

Ministry of Education



Plan for 2020-21

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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 2020-21.

Government Direction and Budget 2020-21 is focused on growth for a better quality of life – fostering a strong economy, creating strong communities and strong families – and Building a Strong Saskatchewan.

The Ministry of Education is committed to building a strong province for children and youth, families and lifelong learners.

As our education system transitions from the Education Sector Strategic Plan 2014-2020 to a new provincial education plan that is being developed together with our education partners, we will continue to focus on shared goals that ensure our students are given the foundational skills and knowledge that will prepare them for their future.

Our government is committed to supporting students and making decisions and investments that put them first. This is a commitment we continue to pursue by making investments in infrastructure to provide students with safe, secure and functional learning facilities in which to grow and learn.

Early childhood education is a top priority for our government. Moving forward, we will continue to support families in their roles as parents and caregivers by improving access to high quality early learning and child care opportunities.

We understand the importance of families learning together and that literacy is critical to children's success, now and as they grow into adulthood. We value our library and literacy sectors and remain committed to supporting universal access to services and contributing to lifelong learning.

We will continue working in partnership with our education, early years and library and literacy sectors for the benefit and prosperity of all Saskatchewan students and families. Investment in our students not only prepares them for a successful future, but a successful future for our province.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to *Building a Strong Saskatchewan*. Investing in strong communities and strong families creates opportunities for a better quality of life for the people of our province. Maintaining a strong economy will enable us to build upon the past decade of growth and continue to provide the services, jobs and infrastructure that meets Saskatchewan's needs.

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."

A Strong Economy

Strong Communities

Strong Families

Saskatchewan's vision and three goals provide the strategic direction for organizations to align their programs and services to build a strong Saskatchewan.

All organizations will report on progress in their 2020-21 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



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Saskatchewan's Growth Plan:

- "Ensure the K-12 system builds resiliency in students and the foundational skills, knowledge and competencies through the completion of a high school diploma."
- "Build pathways to the workforce through the K-12 system."

Ministry Goal and Education Sector Goals

The outcomes of the Education Sector Strategic Plan are achieved in partnership with school divisions and First Nations and Métis education organizations. Outcomes include:

- 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.
- By June 30, 2020, 80 per cent of students will be at or above grade level in reading, writing and math.
- By June 30, 2020, collaboration between First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners and non-Indigenous partners will result in significant improvement in the 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.
- By June 30, 2020, Saskatchewan will achieve an 85 per cent three-year graduation rate and a 90 per cent five-year graduation rate.

Strategies

- Continue to work with sector partners to focus action on achieving the outcomes of the Education Sector Strategic Plan.
- Use data to inform actions at all levels of the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education system.
- Encourage use of effective practices across the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education sector.
- Build relationships with First Nations and Métis education organizations and Indigenous Services Canada to provide support for Indigenous students regardless of where they attend school.



