

Business Plan

2026-27

Ministry of Education

Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable Everett Hindley
Minister of Education*

It is a privilege to present the 2026-27 Ministry of Education Business Plan.

The Government of Saskatchewan is advancing its commitment to students and families through a \$3.6 billion investment in education. This investment reflects an increase of \$69.5 million or two per cent from the previous year and supports the continued growth of Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education, early learning and child care and library programs throughout the province.

As we look toward 2026-27, we remain dedicated to ensuring all students have the supports they need to learn, grow and succeed in classrooms that can keep pace with a growing population. Guided by the Provincial Education Plan, we will continue to strengthen responsive instruction, work toward an inclusive system that benefits all learners, enhance student mental health and well-being and support smooth transitions throughout students' educational journeys.

With the renewal of the Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreements, we will continue to put families first with affordable, high-quality early learning and child care to ensure a strong start for children in their learning journey. We will also enhance school food programs across all 27 school divisions through the federal National School Food Program agreement.

The next school year will see a further expansion of the Specialized Support Classroom model, continued action to improve early literacy, including the use of provincially approved literacy screening tools and the implementation of the Saskatchewan Student Assessment (SSA) program, starting with English Language Arts (ELA) 7, Math 5 and Math 9. The SSA program will measure students' knowledge, skills and academic progress consistently and objectively based on Saskatchewan's curriculum to provide valuable information about the effectiveness of educational programs and highlight areas for improvement.

We will continue to support literacy and lifelong learning with supports for libraries and family literacy. By continuing to work collaboratively, we will continue to advance key efforts that reinforce the quality of education in our province. Thank you for your dedication to our education system and for helping shape the future of Saskatchewan.

2026-27 Budget Highlights

<p>1</p>	<p>The Government of Saskatchewan is committing \$3.6 billion to support Prekindergarten to Grade 12 schools, early learning and childcare and libraries. This investment addresses the immediate needs of classrooms while advancing the long-term goals of our education system. It ensures that children, students, educators and families have access to the supports they need to learn, grow and succeed in classrooms that can keep pace with a growing province.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Saskatchewan’s 27 school divisions will receive \$2.5 billion in school operating funding for the 2026- 27 school year. This is an increase of \$62.2 million, or 2.6 per cent, over last year. This enhanced funding strengthens the capacity of schools to provide safe, welcoming environments that meet the evolving needs of learners and educators as enrolment continues to rise.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>The province is investing \$123.8 million to advance education infrastructure priorities, with three new school builds and another major renovation announced in the 2026-27 budget. In all, there are 27 approved new school or major renovations in planning, design or construction across the province. This year’s capital budget includes \$20 million for the Relocatable Classroom Program which gives school divisions flexibility to manage local pressures.</p> <p>This investment ensures that students today and into the future can learn in environments designed to support their success.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>The renewal of the <i>Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i> reinforces the Government of Saskatchewan’s commitment to putting families first by maintaining access to affordable, high-quality early learning and child care. This helps children get a strong start while providing stability for child care operators. Funding for early learning and child care in this year’s budget is \$425.5 million.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>The budget is providing \$16.3 million to support the further expansion of the Specialized Support Classroom model, helping students build self-regulation skills and creating supportive learning environments for all learners.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Through the National School Food Program rollout, more than \$9 million will be provided to school divisions to further develop school food programs across Saskatchewan’s 27 school divisions. This investment helps ensure children receive the nutrition they need to learn and succeed, while also supporting family well-being by easing household budget pressures.</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 2026-27 annual reports.

Ministry of Education Overview

Overview

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: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Improve learner outcomes.

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- 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.
- Advance early reading levels for Kindergarten to Grade 3 through curriculum renewal, the provision of a suite of reading screeners and supporting resources.
- Support the early years and family 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: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Achieve the affordability, quality, access and inclusion targets established in the extended *Canada-Saskatchewan Bilateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* and the *Canada Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* by implementing the following actions.

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Promote quality child care through ongoing monitoring and by using the SK Quality Tool.
- Support the expansion of child care spaces to reach the target of 28,000 spaces.
- Negotiate the approval of a consolidated five-year action plan with the federal government.

Strategy 1.3: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Improve services and supports by identifying and sharing innovative practices.

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Expand the Specialized Support Classroom model to help address classroom complexity.
- Continue implementing the National School Food Program with school divisions.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

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 grade level.

Graduation Rates

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

Classroom Complexity

- By March 31, 2027, there will be an additional 50 Specialized Support Classrooms to bring the total number of Specialized Support Classrooms in the province to 108.

Goal 2: Indigenous learners experience improved educational 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: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

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

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Implement the Provincial Education Plan (PEP) with First Nations and Métis education organizations.
- 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.
- Continue the use of the online student Check-In Tool in *Following Their Voices*¹ schools to incorporate student feedback for effective lesson planning.
- Support students living on-reserve, attending provincial schools through the Invitational Shared Services Initiative Partnerships.
- 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: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

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

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- 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*.

