

Ministry of Education



Plan for 2019-20

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Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable
Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.
Minister of Education*

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Education Plan for 2019-20.

Government Direction and Budget for 2019-20 is focused on *The Right Balance* for Saskatchewan. We're returning to a balanced budget with sound fiscal management while keeping taxes low, supporting economic growth and ensuring quality government programs and services for people and businesses in Saskatchewan.

Our education system is dedicated to seeing every child reach their full potential. This is a commitment we continue to pursue through the shared goals identified in our Education Sector Strategic Plan, which guides us in ensuring our youngest students are ready for learning, all students are supported to achieve grade level in reading, writing and math, and older students, particularly First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, are engaged and on-track to graduate.

Preparing students to successfully face the opportunities that lie ahead is at the heart of everything we do in education. As we begin setting goals for the future, education sector partners and stakeholders have begun the process of co-constructing a Provincial Education Plan that will prepare us to serve the needs of future students. Through in-person and online engagements, all Saskatchewan residents will be invited to participate. Parents, teachers, students and community members will have the opportunity to share their views on the priorities and barriers to a great education for Saskatchewan students. This feedback will help set the course for Saskatchewan's education system beyond 2020.

Moving forward, collaboration will continue to be key to our Ministry's success. We remain committed to working collaboratively with those in the education sector for the benefit of all Saskatchewan students, providing a quality education that will prepare students for ongoing success.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to having *The Right Balance*. We will continue to carefully manage spending and focus on government priorities, such as competitive taxes, investments in economic growth and providing programs and services that meet the needs of Saskatchewan people and businesses.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2019-20 annual reports.

Operational Plan

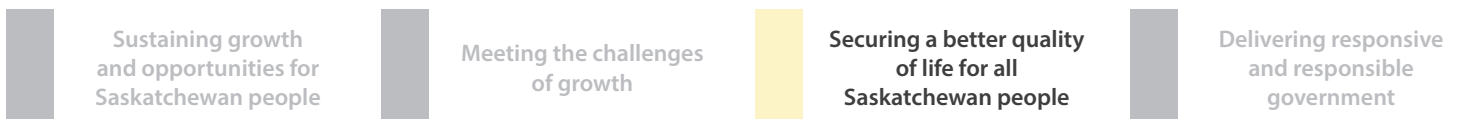
Mandate Statement

The Ministry of Education provides leadership and direction to the early years, Prekindergarten through Grade 12 education, family literacy and library sectors. The Ministry supports the sectors through funding, governance and accountability, with a focus on improving student achievement. The Ministry is committed to improving the learning success and well-being of all Saskatchewan children and youth, and the enhancement of family literacy.

Mission Statement

The Ministry of Education provides strategic, innovative and collaborative leadership to the early learning and child care, Prekindergarten through Grade 12 education, literacy and library sectors. It promotes student success, well-being for Saskatchewan children and youth, and improved family literacy as a foundation of the province's social and economic growth.

Government Goals



Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan 2016-2020: All Saskatchewan children prenatal to age eight are safe, healthy and develop to their full potential in strong families and supportive communities.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

By June 30, 2020, children aged zero to six will be supported in their development to ensure that 90 per cent of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Strategy

Work with the early years sector, including child care, Prekindergarten, community-based organizations, school divisions, the health authority and First Nations and Métis partners in order to implement *Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan* by 2020. This work will contribute to achieving the early years goal of the Education Sector Strategic Plan to ensure that 90 per cent of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Key Actions

- In alignment with Saskatchewan's five-year intersectoral early years plan, implement initiatives under the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*:
 - develop and deliver programming that supports the inclusion of children experiencing disabilities;
 - expand access to licensed early learning and child care opportunities in child care centres, licensed homes and early years family resource centres; and,
 - support the experiences of young children in child care and early learning environments through quality focused initiatives.
- Target efforts to improve early years evaluation results with school divisions and community partners.
- Support collective action among human service ministries to improve learning outcomes for young children.



Performance Measures

Early Years Evaluation

Percentage of children whose learning and development is typical for children of the same age in Kindergarten according to an early childhood observational readiness screening tool with a focus on reading readiness skills.

Kindergarten Teacher Reports

Percentage of Kindergarten teachers who complete a Kindergarten Biennial Report. The Kindergarten teacher reports are completed once every two years, and provide information about class composition, training and professional development, and program evaluation in Kindergarten programs across the province.

Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Teacher Qualifications

Percentage of Prekindergarten and Kindergarten teachers self-reporting formal post-secondary qualifications.

Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement

The following measures demonstrate progress on investments made under the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*:

Quality

Number of licensed family child care home providers participating in training to enhance the quality of their programs.

Number of child care directors participating in training to enhance the quality of their programs.

Inclusion

Number of preschool-aged children with disabilities served annually.

Accessibility

Number of new licensed child care centre spaces created, including spaces targeted to the Francophone community.

Number of new licensed group or family child care home spaces.

Joint Use School Child Care Model

Implementation of an innovative child care model in joint use schools.



Government Goals

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Saskatchewan Plan for Growth and the Education Sector Strategic Plan: Ensure Saskatchewan leads the country in graduation rates.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

By June 30, 2020, 80 per cent of students will be at or above grade level in reading, writing and math.

By June 2019, at least 75 per cent of students will be at or above grade level in math.

Strategy

Strengthen reading, writing and math skills to develop a strong foundation for learning.

Key Actions

- Support early literacy and Prekindergarten to Grade 12 learners through increased partnerships among libraries, literacy organizations, the early years sector and the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 sector.
- Collect oral language development data for all participating students through *Help Me Tell My Story*. *Help Me Tell My Story* is a holistic and interactive tool used to measure children's oral language development.
- Collect reading data for French Immersion students in grades 2 and 3 and all other students in grades 1, 2 and 3.
- Develop writing supports for school divisions.
- Collect writing data for all students in grades 4, 7 and 9.
- In math (number strand), identify instructional strategies and develop supports for school divisions. Number strand includes content such as adding, multiplying and dividing numbers.
- Collect and share math (number strand) data for all students in grades 2, 5 and 8 and, upon request, consult with the education sector regarding the use of the math supports.
- Negotiate and fulfill the performance targets in the *Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official-Language Instruction*.
- Negotiate with the federal government on the implementation of initiatives to develop and support teacher recruitment and retention strategies for Francophone minority schools and/or French as a second-language and immersion teachers.
- Work with other provinces to build partnerships that will lead to higher quality French and French second-language instruction for Saskatchewan students.

Performance Measures

Reading, Writing and Math Achievement

Percentage of Grade 1, 2 and 3 students reading at grade level.

Percentage of Grade 4, 7 and 9 students writing at grade level.

Percentage of Grade 2, 5 and 8 students at grade level in math.



Performance Measures

French Minority Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction

Number of students enrolled in Francophone education.

Number of students enrolled in French Immersion instruction programs.

Number of students enrolled in Core French classes.

Government Goals

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Saskatchewan Plan for Growth and the Education Sector Strategic Plan: Ensure Saskatchewan leads the country in graduation rates.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

By June 30, 2020, Saskatchewan will achieve an 85 per cent three-year graduation rate and a 90 per cent five-year graduation rate.

Strategy

Improve student supports to graduation that work toward achieving an annual increase of three percentage points in the provincial three-year graduation rate.

Key Actions

- Establish new opportunities and supports to graduation including policy reviews, communicating leading practices within school divisions, creating an electronic student profile, recognition of dual credits, locally developed courses, modified courses and *Adult 12*. The *Adult 12* program provides students with an equivalent Saskatchewan Grade 12 standing.
- Share leading practices in improving graduation rates and transitions, including a mechanism for data collection.
- Support the sector, including internal Ministry system, in the implementation of *MySchoolSask*, a provincial student information system.
- Support school divisions and First Nations education organizations in fostering safe, welcoming school communities in which everyone feels accepted and respected, including a focus on mental well-being.
- Continue to support *Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan* with a priority for the mental health of students.
- Through joint planning with human service ministries, work on shared priorities including: early years and Kindergarten readiness; improved access to mental health and addictions services; transitions from Grade 12 to employment or post-secondary education and training; and, community safety and well-being.
- Renew secondary curriculum and supports for instruction.
- Ensure that curricula are developed that meet the needs of all students including the Fransaskois, First Nations, Métis, Inuit and newcomers, as well as multi-graded classrooms.