Key Actions

- Develop and implement community early years engagement networks, a collaborative approach among sector partners focused on getting the greatest number of children ready for school across the province.
- Encourage all provincial school divisions and First Nations education organizations to use *Help Me Tell My Story* and *Help Me Talk About Math*, which are holistic and interactive tools used to measure children’s oral language development, growth of numeracy skills and understanding of mathematical processes.
- Develop a *SaskMATH* web resource to support high quality math instruction and assessment.
- Foster improvement in reading, writing and math through facilitating data collection and resource sharing in the sector.
- Continue to support and monitor *Following Their Voices* in schools and expand effective practices beyond the classrooms.
- Encourage shared commitment to the goals of the Education Sector Strategic Plan by supporting partnerships between First Nations education systems and school divisions through *Invitational Shared Services Initiatives*.
- Engage with First Nation, Métis and provincial partners to implement the *Inspiring Success: First Nations and Métis PreK-12 Education Policy Framework* to:
 - work with partner organizations to host a symposium focused on Indigenous education in Saskatchewan;
 - promote increased understanding of First Nations and Métis perspectives and culturally appropriate programming in education; and,
 - collaborate with school divisions, Métis and First Nations education organizations and provincial partners to develop and share tools, resources and processes to support the continued implementation of *Inspiring Success*.
- Support implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action through:
 - continued engagement with First Nations, Métis and Inuit students, parents and caregivers through key initiatives that align with the Calls to Action;
 - promotion of intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect in education; and,
 - recognition of the five-year anniversary of the final report of the TRC of Canada.
- Support the provincial education sector and First Nations education organizations in the provision of, and support for responding to, student, family and educator perceptual surveys.
- Continue to support *Leading to Learn*, a capacity building administrator professional development model to support Indigenous student success.
- Assist schools in identifying and engaging disengaged and non-attending students and by reporting attendance.
- Support schools in sharing and leveraging successful initiatives emerging from school divisions and First Nations education organizations.
- Support students’ transitions into schools, out of school and among schools, including access to programs for youth in hospital, in care or transitioning from custody.
- Implement *MySchoolSask/MonÉcoleSask*, a provincial unified student information system.

Performance Measures

Early Learning Readiness

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

Reading Achievement

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

Writing Achievement

Percentage of students at grade level on a provincial writing rubric in grades 4, 7 and 9.



Math Achievement

Percentage of students at grade level on a provincial Math Number Strand rubric in grades 2, 5 and 8.

Graduation Rate

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

Government Goals



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Ministry Goal

- Saskatchewan’s Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education system will be recognized for providing students with a high quality education.

Strategies

- Engage sector partners in curriculum renewal and examining future curriculum considerations.
- Encourage innovation to improve student experience and results within the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education system.
- Support students’ mental health and well-being so that they have optimal benefit from learning.
- Provide education supports for learners with diverse needs.
- Engage students, parents, community and other partners in support of student learning and well-being.

Key Actions

- Work with teachers and post-secondary and industry experts to create curricula that are: relevant and future-focused; meet the diverse needs of Saskatchewan students; include workforce and life preparation; provide multiple pathways to graduation; and are available in English and French, as appropriate.
- Encourage innovation within the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education system, informed by:
 - a strategic relationship with the Atlantic Rim Collaboratory to explore, with international partners, how assessment can enhance equity, inclusion and social justice and address accountability and public confidence;
 - development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Gonski Institute for Education, addressing the areas of early years education, education in urban and rural settings, and Indigenous education;
 - strengthening relationships with First Nations and Métis education partners through current and new initiatives and a renewed partnership with the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations with the following shared goals:
 - greater outcomes of success for First Nation learners and a higher successful graduation rate;
 - recruitment of First Nations teachers, principals, administrators and superintendents in provincial school systems;
 - combating racism using culturally appropriate curriculum and teaching Treaties in the classroom; and,
 - establishment of a provincial education council to advise the development and provide governance oversight of a provincial education plan.
- Provide school divisions with mental health and wellness supports for students, e.g., anti-bullying resources, and support of the *Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan*.
- Work with northern school divisions, First Nations and Métis education organizations, and other ministries to support improved outcomes for northern students.



Performance Measures

Curricula Renewed

Curricula renewed for Fransaskois, French Immersion and English programs.

Government Goals

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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 Goal

- *Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan 2016-2020* will be implemented by working with the early years sector, including child care, Prekindergarten, community-based organizations, school divisions, the Saskatchewan Health Authority and First Nations and Métis partners.

Strategies

- Work with partners to focus on healthy early childhood development.
- Improve access to high quality early learning and child care opportunities.
- Support families in their roles as parents and caregivers.
- Align programs and services at the provincial and community levels.

Key Actions

- In alignment with Saskatchewan's five-year 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 and licensed homes; and,
 - support the experiences of young children in child care and early learning environments through quality focused initiatives.
- Expand early years family resource centres as a way to improve access to early years programming and family support.
- Work with post-secondary institutions, including Prekindergarten programs where able, to increase access to Early Childhood Education learning opportunities.
- Increase the availability of early learning spaces.
- Strengthen inclusion intervention for children with intensive needs up to six years of age.
- Evaluate the joint-use schools child care model and expand, if warranted.

