



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

February 20, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
7:30 P.M. (Public)

J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA

D. Labossiere
Secretary-Treasurer

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) Regular Board Meeting – February 9, 2026
Adopt.
- b) Special Board Meeting – February 17, 2026
Adopt.

2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3.01 Presentations for Information

3.02 Communications for Information

3.03 Communications for Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

- From Report of Senior Administration

- a) Review Report of Senior Administration – February 23, 2026

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

- a) Committee of the Whole:

Education and Community Relations	C. Ekenna
Finance and Facilities	B. Sieklicki
Personnel and Policy	L. McConnell

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

Rana Wilkinson, spokesperson for the Brandon Parent Council Collective, presenting on the topic of Lunch Supervision.

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation
- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues

- a) MSBA Annual Convention – March 19-20, 2026
- b) E-News – February 11, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions

- 8/2026 That the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Brandon School Division and Assiniboine College (AC) to facilitate the delivery of AC's Comprehensive Health Care Aide (CHCA) program at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School (CPRSS) for the 2026-2027 Academic/School year be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.
- 9/2026 That the Tender from Powerland in the amount \$625,950.00 (plus applicable taxes) for the supply of 900 laptop computers funded from the 2025-2026 Operating Budget be accepted.

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Next Regular Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m. (Public), Monday, March 9, 2026.
- b) Upcoming Budget Dates:
 - Budget Presentation and Deliberations – 10:00 a.m. – Public Portion, (9:00 a.m. – In-Camera Portion), Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Boardroom.
 - Public Budget Consultation – 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2026, Boardroom.
 - Final Budget Approval – 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2026, Boardroom.

Additional Information:

- Members of the public wishing to make a presentation, a delegation or a petition are asked to contact the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, by email:

delegations@bsd.ca, or by phone at (204) 729-3114, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Board meeting.

- For all other inquiries related to Board matters, please email: trusteeinfo@bsd.ca.
- We invite everyone to watch live streaming of the Board meetings on our website: <https://www.bsd.ca/page/8192/board-meeting-dates-live-streaming>.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, February 9, 2026

J. L. Milne Boardroom
Administration Office
1031 - 6th Street, Brandon, Manitoba

Trustees Present:

L. Ross, Chairperson	D. Ross, Vice-Chairperson
K. Carr	C. Ekenna
K. Fallis	L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen	J. Murray
B. Sieklicki	

Also Present:

D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant
T. Curtis, Communications Coordinator

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., with a traditional heritage land acknowledgment.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

K. Carr - K. Fallis
That the agenda be approved.
Carried

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Regular Board Meeting – January 26, 2026
C. Ekenna – S. Mozdzen

That the minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried

2.00 IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3.01 Presentations for Information

3.02 Communications for Information

3.03 Communications for Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Gustafson provided highlights from the following items from the February 9, 2026, Report of Senior Administration:

a) Administration Information:

- Celebrations:
 - Maryland Park School is hosting an event that is open to all BSD students, families, and staff at no cost. United Thunder, a well-known Indigenous dance group, will perform on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium at Maryland Park School. This performance will celebrate indigenous culture in a relaxing and entertaining family event.
- Information Items:
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming February 2026 as Inclusive Education Month in Manitoba.
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, and Honourable Nellie Kennedy, Minister of Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism proclaiming February 2026 as “I love to Read Month”.

- Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming February 8 to 14, 2026 as Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week.
- Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Student Citizenship Awards offered by the Manitoba School Boards Association. More information including the nomination form is available at [Awards - Manitoba School Boards Association](#). The nomination deadline is April 3, 2026, at 4:30.
- Mr. Zilkey provided a 2026-2027 French Immersion Kindergarten Registration Summary. He indicated that there were 79 applications received for the random selection process. He provided the following details regarding the registration process:
 - École Harrison:
 - 18 students placed with siblings currently attending École Harrison School
 - 24 students placed without siblings currently attending École Harrison School
 - École New Era School:
 - 10 students placed with siblings currently attending École New Era School
 - 13 students placed without siblings currently attending École New Era School
 - École O’Kelly School:
 - 8 students placed with siblings currently attending École O’Kelly School
 - 2 students placed without siblings currently attending École O’Kelly School
 - 1 out-of-division student placed without siblings currently attending École O’Kelly School

Mr. Zilkey indicated that the 2026-2027 French Immersion Kindergarten Registration was the highest French immersion enrolment since Covid. Mr. Zilkey answered Trustee questions for clarification.