Performance Measures

Provincial Three-Year and Five-Year Graduation Rates

Annual percentage of students who graduate within three and five years of starting Grade 10.

Attendance

Percentage of all Kindergarten to Grade 12 students with 80 per cent or higher attendance.

Curricula Renewed

Grade level curricula renewed for Fransaskois, French Immersion and English programs, addressing the needs of all students.

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Saskatchewan Plan for Growth and the Education Sector Strategic Plan: Reduce the difference in Grade 12 graduation rates between First Nations, Métis and Inuit students and non-Indigenous students in the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 system by 50 per cent by 2020.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

Collaboration between First Nations, Métis and Inuit and non-Indigenous partners will result in significant improvement in First Nations, Métis and Inuit student engagement and will increase the three-year graduation rate from 35 per cent in June 2012 to at least 65 per cent, and the five-year graduation rate from 50 per cent in June 2014 to at least 75 per cent in June 2020.

Strategies

Work collaboratively with school divisions, First Nations education organizations and education sector organizations to achieve an annual increase of four percentage points in the First Nations, Métis and Inuit three-year and five-year graduation rates.

Key Actions

- Engage with First Nation, Métis and provincial partners to implement the *Inspiring Success: First Nations and Métis PreK-12 Education Policy Framework* to:
 - guide school divisions in planning and reporting on initiatives aligned with the policy framework;
 - encourage partnerships between First Nations and Métis education organizations, provincial school divisions and other education partners; and,
 - develop relevant tools and resources in support of the goals of *Inspiring Success*.
- Implement the renewal of *Invitational Shared Services Initiatives*, which are partnerships between school divisions and First Nation education organizations.
- Continue to support the implementation of *Following Their Voices* in provincial and First Nations schools. *Following Their Voices* focuses on enhancing relationships between students and teachers by changing interactions, teacher instructional practices and the learning environment in order to engage and support students.



- Support the development and implementation of First Nations, Métis and Inuit engagement plans as delivered by provincial Family Literacy Hubs and the Saskatchewan Literacy Network.
- Support the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action:
 - Commit to continued engagement with First Nations, Métis and Inuit people through government key initiatives that align with the Calls to Action;
 - Promote increased cultural competency in the Ministry of Education.
- Support school divisions and First Nations education organizations in identifying and engaging disengaged and non-attending students using school and division level data.

Performance Measures

Invitational Shared Services Initiative (ISSI)

Number of reporting schools in ISSI partnerships that showed improvement on Education Sector Strategic Plan student outcome measures including three-year and five-year graduation rates, attendance and credit attainment.

Following Their Voices (FTV)

Participating FTV schools' data including: three-year and five-year graduation rates; credit attainment; attendance; and, student engagement as measured by a student perception survey.

Student Engagement

Grade 4-12 students' responses to a student perception survey that measures engagement, instruction and school environment.

Government Goals



Saskatchewan Plan for Growth: The Government of Saskatchewan will invest in the infrastructure needed to support education and quality of life priorities.

Ministry Goal

Ensure safe, secure and functional learning facilities in partnership with the sector.

Key Actions

- Support and provide oversight and direction to major capital requests received from school divisions and approved to proceed with design and construction work.
- Support safe, secure school facilities and address emergent infrastructure needs through policy and increased investment in the *Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Program*.
- Provide relocatable classrooms to school divisions to address their space challenges and to help manage the impact of growth.
- Partner with federal government and Francophone community associations to implement the French Minority Language Infrastructure program for the development of the Fransaskois Community Archives.



Performance Measures

School Utilization Rate

A utilization rate represents an indication of how full the school is based on the size of the facility and the enrolment.

Facility Condition Index

The Facility Condition Index is a comparative indicator of the relative condition of facilities expressed as a percentage.

Government Goals

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Ministry Key Actions

- Continue to review, renew or update *The Education Act, 1995* and associated regulations and *The Public Libraries Act, 1996*.
- Engage with library sector groups to review the report on public libraries, and determine next steps.
- Renew the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* for 2020-21 to 2022-23.
- Continue to work collaboratively with education partners to co-construct a framework that will form the basis for a five- to ten-year provincial education plan for the sector.

