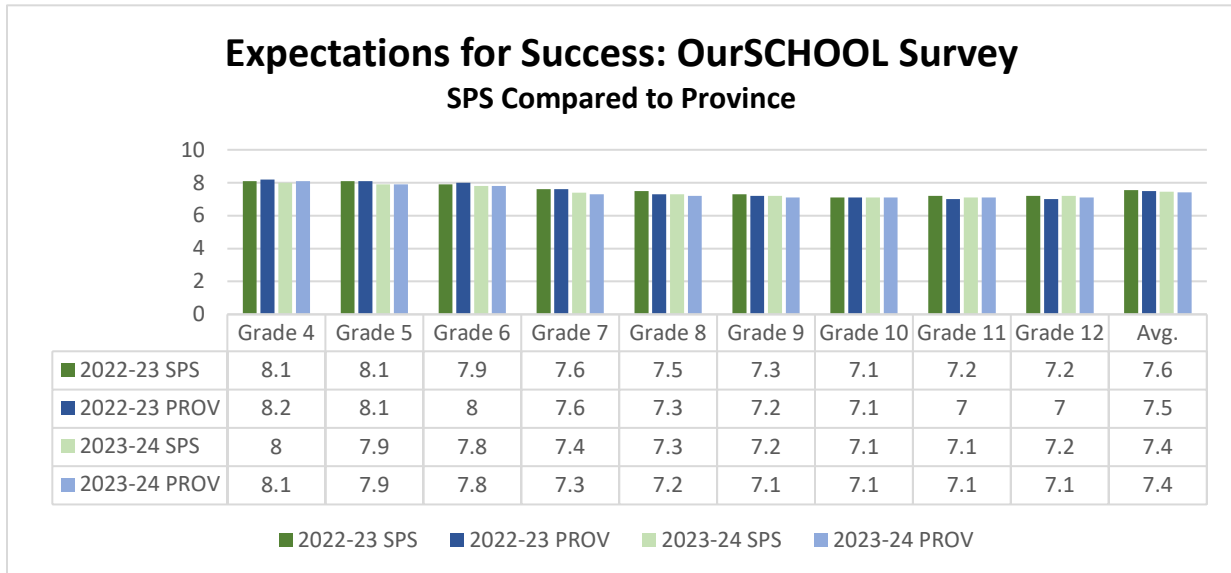
In our school...

- *Students must work hard to succeed.*
- *Our teachers encourage students to do better.*
- *Our teachers expect homework to be done on time.*
- *Students are clear about what is expected of them for their courses.*

- *Our teachers expect us to work hard.*
- *Our teachers expect all students to do their best work.*

(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Disagree)

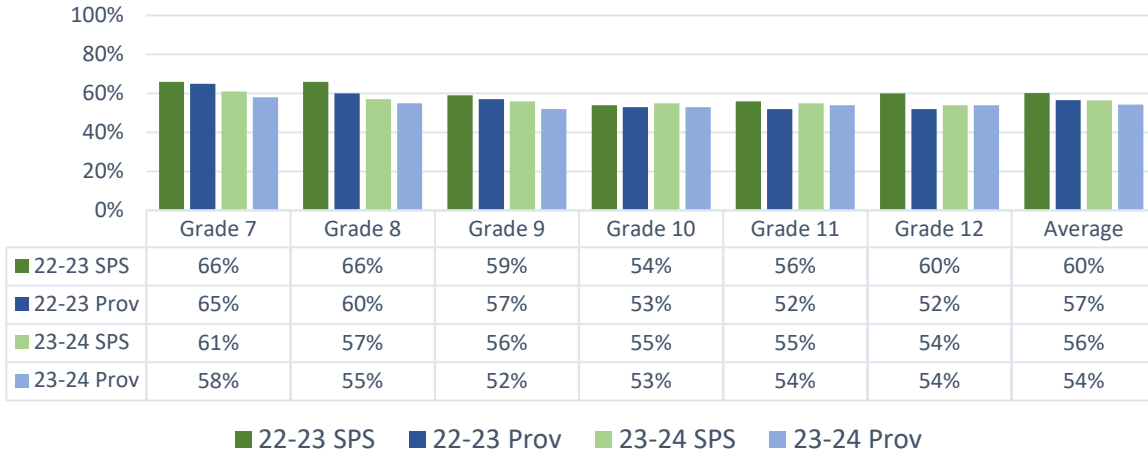
The data are scaled on a 10-point scale. The results are reports as “the average score for expectations for success.”



