

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



On behalf of all the Saskatoon Public Schools trustees, let me start by saying, welcome back! The start of a new school year is always an exciting time, and this year is no exception, but with some added twists. Whether your student(s) are physically in class or learning online, I hope you're looking forward to them reconnecting with their friends and their teachers.

There is no doubt things are different this year. As trustees, we're very proud of the work our central admin and school teams have done to put in place protocols designed to keep everyone as safe as possible while still providing learning experiences that inspire all students to reach their potential. It will take time to get used to the new ways of doing things, and plans may change, but by working together, we can ensure a successful school year.

As suggested in the government's Safe Schools Plan, please help your child(ren) become comfortable wearing a mask and with physical distancing. This helps alleviate stress on our school staff who will be guiding students through the protocols we have put in place. We want students to be as prepared as possible for the realities they will face when they return to school.

Key to reopening schools safely is low transmission of COVID-19 within our community. As students return to classrooms, please think about your student's cohort, class, and even school as their 'bubble.' Because what happens in the community affects what happens in schools, I encourage you to consider that bubble when making choices about out-of-school activities because every interaction with someone outside the school bubble poses a potential risk.

If you have questions or concerns, here's the rule of thumb for communication: if it relates to your student(s) and your school, talk first to your classroom teacher; if it is something that affects all schools, reach out to your school board trustee – we are all listed below by ward.

Finally, thank you for your patience. We are working hard to create the best possible learning experience for students with safety as our top priority. Stay well. Be kind. Wash your hands.

Colleen MacPherson
Chair, Saskatoon Public Schools Board of Trustees

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Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

Shane Skjerven, Director of Education

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