



**November 7, 2023**

## **New Board Chair Elected**

The Board of Education has a new board chair.

Ward 4 Trustee Kim Stranden has been elected as board chair for Saskatoon Public Schools for the 2023-2024 academic year. Stranden was elected to the position by her fellow trustees at today's inaugural board meeting.

"I am excited and deeply honoured to accept the role of chair for Saskatoon Public Schools. This appointment is not just a personal milestone but a testament to our collective commitment to education and I am humbled by the trust you have placed in me," said Stranden. "I promise to be a passionate advocate for the values of inclusivity, diversity, and excellence in education. Our division is a community, and it is our shared responsibility to ensure that every student's potential is nurtured and celebrated."

Ward 10 Trustee Angela Arneson and Ward 3 Trustee Donna Banks were elected as vice chairs at today's inaugural meeting. Both vice chairs will assume these roles for a six-month term.

Stranden replaces Colleen MacPherson who decided to step down as the board chair, a position she has held since 2019. She will continue to serve as the Ward 5 trustee.

"It has been a true honour to have been board chair for the past four years and I'm very proud of what we have accomplished alongside our school communities, teachers and administrators," said MacPherson. "The need for advocacy, support and strong leadership in education has never been greater and I have no doubt that Kim is ready to lead this board into the next chapter."

MacPherson has been recognized multiple times for her service to public education. She was awarded the Canadian Teachers' Federation's Public Education Advocacy Award in July 2023 and the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022.

"As board chair, Colleen MacPherson has been a tremendous advocate and a strong voice in support of education," said Shane Skjerven, director of education. "We are incredibly grateful to Colleen and on behalf of Saskatoon Public Schools, we thank her for her leadership and her guidance. We know she will continue to support her ward and the board as we embark on this new year."

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