Again, there were decreases in all grades except for Grade 10 that remained the same from the previous year. This was also the case in the provincial data. Saskatoon Public Schools dropped from 7.6 to 7.4 as an overall average while the province dropped from 7.5 to 7.4. Taking the survey in spring instead of in fall must be taken into consideration for these decreases.

Two existing OurSCHOOL measures provide information related to engagement. Typically, when students are intellectually engaged, they find learning interesting, enjoyable, and relevant. The *Intellectual Engagement* chart below is a composite derived from five aspects of student engagement including interest, motivation, effort, effective learning time, relevance, and rigor. This measure is only calculated for grades 7-12 students.

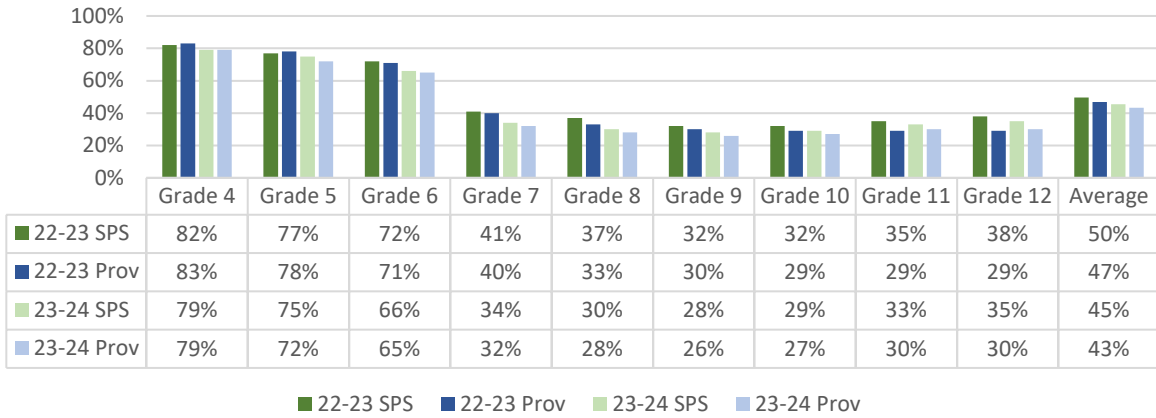
Intellectual Engagement: OurSCHOOL Survey SPS Compared to Province



For the 2023-24 year, all grades in Saskatoon Public Schools were above or equal to the provincial percentages at each of those grade levels. The overall division average remains 2% higher than the overall provincial average, however both averages did decrease (SPS by 4%; provincial by 3%). This, once again, may be attributed to the timing of the survey as it was conducted in the spring of 2024 when it would've typically been administered in the fall of 2023.

The *Interested & Motivated* chart below represents the extent to which students are interested in their studies and feel motivated to keep up with the coursework in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science (results are not broken down by subject area). This measure is provided for students in grades 4-12. Questions include “I like learning new things at school,” “I like working on class projects,” “I look forward to Language Arts class,” and “I want to learn more about Math” for students in elementary schools to which they have to rate on a 5-point scale ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree. In secondary school, students questions include “I enjoy learning new concepts and ideas,” “I enjoy our class projects so much that often I do not want to stop,” and “I find myself thinking about what we are learning even after the lesson is over.” Students in secondary also use the 5 point scale for their responses.

