

Business Plan

2025-26

Ministry of Education

Saskatchewan! 

Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable Everett Hindley
Minister of Education*

I am honoured to present the 2025-26 Ministry of Education Business Plan.

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing a record budget of \$3.5 billion for the Ministry of Education. This is an increase of \$183.5 million, or 5.5 per cent over last year and supports Prekindergarten to Grade 12 schools, early learning and child care and libraries.

Over the past year, we have made significant strides in strengthening Saskatchewan's education system. The introduction of Specialized Support Classrooms has provided targeted interventions for students facing complex learning challenges, and we are building on that success by expanding this initiative to add 200 more classrooms, starting with 50 more in 2025-26. Efforts to enhance literacy, particularly for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3, are also laying a foundation for improved learning outcomes across the province.

As we look ahead to 2025-26, our focus remains on ensuring that all students feel safe, supported, and empowered to achieve their full potential. The Provincial Education Plan continues to guide our efforts, emphasizing key areas such as skills and knowledge development, mental health and well-being, and positive learning environments.

Collaboration with school divisions, First Nations education authorities, and key education partners continues to be central to our plan. We are committed to enhancing classroom support, expanding access to specialized learning resources, and strengthening assessment programs to ensure students have the tools they need to succeed. Additionally, the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Centre continues to offer diverse learning opportunities, ensuring students across the province can access online education regardless of their location.

Early learning and childcare remain a priority, as we work to expand quality child care options and support families in providing the best start for their children. Investments in school infrastructure and maintenance will continue to ensure safe and modern learning spaces for students and educators alike.

Education is a shared responsibility, and I am grateful for the dedication of educators, school staff, families, and communities in supporting student success. Through these collective efforts, we will continue to build a strong and inclusive education system.

Thank you for your commitment to education and for supporting the success of Saskatchewan.

2025-26 Budget Highlights

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| 1 | The Government of Saskatchewan is investing \$3.5 billion to support Prekindergarten to Grade 12 schools, early learning and childcare, and libraries. |
| 2 | Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions will receive \$2.4 billion in school operating funding for the 2025- 26 school year, a record increase of \$186.4 million or 8.4 per cent. |
| 3 | Increased investment of \$1.6 million to expand the Mental Health Capacity Building initiative within school divisions. |
| 4 | <p>\$191.3 million is invested for school infrastructure. This includes \$28.5 million for relocatable classrooms, ongoing funding for 21 new or consolidated schools, three major renovations and three minor capital renewal projects underway across Saskatchewan. Also included is funding to begin planning for one new replacement school, pre-planning for four new schools and three new minor capital renewal projects.</p> <p>In addition, boards of education and the conseil scolaire will receive \$65 million for Preventative Maintenance and Renewal projects to maintain existing facilities, an increase of \$15 million or 30 per cent.</p> |
| 5 | <p>The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to increasing access to high-quality early learning and child care for Saskatchewan. Funding for early learning and child care in this year's budget is \$413.3 million.</p> <p>Saskatchewan has achieved 75 per cent of the ambitious target of 28,000 new spaces set in the <i>Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i>. This rapid pace of development will continue over 2025-26.</p> |

Government Vision and Goals

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."

>> Government Goals

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 2025-26 annual reports.

Ministry of Education Overview

Mandate

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

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.

Goal 1: Saskatchewan citizens of all ages learn, develop and experience improved quality of life.

This ministry goal aligns with the achievement of Saskatchewan's Growth Plan 2020-2030 by: supporting and developing lifelong learning and participation in the economy through a skilled labour force; building better communities and stronger families through improved education and training through all stages in life; providing greater access to child care and early learning; and building an inclusive and diverse community for people from all walks of life, giving Saskatchewan residents a better quality of life.

Strategy 1.1:

Improve learner outcomes.

Key Actions:

- Partner with the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 (PreK-12) education sector to develop and administer the Saskatchewan Student Assessment, a program to assess and support student learning and success.
- Focus on advancing early reading levels by leveraging innovative approaches to reading.
- Support the early years and literacy sectors and PreK-12 education system in providing learners with necessary foundational skills, knowledge and competencies.
- Strengthen partnerships to prepare learners for post-secondary education, entrepreneurship, business and self-management of their careers.