Performance Measures

Accessibility

Number of children in licensed child care and Prekindergarten programs in Saskatchewan.

Inclusivity

Number of families and communities participating in child care or early learning programs for children experiencing disabilities.



Government Goals

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Saskatchewan's Growth Plan:

- Ensuring investments are affordable within a balanced budget, the Government of Saskatchewan will continue to invest in our communities and families to improve their quality of life as the province's economy and population grows over the next decade.
- Building an accessible Saskatchewan for people with disabilities.

Ministry Goal

- Support for library and literacy programs enhances literacy, community vibrancy and contributes to residents' lifelong learning and participation in the economy.

Strategies

- Work with family literacy partners to enhance and target expansion of family literacy programs and services.
- Work with library sector partners to provide all Saskatchewan residents with equitable province-wide access to all public library services.
- Partner with library sector partners to support successful library services, programs and governance.

Key Actions

- Renew the family literacy program.
- Support family literacy hubs in improving their services for Indigenous families. Family literacy hubs are regionally-based organizations providing family literacy awareness, programs, services and resources.
- Support libraries in the provision of programming for newcomers to Canada and people with print disabilities.
- Focus on maintaining accessible library services for all people to have equal opportunity to access library services, programs and resources.
- Explore the demand for additional summer literacy programs such as literacy camps and summer reading programs.

Performance Measures

Summer Literacy Camps

Number of participating school divisions.

Number of summer literacy camps.

Number of participants.

Average daily reading time per participant.

Public Libraries

Number of active library cards.

Number of programs provided by public libraries.

Number of usage of multilingual resources.

Number of usage of resources for those with print disabilities.

Circulations

Circulation among library systems and measure of reciprocal borrowing.



Government Goals

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Saskatchewan's Growth Plan:

- Support the foundational education, training and student development system to prepare our children and youth to succeed in the economy once they graduate.

Ministry Goal

- Ministry services and supports are responsive and sustainable.

Strategies

- Engage sector partners in planning and priority-setting.
- Continue to pursue continuous improvement in all sector programs and initiatives.
- Strengthen accountability relationships in the sector.
- Leverage federal and provincial-territorial relationships to further ministry and government priorities.
- Work with other ministries to achieve ministry and government goals.

Key Actions

- Support education sector partners in developing and implementing projects aimed at finding savings in the education sector.
- Collaborate with provincial education partners to develop a provincial education plan for Saskatchewan students for 2020 to 2030, ensuring goals and strategies are aligned with the four priorities of the *Framework for a Provincial Education Plan 2020-30*. The four priorities within the framework are:
 - Inclusive, safe and welcoming learning environment;
 - Ensuring students have the skills and knowledge for their future;
 - Forming connections and relationships; and,
 - Supporting mental health and well-being.
- Work with the library sector to develop and implement a public library sector plan.
- Renew and implement *Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan* in partnership with other human service ministries and the early years sector.
- Fulfill commitment to federal-provincial agreements:
 - *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*; and,
 - *Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on Minority-Language Education and Second Official-Language Instruction*.
- Support the development of interministry service hubs to improve coordination of services to students and their families.
- Work with a youth council to learn how to better support students.
- Work with the Curriculum Advisory Committee and subject-specific reference committees to establish priorities for curriculum development.
- Support a respectful and inclusive workplace by:
 - ensuring all new ministry staff complete the Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training;
 - ensuring all ministry staff complete the *Respect in the Workplace* Training; and,
 - improving recruitment and retention of self-declared Aboriginal persons and persons with a disability.



Performance Measures

Child Care Spaces

Number of child care spaces.

Number of French minority language child care spaces.