Interested & Motivated: OurSCHOOL Survey SPS Compared to Province



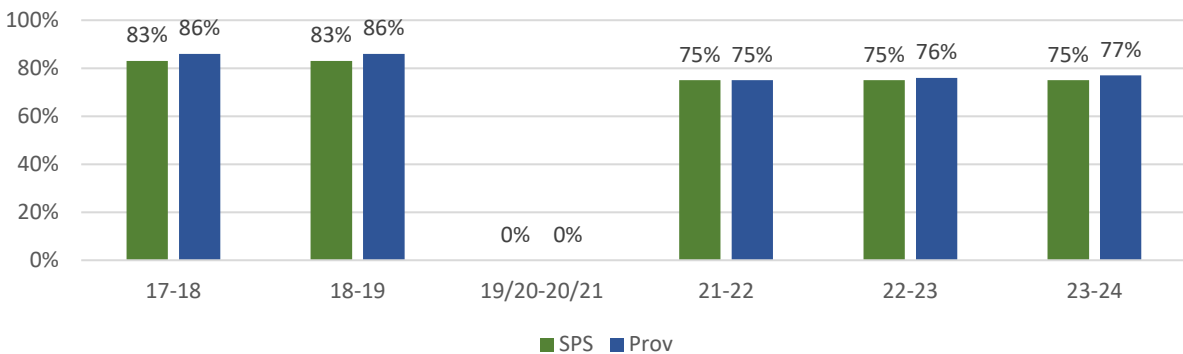
For the 2023/24 school year, all grades in Saskatoon Public Schools once again were above or equal to the provincial percentages at each of those grade levels. There was an overall 5% decrease for Saskatoon Public Schools and a 4% overall decrease for the province. Again, this change in the data may be attributed to the survey occurring in the spring.

Attendance

Since 2020, the Ministry of Education has only provided intermittent attendance data to the school division. This was attributed to both the pandemic and the ministry moving to a new student information system. Reports are now provided to school divisions monthly. The charts below identify the percentage of students in all grades with at least 80% attendance at year end. As shown, attendance percentages have not yet reached pre-pandemic levels.

Percentage of Students in all Grades with at Least 80% Attendance SPS Compared to Province

**Attendance was not collected provincially in 19-20 and 20-21 due to the pandemic.*



Future Initiatives:

Schools will continue to seek innovative ways to captivate students and deliver engaging and enriching education experiences. Key initiatives, including learning skills and work habits, professional learning on engaging evidence-based instruction and effective assessment practices, equity, citizenship, cultural programming, Following their Voices, and unique programs, will continue to be emphasized. Their effectiveness will be monitored to assess their impact on character development and student engagement. In addition to continued initiatives the following additional strategies will be explored to enhance teaching and assessment practices, supporting student engagement and achievement.

- Continued use of Edsby to enhance learning, amplify student voice, strengthen collaboration with students and parents and self-directed learning with the goal of exploring the utility of the portfolio feature.
- Develop updated behavioral descriptors for the Learning Skills & Work Habits with renewed primary and middle years anchor charts.
- Continue to support the student engagement VERSO tool at Caroline Robins and FTV schools.
- Support elementary leaders in analyzing school level learning skills and work habits data.
- Support ongoing professional development on assessment, such as the *Elevating Assessment Conference* March 2025.
- Ongoing theme within all professional development of having a professional growth mindset, making learning engaging and relevant for all learners.

Risk Assessment:

Sustaining positive outcomes in student engagement and character is essential for present and future initiatives. Research has consistently linked character and engagement to academic success, underscoring their profound impact. Saskatoon Public Schools will continue to set high expectations for achieving measure of character and engagement.

Summary Comments:

Saskatoon Public Schools continues to foster student engagement and character development, recognizing their pivotal role in academic success. Through a commitment to high standards and ongoing initiatives, the division continues to enhance these crucial aspects, ensuring a supporting and enriching learning environment for all students.



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: 2024 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION INVOICE

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

An Election Services Agreement between the City of Saskatoon, St. Paul's Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 20 of Saskatchewan (GSCS), and the Board of Education of the Saskatoon School Division No. 13 of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon Public Schools) was signed in March 2020 and is in effect until December 31, 2030. The agreement outlines that the City of Saskatoon will conduct all elections during the time period for the parties. It also states that the sharing of expenses for a general election should be based on the property assessment values that each entity owns.

CURRENT STATUS

Saskatoon Public Schools' share of the 2024 election is \$426,347.06. The estimated cost provided by the City of Saskatoon in early 2024 was \$438,878.50.

Board Policy 1 – Role of the Board states that the board shall approve the awarding of operational contracts more than \$250,000.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Daniel Burke, Chief Financial Officer	February 25, 2025	Cost Sharing Memo

RECOMMENDATION

Proposed Board Motion:

That the board approve the payment of \$ 426,347.06 to the City of Saskatoon for 2024 election expenses.