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.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

Actualizing the vision and goals of Inspiring Success is one of the four priorities of 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: The approach we will take to achieve our goal

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

Key Actions: What we will do to get there

- 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:
 - New joint-use middle/high school in Martensville-Warman;
 - A new PreK-12 school in Shellbrook to consolidate and replace the existing elementary and high schools;
 - Major renovation to Esterhazy High School;
 - South Corman Park School replacement;
 - New Saskatoon Northeast joint-use elementary school (Aspen Ridge);
 - New Saskatoon West Public and Catholic elementary schools (Kensington);
 - New Saskatoon East joint-use high school (Holmwood);
 - New Saskatoon East joint-use elementary school (Brighton);
 - Saskatoon elementary school to replace Princess Alexandra, King George and Pleasant Hill elementary schools;
 - New Regina East joint-use elementary school (The Towns);
 - New Regina East joint-use high school (The Towns);
 - New joint-use elementary school in Regina (Harbour Landing);
 - Carlyle K-12 school to replace and consolidate the elementary and high schools;
 - Prince Albert Francophone PreK-12 school to replace École Valois;
 - New Saskatoon Francophone elementary school (Kensington);
 - Pinehouse high school to replace Minahik Waskahigan High School;
 - 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 Christopher Lake to demolish and rebuild a portion of the school;
 - A project to convert oil heating systems to propane in six northern schools in the Northern Lights School Division;

- A roofing project at Laird School;
- A renovation project at the Estevan Comprehensive High School to replace the HVAC and electrical systems;
- A roof replacement project at École de Bellegarde;
- A roof replacement at Spiritwood High School;
- Completion of the Canora Composite School roof and exterior repairs;
- Completion of the renovation project at Barr Colony School in Lloydminster;
- Completion of the new roof replacement project at St. Olivier School in Radville;
- Completion of the renovation and roof repair project at Waldheim School;
- Completion of the gym at Moswakanisihk Community School in Jans Bay;
- Completion of the renovation at Medstead Central School; and,
- Completion of the renovation at École St. Margaret in Moose Jaw.
- Work with sector partners to create safe, inclusive learning environments that respect learners' diverse cultures, languages, experiences and world views.

Strategy 3.2: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

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

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Work with the PreK-12 education sector to implement actions as part of PEP that will enhance mental health and well-being capacity in students.
- Work with education partners to address violence and make schools safer.
- 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: *What success looks like*

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.

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: The approach we will take to achieve our goal

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

Key Actions: What we will do to get there

- 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: The approach we will take to achieve our goal

Encourage and support equity, efficiency and effectiveness.

Key Actions: What we will do to get there

- 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: What success looks like

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.

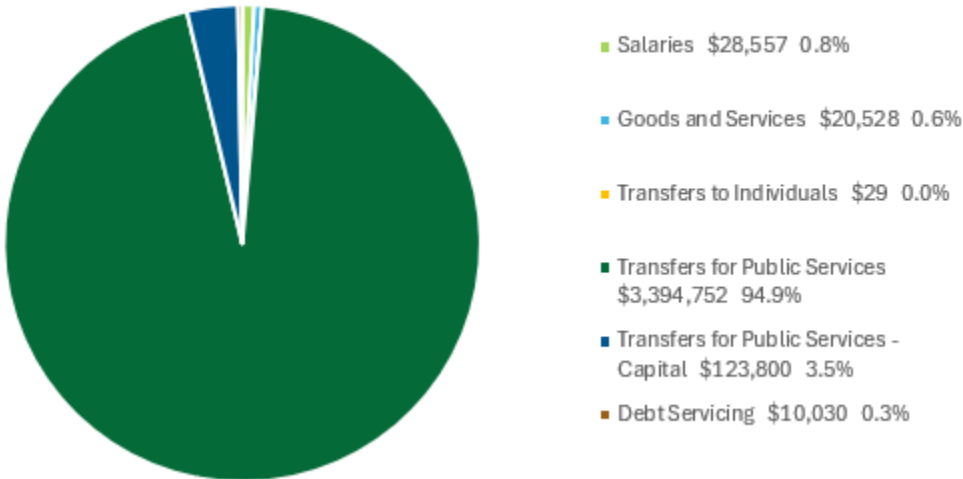
2026-27 Improvement and Innovation Highlights

<p>1</p>	<p>The ministry is continuing its expansion of the Specialized Support Classrooms model. This model assists school divisions in designing effective school-based approaches to help address challenging classroom behaviour. Specialized Support Classrooms provide specialized support to help students practice self-regulation skills while also addressing the impacts of disruptions in the home classroom. The model provides additional supports to students who need it, by offering successful targeted intervention methods and building teacher expertise and capacity to manage complex classrooms.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Saskatchewan signed five-year extensions on the <i>Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i> and the <i>Canada-Saskatchewan Bilateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreement</i>, as well as a one-year extension on the <i>Early Learning and Child Care Infrastructure Fund</i>. Saskatchewan has negotiated changes such as including \$10 a day child care for children turning six while in child care until they complete that school year.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education is implementing the National School Food Program. This program builds on the work being done through the Saskatchewan Child Nutrition Program by providing funding to school divisions, who are working to expand or develop new food programs in Saskatchewan schools. This helps to further the goal of providing a better quality of life for Saskatchewan students, families and communities.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education is committed to ensuring Saskatchewan students are prepared with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed and that their education is globally recognized. The ministry is working with education partners to implement Saskatchewan Student Assessment, a provincial assessment program that will measure students' progress and identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth. Monitoring student achievement helps teachers to understand learners' needs and guides planning in classrooms and schools.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education is committed to focusing on improving reading levels in Kindergarten to Grade 3. Reading proficiency at the end of Grade 3 is the most important predictor of school success and high school graduation. Work is underway to determine a reading screener and to provide professional development in reading instruction. Screening students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will help teachers know where their students are in reading, so they can adapt their teaching based on students' needs.</p>

Financial Summary

Ministry of Education 2026-27 Estimates (\$3,577,696 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	\$12,298
K-12 Education	\$2,663,559
Early Years	\$425,521
Provincial Library and Literacy	\$16,031
Total Appropriation	\$3,117,409
Teachers' Pension and Benefits	\$460,287
Total Expense	\$3,577,696
Total Appropriation	\$3,577,696

MINISTRY SPENDING BY CATEGORY (\$000s)
\$3,577.7 million



Links to more information

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