French Education and Immersion

Number of students enrolled in French Immersion instruction programs, French education (Conseil des écoles francsaskoises), Intensive French (Grade 6), and Post-Intensive French (grades 7-12).

Number of students enrolled in Core French classes.

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Saskatchewan's Growth Plan:

- The Government of Saskatchewan will continue to invest in infrastructure to deliver strong services in Saskatchewan communities.

Ministry Goal

- Safe, secure and functional learning facilities are provided in partnership with the sector.

Strategies

- Maximize facility usage, recognizing and responding to shifting population needs in rural and urban areas.
- Seek federal investment in infrastructure, as appropriate.

Key Actions

- Utilize the *Ministry of Education's Ten-Year Capital Plan* to support safe and sustainable learning environments, renew aging infrastructure and accommodate population growth.
- Work with Francophone communities to encourage participation in federal infrastructure initiatives.
- Work with *SaskBuilds* to identify infrastructure projects that are eligible for federal funding under the *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program*.
- Maximize service provision in consideration of population change in, for example, licensed child care, family resource centres, community programs, library services, or provincial schools by:
 - understanding and responding to varying needs; and,
 - strengthening collaborative approaches to delivering services.
- Encourage community use of education facilities.

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.

Highlights

2020-21 Budget Highlights:

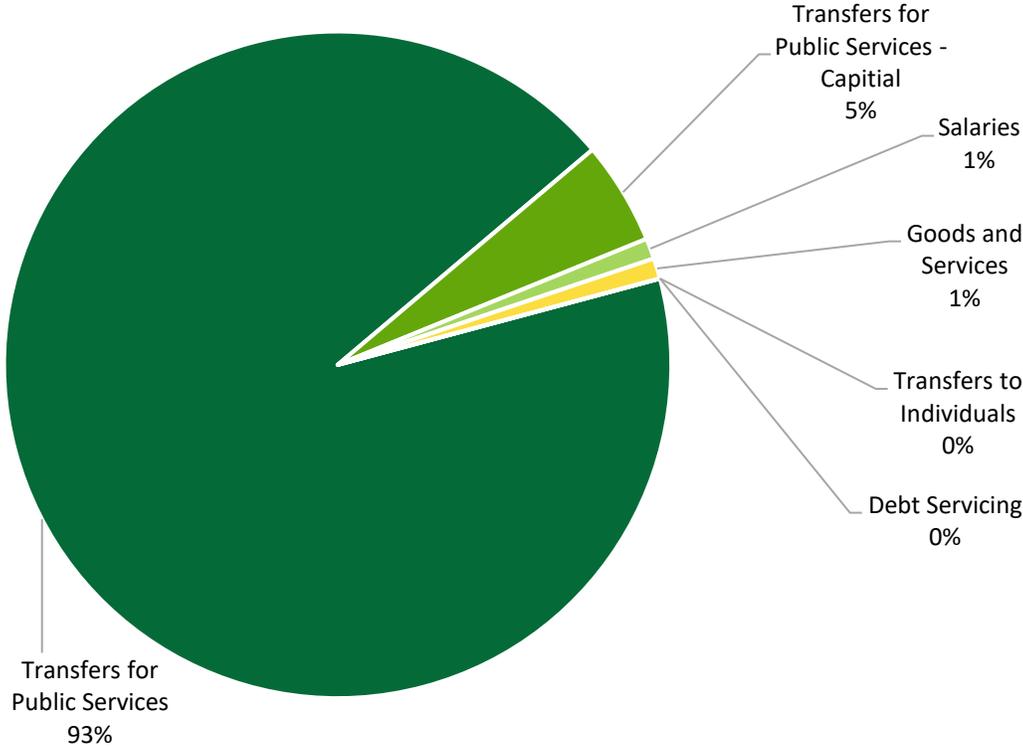
- The 2020-21 Budget provides \$2.57 billion, an increase of \$86 million or 3.5 per cent over last year, for the Ministry of Education, which supports Prekindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms, early learning and child care, libraries and literacy.
- Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions will receive \$1.94 billion in school operating funding for the 2020-21 school year, an increase of \$42.1 million over last year's \$1.90 billion budget. This increase provides school divisions with funding for enrolment growth and inflation. An increase related to the teachers' collective bargaining agreement is also included.
- \$11.8 million in operating grants for qualified independent schools and historical high schools, an increase of \$1.3 million, due to increased enrolment and an increase of student funding to align historical high schools with associate schools.
- \$130.4 million for capital investments, an increase of \$34.8 million or 36.4 per cent over 2019-20, which includes:
 - \$8.5 million to begin planning and design on the building of seven new schools and renovations on three existing schools, including:
 - a new joint-use facility with two elementary schools in Regina's Harbour Landing neighbourhood;
 - consolidation of the elementary school and high school in Carrot River;
 - renovations to Yorkton Regional High School;
 - renovations and addition to John Paul II Collegiate in North Battleford;
 - a new elementary school to replace Princess Alexandra, King George and Pleasant Hill elementary schools in Saskatoon;