February 11, 2025

Chief Financial Officer
Saskatoon Public Schools
310 21st Street East
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M7
burked@spsd.sk.ca

Daniel Burke:

Re: Invoice – 2024 Civic Election

Attached is an invoice in the amount of \$426,347.06 (excludes GST/PST) representing the Public School Board's share of the 2024 civic election cost. This amount represents 38.2% of the total election cost (\$1,116,091.78), the percentage derived from the January 1, 2024, assessment data.

A breakdown of costs by categories is outlined herein:

Expense Area	Total Expense	SPS Portion
Total Operating Costs	\$ 871,893.91	\$ 333,063.47
Contracted and General Services	\$ 529,200.03	\$ 202,154.41
Heating, Lighting, Power, Water and Telephone	\$ 1,655.82	\$ 632.52
Material, Goods and Supplies	\$ 273,931.54	\$ 104,641.85
Wages and Benefits	\$ 67,106.52	\$ 25,634.69
Capital Costs (voting equipment)	\$ 244,197.87	\$ 93,283.59
Grand total	\$ 1,116,091.78	\$ 426,347.06

Per the Election Services Agreement, payment shall be remitted to the City within 30 days after the receipt of the invoice provided.

Thank you for your support during the 2024 civic election

Sincerely,



Shellie Bryant (Returning Officer)
Deputy City Clerk and Director of Legislative Services



MEETING DATE: MARCH 4, 2025

TOPIC: ELECTION – CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE FORMS

FORUM	AGENDA ITEM	INTENT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reports from Administrative Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information

BACKGROUND

The Civic Election was held on November 13, 2024.

Board Policy 25: Elections (board elections, campaign contributions and expenses) states that:

25. All candidates whose names appear on the ballot in an election shall, within 90 days after the election, complete and submit to the Chief Financial Officer the Appendix of this policy disclosing.
 - 25.1 The name, address and telephone number of every contributor who provided campaign contributions totaling \$250.00 or more; and
 - 25.2 A summary of all election expenses.

CURRENT STATUS

The deadline for filing contribution information was February 13, 2025. A summary of campaign expenses is attached.

PREPARED BY	DATE	ATTACHMENTS
Daniel Burke, Chief Financial Officer	February 27, 2025	Campaign Expense Summary

Election 2024
Campaign Contributions and Expenses

Last Name	First Name	Ward	Campaign Contribution	Campaign Expenses	Total Surplus (Deficit)	Surplus Funds Donated	Exceeded Limit of \$10,000?
Barrett	Jennifer	1	\$ 200.00	\$ 6,021.29	\$ (5,821.29)		NO
Napper	Tanya	1	\$ -	\$ 196.35	\$ (196.35)		NO
Nelson	Zach	1	\$ 2,070.00	\$ 1,898.82	\$ 171.18	SDLC Summer Snack Program	NO
Sanyal	Palash	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Linklater	Vernon	2	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Banks	Donna	3	\$ -	\$ 45.00	\$ (45.00)		NO
Stranden	Kim	4	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Miket	Deborah	5	\$ 62.61	\$ 62.61	\$ -		NO
Overland	Darcy	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Scherman	Jennifer	5	\$ -	\$ 682.93	\$ (682.93)		NO
Sepke	Mitchell	5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Jones	Kirk	6	\$ -	\$ 1,771.73	\$ (1,771.73)		NO
Peterson	Gretchen	6	\$ 1,757.50	\$ 2,973.92	\$ (1,216.42)		NO
Porteous	Doug	6	\$ -	\$ 1,740.73	\$ (1,740.73)		NO
Stevenson	Kath	6	\$ 500.00	\$ 547.85	\$ (47.85)		NO
Tait	Ross	7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		NO
Kocsis	Connie	8	\$ -	\$ 1096.26	\$ (1,096.26)		NO
Olver	Lindsay	8	\$ -	\$ 186.48	\$ (186.48)		NO
Rollo	Anne-Marie	8	\$ -	\$ 757.58	\$ (757.58)		NO
Bellamy	Robin	9	\$ -	\$ 400.18	\$ (400.18)		NO
Schmidt	Kevin	9	\$ 240.00	\$ 1,460.19	\$ (1,220.19)		NO
Zettyl	Nadine	9	\$ -	\$ 104.00	\$ (104.00)		NO
Arneson	Angela	10	\$ -	\$ 840.20	\$ (840.20)		NO