Strategy 1.2:

Improve access to services and programs.

Key Actions:

- Continue to implement actions to achieve the affordability, quality, access and inclusion targets established in the *Canada-Saskatchewan Bilateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* and the *Canada Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*.
- Promote usage of the Enhanced Accessibility (EA) Grant to support child care facilities providing service to children with intensive needs.
- Continue to improve online access to programs, resources and services.
- Work with other ministries to advance Saskatchewan's Children and Youth Strategy.

Strategy 1.3:

Improve services and supports by identifying and sharing innovative practices.

Key Actions:

- Expand Specialized Support Classroom model to all 27 school divisions to provide direct support to classroom complexity.

Performance Measures:

Early learning readiness, Grade 3 reading levels and graduation rates are important indicators. Readiness for learning by the end of Kindergarten sets the foundation for future learning and success in school. Grade 3 reading levels are a predictor of success in school. Grade 12 graduation is an important milestone and measure for the PreK-12 education system. Generally, individuals who complete Grade 12 have more opportunities for education and work, and experience better health and well-being. When more students graduate, Saskatchewan benefits from an educated and engaged population and availability of skilled and knowledgeable entrepreneurs and employees.

Early Learning Readiness

- Percentage of children in Kindergarten whose learning and development is typical for children of the same age.

Reading Levels

- Percentage of students in Grade 3 reading at or above grade level.

Graduation Rates

- Percentage of students graduating within three years and five years of starting Grade 10.

Classroom Complexity

- By March 31, 2026, there will be an additional 50 Specialized Support Classrooms.

Goal 2: Indigenous learners experience improved outcomes.

This ministry goal supports the achievement of Saskatchewan’s Growth Plan 2020-2030 by: delivering on the growth of the economy, communities and families through equitable opportunities for all residents. We achieve this goal by working in partnership with Indigenous peoples, recognizing our shared history and honouring Indigenous voices and contribution.

Strategy 2.1:

Improve educational outcomes and opportunities for Indigenous learners through partnerships and relationships.

Key Actions:

- Continue to work with First Nations and Métis education organizations in the implementation of the Provincial Education Plan (PEP).
- Work with partners in education toward the vision and goals of *Inspiring Success: PreK-12 First Nations and Métis Education Policy Framework*.
- Work with First Nations education systems to share access to training, network connectivity, security and licensed applications.
- Enhance opportunities for learning and family literacy in northern Saskatchewan.
- Work with Indigenous partners and the Government of Canada to maximize support for Indigenous learners.

Strategy 2.2:

Support action toward reconciliation, honouring the contributions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

Key Actions:

- Improve cultural relevance and responsiveness in ministry and sector supports and services by engaging with Indigenous partners, Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- Assist the library and literacy sectors in creating diverse, equitable and inclusive organizations, including initiatives specific to truth and reconciliation.
- Advance progress on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action and Principles of Reconciliation and the Calls for Justice from the *Final Report of the National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*.

Performance Measures:

Actualizing the vision and goals of Inspiring Success is one of the four priorities of the Provincial Education Plan (PEP). The Ministry of Education has worked with the education sector to create this plan. Through professional development, continued inclusion of Indigenous voices in curriculum and resource development, Indigenous learners will experience improved outcomes.

Increasing Graduation Rates for Indigenous Students

- Graduation rates will increase annually.

Goal 3: Saskatchewan citizens of all ages feel safe and supported in their learning and development.

This ministry goal encourages the achievement of Saskatchewan’s Growth Plan 2020-2030 by: supporting the family literacy sector and PreK-12 education systems in building resiliency in students. Through fostering physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health and well-being in learners of all ages; the ministry aims to build the foundational skills, knowledge and competencies of citizens.

Strategy 3.1:

Support safe, respectful, inclusive and culturally affirming environments for learning, growing and developing.