 - a joint-use facility with two elementary schools to replace St. Peter, St. Michael and Imperial elementary schools in Regina;
 - replacement of St. Frances Elementary in Saskatoon; and,
 - renovations and addition to Athol Murray College of Notre Dame.
 - \$500,000 to assess the current state of high schools in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon and determine the future high school needs for east Regina and east Saskatoon.
 - \$46.9 million to provide funding for four ongoing major school consolidation projects in Rosthern, Weyburn, Moose Jaw and Regina.
 - \$62.9 million for preventative maintenance, renewal and emergency funding, which includes \$12 million from the *Canada-Saskatchewan Climate Action Initiative Fund*.
 - \$10.6 million for relocatable classrooms; and,
 - \$1 million for school facility assessments
- \$73.5 million for licensed child care, including:
 - an increase of \$350,000 in provincial funding for specialized Prekindergarten programming to support preschool-aged children with intensive needs; and,
 - an increase of \$1.7 million for child care centres for operating costs.
- \$16.0 million in funding for *KidsFirst*, an increase of \$399,000.
- \$4.4 million for Early Childhood Intervention Programs, an increase of \$109,000.
- \$11.3 million in supports for libraries, an increase of \$84,000 from 2019-20, including:
 - \$6.1 million in resource sharing grants for the seven regional library systems, an increase of \$60,000;
 - \$1 million in resource sharing grants for Pahnkisiimon Nuyeh'áh Library System in Northern Saskatchewan, an increase of \$10,000;
 - \$1.4 million for municipal libraries in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert, an increase of \$14,000; and,
 - \$2.8 million in continued support of accessible library services and for infrastructure including internet connectivity and the Single Integrated Library System.
- \$1 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 for the following initiatives:
 - \$2.4 million to continue the Invitational *Shared Services Initiative*;
 - \$2.1 million continued support of *Following Their Voices* (First Nations and Métis Student Achievement Initiative);
 - \$300,000 in continued support of *Help Me Tell My Story* and *Help Me Talk About Math*;
 - \$200,000 in continued support of *Leading to Learn*, a professional learning opportunity for provincial and First Nations' school principals; and,
 - \$137,000 for Microsoft software licensing.

Financial Summary

| Ministry of Education 2020-21 Estimates (\$2,565 million) | (in thousands of dollars) |
|---|---------------------------|
| Central Management and Services | \$13,733 |
| K-12 Education | \$2,021,343 |
| Early Years | \$98,317 |
| Provincial Library and Literacy | \$14,393 |
| Appropriation | \$2,147,786 |
| Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment | \$389 |
| Expenses | \$2,148,175 |
| Teachers' Pension and Benefits | \$417,153 |
| Total Expenses | \$2,565,328 |
| Total Appropriation | \$2,564,939 |

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

Ministry of Education Spending by Category



For More Information

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