

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



August 26, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians/Caregivers:

At Saskatoon Public Schools, our vision is that every student is known, valued and believed in. We are focused on helping students achieve four goals: Academic Excellence, Character, Engagement, and Well-being. We are committed to creating learning experiences that inspire all students to reach their potential.

To fulfill this commitment to students, we are focused on fostering caring and supportive relationships, honouring diversity, creating welcoming and joyful spaces, and developing community partnerships. Students thrive in school environments that are safe, caring, and accepting places for all. We work with families and community partners to provide the supports young people require to be healthy and happy.

Every day we model appropriate behaviour and reinforce positive choices. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviours and to accept the consequences of their actions. As part of our Safe, Caring and Accepting Schools Strategy it is important for you to know that we will respond to student behaviours that pose a potential risk to the health and well-being of other students, staff, and community members. When students behave inappropriately, administrators use progressive discipline to help students take responsibility for their actions, change their behaviour, and are supported to learn from their mistakes.

We proudly collaborated with several community organizations to develop the Saskatoon and area Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol (CTASP) launched in August 2011. This protocol enables community partners to proactively share information and advice and to use their broad range of expertise to provide appropriate trauma-informed supports to our youth and their families. Each of our schools has a team that includes the principal/vice principal, school counsellor, and Saskatoon Police Service school resource officer to work with the protocol. To learn more, visit our website at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca (look under Division Information/Safe, Caring and Accepting Schools). Your school principal will be happy to answer any questions you may have about this process.

We are committed to providing learning environments where all students feel welcomed and included.

Sincerely,

Brent Hills
Deputy Director of Education

Charlene Scrimshaw
Deputy Director of Education

Copy to: Superintendents of Education



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

Shane Skjerven, Director of Education

310 - 21st Street East, Saskatoon SK S7K 1M7 • tel: (306) 683.8200 • fax: (306) 657.3900 • saskatoonpublicschools.ca

Working Together to Develop Healthy and Respectful Relationships

A school environment based on respect and rapport is created by school staff through their interactions with students, staff, and the community and by the interactions adults encourage and model among students. School and division policies, procedures and protocols are in place to ensure that learning and work environments are safe, caring, and accepting. We have an [administrative procedure](#) that addresses student harassment, intimidation and bullying. Student safety and well-being in Saskatoon Public Schools is a priority for all stakeholders.

Teachers take every opportunity to provide students with the skills necessary to build healthy and respectful relationships. A classroom environment based on respect and rapport is created by teachers through their interactions with students and by the interactions they encourage and model among students. In a respectful learning environment, all students feel safe, valued, and accepted. Saskatoon Public Schools believes that all students have the right to learn and interact in a safe, caring, and inclusive environment. Harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying behaviour will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in a serious and timely manner that respects the dignity and privacy of students at all times. All members of the school community have a “Duty to Report” incidents and school staff have a “Duty to Respond” to resolve incidents of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.

All Saskatoon Public Schools strive to be naturally open schools. Naturally open schools facilitate the appropriate sharing of information among administrators, staff, students, parents/caregivers/guardians and community partners. It is important that schools use a variety of communication tools to express the shared responsibility of developing safe, caring and accepting classroom and school climates. We maintain partnerships with parents/caregivers/guardians, the Ministry of Education, Saskatoon Police Service, Restorative Action Program (RAP) and other community agencies to support safe, caring and accepting schools. Students and parents/caregivers/guardians are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher, school counsellor, school administrator or other school staff regarding concerning behaviour.

The Government of Saskatchewan has numerous resources available to staff, parents and caregivers that can be accessed on the [Be Kind Online](#) website. Our staff refer to resources from Media Smarts and The Canadian Center for Child protection when supporting students online behaviour and activity. Information for parents on how to support your children’s online activity can also be found at [Media Smarts](#) and [ProtectKidsOnline](#).

If you have any questions on the topic of developing healthy and respectful relationships, please contact your child’s principal.



Saskatoon Public Schools
Safe, Caring and Accepting Schools