

RESPECT
EXCELLENCE
RESPONSIBILITY
JOY



Saskatoon
Public Schools

September 4, 2018

LISTENING TO OUR COMMUNITY

Earlier this year, members of our school communities were asked for their ideas and opinions in order to inform the Board of Education as it refreshes its strategic plan and to ensure our focus and goals reflect the needs of our evolving community.

The online survey conducted through ThoughtExchange gave families and staff the opportunity to share their thoughts on our schools. Participants could also reflect on the ideas of others by adding stars to comments that most reflected their priorities.

More than 5,700 people participated in the confidential process. They shared almost 11,300 reflections and suggestions on what we are doing well, how Saskatoon Public Schools can improve to best serve students and communities and what you feel our graduates need to be successful in school and in life.

The responses have been gathered for both a division-wide and school-by-school basis and we want to share the results with you. The feedback received through the survey—divided into the key question areas of How We Can Improve, What We Value Most, and What Our Students Need—is available for viewing at: <http://saskatoonpsd.thoughtexchange.info>

We appreciate the valuable contributions of our community during this process. Your voice will inform the ongoing work of the Board of Education as it refreshes our strategic plan and will contribute to planning and decision making as we continue to shape the future of our schools and students.

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2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

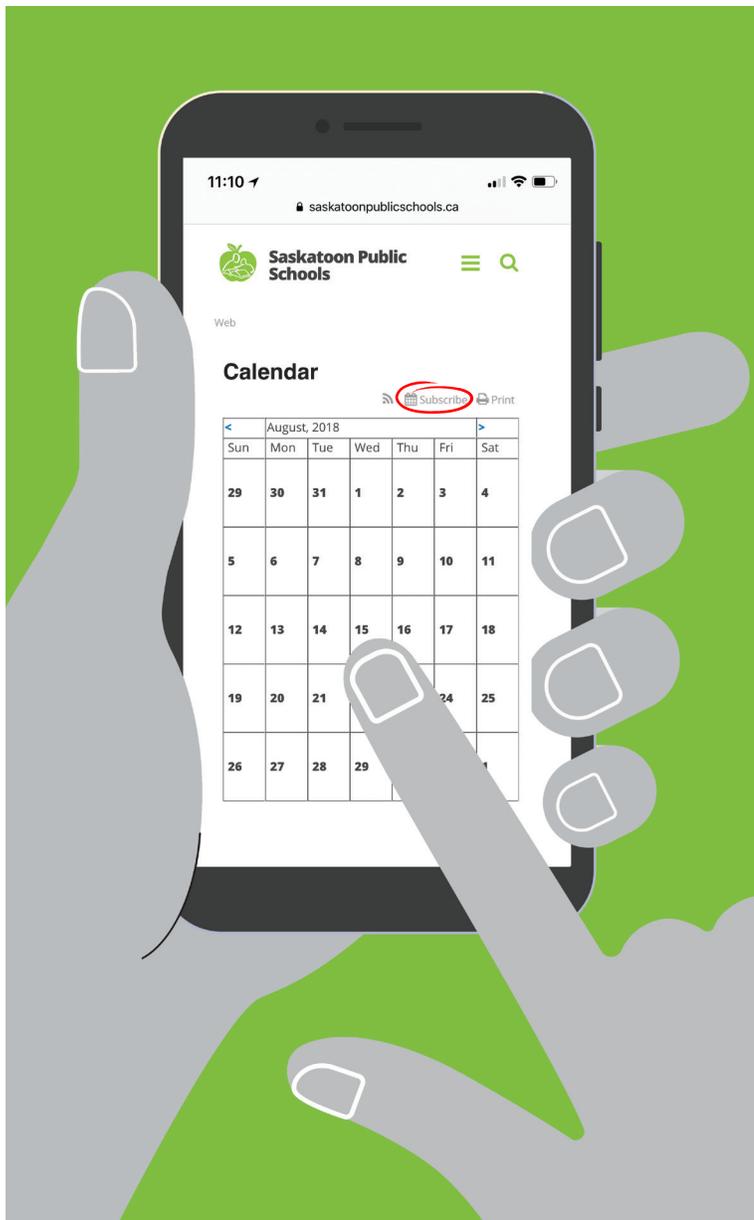
The Saskatoon Public Schools 2018-19 school-year calendar represents a total of 195 days with a minimum of 950 hours of instruction for students.

The calendar includes a 16-day winter break around Christmas and New Year's Day, a nine-day break in February that includes the Family Day holiday, and a 10-day spring break in conjunction with the Easter long weekend. The final day of classes for all students will be June 26, 2019. It also includes the dates of professional development days as well as statutory holidays.

Copies of the calendar for download in PDF format are available at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca. The division calendar can also be added to your smartphone or computer by visiting www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca/calendar. Click on the "Subscribe" link and follow the prompts.

SCHOOL CALENDAR KEY DATES

- First day of School: Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018
- Winter Break: Last day of classes is Friday, Dec. 21, 2018; classes resume Monday, Jan. 7, 2019
- February Break: Last day of classes is Friday, Feb. 15, 2019; classes resume Monday, Feb. 25, 2019
- Spring Break: Last day of classes is Thursday, April 18, 2019; classes resume Monday, April 29, 2019



IMPORTANT DATES

SEPTEMBER 18

Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 2

Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 5

PD/Planning Day—Elementary & Secondary Students DO NOT ATTEND

IS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE?

At Saskatoon Public Schools, the safety of our students is our first priority. As part of this commitment, we believe in providing comprehensive means for communicating with families. It is our goal to provide you with important information promptly when necessary.

In the case of urgent situations that cause disruptions to school operations we will notify you through a mass notification system, Everbridge. This may include severe weather, water main breaks, power outages and school lockdowns. Please ensure your contact information is up-to-date with your child's school.

If you have any questions, please contact your school principal.



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

MOVE TO GROW...

At Saskatoon Public Schools, we teach our students to make positive choices that will support their health and well-being. As educators, we know that a daily opportunity to exercise has a multitude of benefits for our students in the classroom. But additional opportunities to be active every day can bring improved wellness not only for students, but also families and community.

This school year, Saskatoon Public Schools is launching Move To Grow, a campaign to encourage students and families to pursue active transportation options for travelling to and from school. Active transportation is human-powered methods of travel, such as walking or cycling. The benefits are bigger than just physical health. We Move To Grow not only our bodies but also our brains, our independence, our mindset, our mental health, our mood, our family, our friendships, a safer community, a sustainable future, and so much more.

In schools, the Move To Grow campaign will focus on education to help our students understand how they can safely travel to and from school. We know family life is busy and this won't work for everyone every day. But with so much to gain, we hope families will make the investment of time to develop a new active and healthy habit.

How can families *Move To Grow*?

- Walk to school with your child;
- Park a few blocks away and share a stroll to and from school;
- Work out a safe route for your child to bike to school (your school has neighbourhood maps to help with planning);
- Encourage your child to connect with friends who live nearby with whom they can walk or roll;
- Connect with other school families or your child's friends to develop a walking school bus with each parent/guardian taking turns;
- Review safety tips for walking and biking (the school can provide this information);

Join us in celebrating ***Move To Grow Day*** on **Friday, September 14** by planning an active start to the school day.



#MOVE2GROW
A SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' MOVEMENT



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