Key Actions:

- Support learning environments through investments in family literacy, early years and PreK- 12 operations and infrastructure.
- Establish child care spaces in new school projects.
- Deliver major capital projects that support high-quality education environments:
 - Replacement of South Corman Park School;
 - Pre-planning for a new joint-use public and Catholic elementary school in Saskatoon Northeast (Aspen Ridge);
 - Pre-planning for new public and Catholic elementary schools in Saskatoon West (Kensington);
 - New Regina East joint-use elementary school (The Towns);
 - New Regina East joint-use high school (The Towns);
 - New Saskatoon East joint-use high school (Holmwood);
 - New Saskatoon East joint-use elementary school (Brighton);
 - New K-12 school to replace and consolidate the elementary and high schools in Lanigan;
 - New K-12 school to replace and consolidate the elementary and high schools in Carlyle;
 - New elementary school to replace Princess Alexandra, King George and Pleasant Hill elementary schools in Saskatoon;
 - New joint-use elementary school to replace Sacred Heart, St. Mary, Empire and Westmount schools in Moose Jaw;
 - New joint-use elementary school to replace St. Peter, St. Michael, Imperial and McDermid schools in Regina;
 - New elementary school to replace St. Frances Cree Bilingual Elementary School in Saskatoon;
 - New Francophone PreK-12 school in Prince Albert to replace École Valois;
 - New Francophone elementary school in Saskatoon;
 - New joint-use elementary school in Regina’s Harbour Landing neighbourhood;
 - New high school to replace Minahik Waskahigan High School in Pinehouse;
 - Renovations and addition to Greenall High School in Balgonie;
 - Renovations to Campbell Collegiate in Regina; and,
 - Renovations to Swift Current Comprehensive High School.

- Investing in building improvements and equipment upgrades to improve educational facilities across Saskatchewan:
 - a new project at Canora Composite School for roof and exterior repairs;
 - a new renovation project at Barr Colony School in Lloydminster;
 - a new roof replacement project at St. Olivier School in Radville;
 - ongoing funding for the renovation and roof repair project at Waldheim School;
 - ongoing funding for the gym at Moswakanisihk Community School in Jans Bay;
 - ongoing funding for a renovation project at St. John Community School in Prince Albert;
 - completion of consolidation of the Kelvington elementary and high schools;
 - completion of renovation at Kyle Composite School;
 - completion of renovation at Medstead Central School; and,
 - completion of renovation at École St. Margaret in Moose Jaw.
- Implement the use of the online student Check-In Tool in *Following Their Voices*¹ schools.
- Work with sector partners to create safe, inclusive learning environments that respect learners' diverse cultures, languages, experiences and world views.

Strategy 3.2:

Foster an environment that supports physical and mental health for all learners.

Key Actions:

- Work with the PreK-12 education sector to implement actions as part of the Provincial Education Plan (PEP) that will enhance mental health and well-being capacity in students.
- Support interministerial actions through Integrated Youth Services as well as addressing recommendations in the Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth's *Desperately Waiting* report.

Performance Measures:

When students feel connected to and safe in school, they will be more engaged in learning.

Student Experience

- Percentage of students that report a sense of connection and safety in schools.

¹ *Following Their Voices* is an initiative the ministry has designed with the education sector to improve student outcomes by changing student- teacher relationships, teacher instructional practices and the learning environment to better engage and support Indigenous students.

Goal 4: Saskatchewan’s early years, Prekindergarten to Grade 12, library and literacy sectors are effective.

This ministry goal supports the achievement of Saskatchewan’s Growth Plan 2020-2030 by: delivering on a transparent strategic direction, effective governance and communication and mechanisms to monitor growth and accountability in the education sector.

Strategy 4.1:

Provide leadership and strategic direction to the early years, PreK-12, library and literacy sectors.

Key Actions:

- Cultivate an engaged, and high performing representative workforce through recruitment strategies and professional development opportunities.
- Encourage transparency through effective stewardship and oversight of sector delivery partners.
- Work with partners in the sectors to develop, implement, monitor and report on progress for sector strategic plans.
- Leverage federal and provincial-territorial relationships and agreements to further government, Ministry of Education and sector priorities.

Strategy 4.2:

Encourage and support equity, efficiency and effectiveness.

Key Actions:

- Support sector partners in achieving efficiencies.
- Review and implement improvements to programs, policies and processes to ensure they are achieving objectives and expectations.

