

EVERY STUDENT IS

- Known
- Valued
- Believed In



Saskatoon
Public Schools

May 12, 2021

FROM THE BOARD TABLE

Division examines options for new school location

The Saskatoon Board of Education has approved a motion to continue exploring Optimist Park as a potential location for a new school to serve the King George, Pleasant Hill, and Princess Alexandra school communities.

At a meeting held May 11, trustees voted to continue consideration of Optimist Park as an alternative location for the City Centre Project. Administration was directed to inform the City of Saskatoon and the Ministry of Education and report back to the board with next steps.

“Our board is determined to find the best location for serving the students and families of these three schools. We want to give appropriate consideration to Optimist Park, which could provide a central location for this new school community,” said Board Chair Colleen MacPherson.

Optimist Park is owned by the City of Saskatoon and the school division would require city council approval to build at the location. The other location under consideration is the current Princess Alexandra School site. The new school is projected to open in fall 2024. More information about City Centre project can be found at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca/citycentre


Other meeting highlights included:

- Trustees received an update on the important contributions of school community councils (SCC) which work with families and schools to ensure a shared responsibility for student success. Lawson Heights School shared how its SCC partnership supported literacy practices and created new opportunities for safe outdoor play, while trustees heard how the SCC at James L. Alexander School supports well-being by fostering relationships between home and school.
- The board heard about Full STEaM Ahead, a program offered to any Grade 9 student entering Marion M. Graham Collegiate, and its goIT partnership. The focus of the program is the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEaM).

Reports and information presented at board meetings can be found at saskatoonpublicschools.ca. The next meeting of the Board of Education is Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 5 p.m. Members of the public may attend regular board meetings virtually. Please contact [Estelle Allington](mailto:Estelle.Allington@spsd.sk.ca), executive assistant to the Board of Education, to request a link to the virtual meeting.

Saskatoon Public Schools

310 - 21st Street East
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Canada S7K 1M7

 306.683.8200

 spsdinfo@spsd.sk.ca

 @StoonPubSchools

 facebook.com/SaskatoonPublicSchools

 instagram.com/SaskatoonPublicSchools

 youtube.com/SaskatoonPublicSchools13

 linkedin.com/company/SaskatoonPublicSchools13

 saskatoonpublicschools.ca





SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL BOARD

Did you know ...

... at the board table, trustees represent individual wards within the school division and speak to the issues and concerns of their ward but must always act in the best interest of the division as a whole.

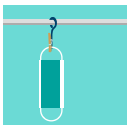
... individual trustees have no power or authority; power and authority rests in the collective decision-making of the board.

If you have questions about the work of the board, contact your trustee.

HOW TO WEAR A MASK



Wash or sanitize your hands



Make sure your mask is clean and dry



Handle mask by loops and cover nose to chin



Pull loops around ears



Don't touch your mask

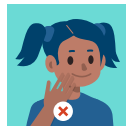
HOW TO REMOVE A MASK



Lift the ear loops off



Pull the mask away and fold it



Don't touch your eyes, nose, and mouth



Wash or sanitize your hands



Wash mask before wearing another day

Saskatoon Public Schools is offering **full-day prekindergarten** and **full-day kindergarten** at the following schools:

Prekindergarten

Caroline Robins
Caswell
Fairhaven
Howard Coad
King George
Lester B Pearson
Mayfair
Pleasant Hill
Princess Alexandra
Sutherland
Vincent Massey
WP Bate
wāhkōhtowin

Kindergarten

Caroline Robins
Caswell
Fairhaven
Howard Coad
King George
Lester B Pearson
Mayfair
North Park Wilson
Pleasant Hill
Princess Alexandra
Sutherland
Vincent Massey
WP Bate
wāhkōhtowin

The programs are made possible through the Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation's Early Learning Equal Start Campaign.

These full-day programs include speech and language pathology services and occupational therapy services.

Students living within the school's neighbourhood will receive first consideration.

To learn more visit
www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca



IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 24 Victoria Day holiday

JUNE 1 Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 5 p.m.

JUNE 15 Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 5 p.m.

JUNE 23 Last Day of classes for Grade 9-12 Students

JUNE 24 Last Day of classes for K to Grade 8 Students

PD/Operations Day—Grade 9-12 Students do not attend

JUNE 25 PD/Operations Day - K to 12 Students do not attend

Saskatoon Public Schools BUDGET 2021-22



In the April 9 provincial budget, SPS received a total operating grant for 2021-22 of **\$242.7M**.



The grant increase over the previous year was **\$4.6M**.



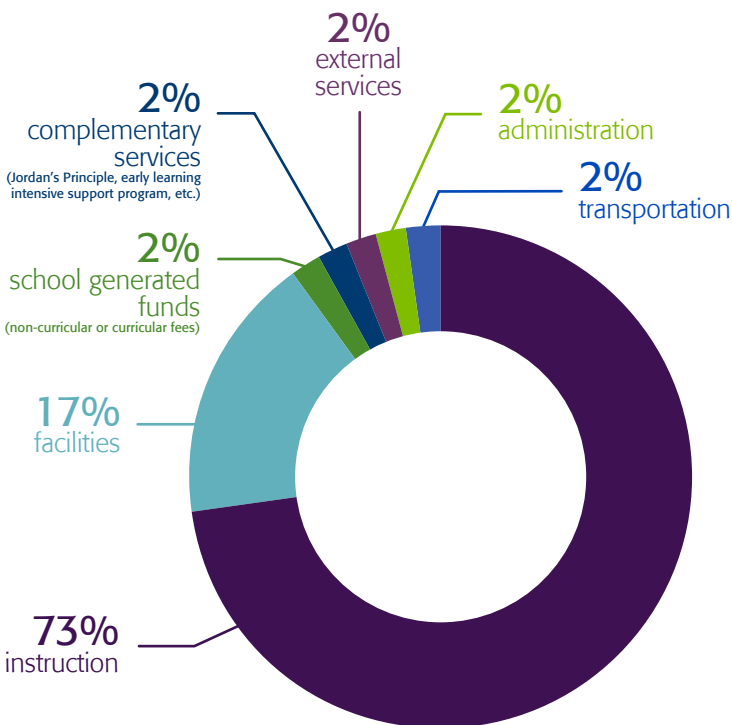
This money covers a 2% salary increase in the teachers' provincially negotiated contract.



There isn't enough money for contracted increases for other staff, inflation, rising student needs and more.



As a result, the school division has an **\$8M budget deficit**. Trustees must approve a balanced budget by June 30.



73% of our budget goes to instruction—the highest percentage of any school division in the province. This includes salaries for teachers, teaching materials, special education staff, technology, and more.

Maintenance costs for facilities are 17% of the budget.

SPS spends 9 out of every 10 dollars on instruction and schools.

SPS spends about \$11M more on Supports for Learning than we receive in funding. This includes educational assistants, special education programs, EAL teachers, community coordinators and more.

Provincial per-student funding has **declined \$344 per student** since 2016-17.

In previous years, unrestricted reserve funds have been used to balance the budget. But **those reserves are depleted**.



Trustees take every opportunity to advocate for the needs of our students, families and school communities. Advocacy work takes many forms—talks with the Minister of Education, meetings with other elected officials and sharing our message publicly.

The **growing need for Supports for Learning** in our division must be addressed.

Education in Saskatchewan needs adequate, sustainable and predictable funding that includes recognition of inflation.