Highlights

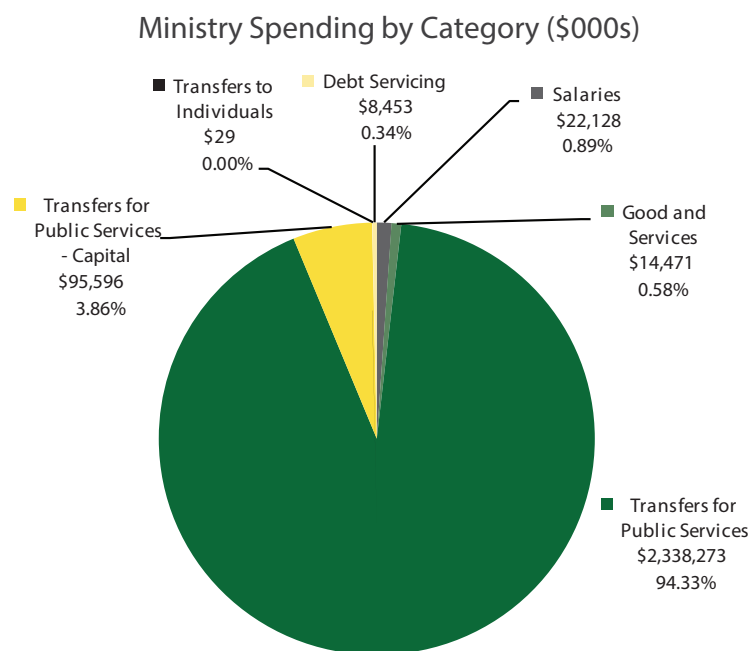
2019-20 Budget Highlights:

- The 2019-20 Budget provides \$2.48 billion for the Ministry of Education, which supports Prekindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms, early learning and child care, libraries and literacy.
- Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions will receive \$1.90 billion in school operating funding for the 2019-20 school year. This is an increase of \$26.2 million or 1.4 per cent increase to operating funding over last school year.
- \$10.5 million for operating grants for qualified independent schools and historical high schools, an increase of \$879,000, due to increased enrolment.
- \$95.6 million for capital investments including:
 - \$3.3 million to provide planning and design funding for the replacement of two schools in Regina and four schools in Moose Jaw, as well as, to determine the scope of a replacement school for St. Frances Elementary in Saskatoon;
 - \$29.0 million to provide funding for two ongoing major school consolidation projects in Rosthern and Weyburn;
 - \$55.9 million for preventative maintenance, renewal and emergency funding;
 - \$6.4 million for relocatable classrooms; and,
 - \$1.0 million for school facility assessments.
- \$72.6 million for child care funding, which includes \$15.1 million in funding provided by the federal government through the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*.
- \$15.6 million in continued funding for *KidsFirst*.
- \$4.3 million in continued funding for Early Childhood Intervention Programs.
- \$2.4 million in continued funding for nutrition programs.
- \$11.2 million in supports for libraries, a \$128,000 increase over last year including:
 - \$6.0 million in resource sharing grants for the seven regional library systems;
 - \$989,000 in resource sharing grants for the Pahnkissimon Nuyeh?ah Library System in Northern Saskatchewan;
 - \$1.4 million for municipal libraries in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert; and,
 - \$2.8 million to support universal access to library services, and for infrastructure including internet connectivity and the Single Integrated Library System.
- \$1.0 million in continued funding to support Saskatchewan's literacy programs, including:
 - \$541,000 to the network of Family Literacy Hubs; and,
 - \$500,000 to continue to support the provision of 20 summer literacy camps in eight school divisions.
- \$5.1 million in ongoing funding in response to the *Joint Task Force on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People* for the following initiatives:
 - \$2.4 million to continue the *Invitational Shared Services Initiative*;
 - \$1.6 million to continue support of *Following Their Voices* (First Nations and Métis Student Achievement Initiative);
 - \$1.0 million to support *Help Me Tell My Story and Help Me Talk About Math*; and,
 - \$100,000 for Microsoft Software Licensing.

Financial Summary

2019-20 Estimates		(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services		12,468
K-12 Education		1,944,490
Early Years		96,905
Literacy		1,359
Provincial Library		12,899
Appropriation		2,068,121
Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment		389
Expense		2,068,510
Teachers' Pension and Benefits		410,829
Total Expense		2,479,339
Total Appropriation		2,478,950

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget>.



For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/education>.