Performance Measures:

To provide effective leadership to its sectors, the ministry requires an engaged, high performing representative workforce. We are committed to improved outcomes year- over- year through the following performance measures:

Recruitment and Retention

- Percentage of ministry staff who self-identify as Indigenous.
- Percentage of ministry staff who self-identify as Persons experiencing a Disability.

Employee Engagement

- Employees feel they have support to be effective in their work.

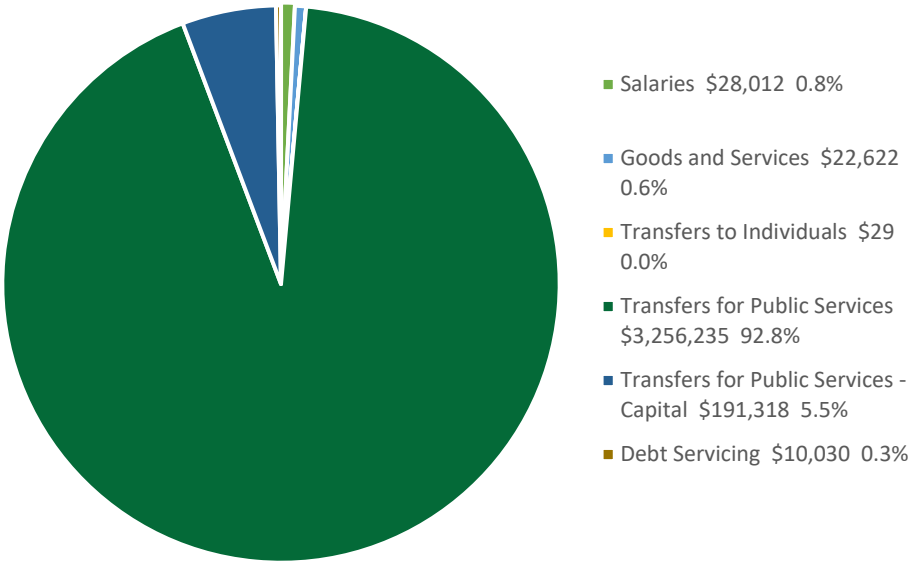
2025-26 Improvement and Innovation Highlights

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| 1 | Guided by the Provincial Education Plan (PEP), the Ministry of Education is working with education partners to develop a Saskatchewan student assessment program that will provide data on how students are doing in core subject areas. The goals of assessment are to provide a fair and objective measure of how students are doing, help guide instruction and assist schools, divisions and government in improving student achievement. |
| 2 | Specialized Support Classrooms will expand to 200 additional schools throughout the province over four years. Programming through the Specialized Support Classroom pilot in eight schools has shown positive outcomes. This program provides classrooms with specialized supports to help students practice self-regulation skills while also addressing the impacts of disruptions in the home classroom. It aims to provide long-term solutions for targeted intervention methods and increase teacher capacity to manage complex classrooms. |
| 3 | Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada have announced that regulated child care facilities across the province will now receive up to \$3,200 per month for every child eligible under the Enhanced Accessibility (EA) Grant, an increase of \$1,200. The EA Grant assists regulated child care facilities in covering the additional costs associated with offering services to children who have intensive needs across various areas of development. The Ministry of Education provides this grant directly to regulated child care facilities. The EA Grant can be used to assist with the cost of additional staffing required to care for children with exceptionally high needs. |

Financial Summary

| Ministry of Education 2025-26 Estimates (\$3,508,246) | (in thousands of dollars) |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Central Management and Services | \$14,107 |
| K-12 Education | \$2,613,297 |
| Early Years | \$413,259 |
| Provincial Library and Literacy | \$15,869 |
| Total Appropriation | \$3,056,532 |
| Teachers' Pension and Benefits | \$451,714 |
| Total Expense | \$3,508,246 |
| Total Appropriation | \$3,508,246 |

MINISTRY SPENDING BY CATEGORY (\$000s)
\$3,508.2 million



Links to More Information

- [Ministry of Education](#)
- [Government of Saskatchewan Budget, Planning and Reporting](#)