- Administrative Procedure 2005 – Student Code of Conduct was amended to align with the Provincial Code of Conduct.
- Mr. Zilkey spoke to the highlights from various Early Years, Middle Years, and High School athletic events over the course of Semester one (September 2025 – January 2026).
- Presentations:
 - Mr. Gustafson, Mr. Zilkey, Ms. Gilleshammer, Mr. Dubois, Ms. Ransom, Ms. Sutherland, Ms. Smart and Ms. Cheung provided a presentation on Literacy

Programming within the Brandon School Division and answered Trustee questions for clarification.

b) Business Arising for Board Action:

➤ Information for Discussion and Correspondence:

- The Staffing Activity Report was distributed to the Board as Confidential No. 1.

D. Ross – J. Murray

That the February 9, 2026, Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

a) Education & Community Relations Committee Meeting

The written report of the Education & Community Relations Committee meeting held on January 26, 2026, was circulated.

C. Ekenna – K. Carr

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

b) Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

The written report of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on January 26, 2026, was circulated.

B. Sieklicki – D. Ross

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

c) Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting

The written report of the Personnel & Policy Committee meeting held on January 26, 2026, was circulated.

L. McConnell – J. Murray

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation:

Sandra Thompson, President, Brandon Teachers' Association, presented on the upcoming budget and answered Trustee questions. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Thompson for the presentation and feedback.

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues -

a) E-News – January 28, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions:

4/2026 C. Ekenna – K. Carr
That Trustees be paid the appropriate indemnity for attending Budget Deliberations on February 25, 2026.
Carried (8 in favor, 1 abstain)

5/2026 K. Carr – B. Sieklicki
That Trustees be paid the appropriate indemnity for attending the Manitoba School Boards Association 2026 Convention to be held March 19 and 20, 2026 at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Carried (8 in favor, 1 abstain)

Late Motion:

6/2026 B. Sieklicki – K. Carr
That the Promissory Note LTPS0851 for the purpose of borrowing the sum of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,352,300) to meet partial costs of the following:

School:
Maryland Park School
New Era School

Project:
Classroom Addition
Roofing Replacement

be approved.
Carried

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:30 p.m. (public), Monday, February 23, 2026.

b) Upcoming Budget Dates (Dependent on Provincial Funding Announcement):

- Budget Presentation and Deliberations – 10:00 a.m. – Public Portion, (9:00 a.m. – In-Camera Portion), Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Boardroom.
- Public Budget Consultation – 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2026, Boardroom.

- Final Budget Approval – 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2026, Boardroom.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

D. Ross – C. Ekenna

That the Board do now adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson (L. Ross)

Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Report of Senior Administration to the Board of Trustees

February 23, 2026

A. Administrative Information

I. CELEBRATIONS

1. BRANDON COMMUNITY YOUTH WELLNESS FORUM

The Brandon Community Youth Wellness Coalition invites students, parents/guardians, and community members to a free public event that brings together service providers and community groups committed to supporting the health and well-being of young people in our community.

The event will take place on Tuesday, March 3rd from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Vincent Massey High School, and will include pizza, door prizes, and free childcare. More information is available on the BSD website at [Brandon Community Youth Wellness Fair \(Tuesday, March 3, 2026\)](#).

2. STUDENT PERFORMANCE AT THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

Congratulations to Tobi O., student at Vincent Massey High School, who recently performed at the Manitoba Legislative Building during International Development Week.

Tobi was one of three Manitoba high school students who collaboratively wrote and delivered a spoken piece titled What We're Meant to Be, through the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation's Voices for Change program. The performance reflected youth perspectives on identity, injustice, resilience, and global citizenship.

3. MIKANAH PROJECT: WINTER LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

On February 12-13, 2026, approximately 200 students from Brandon School Division and neighbouring communities participated in land-based learning activities at the Riverbank Discovery Centre. Topics included snowshoeing, teachings about hunting and trapping, Michif language, Travois transportation, winter safety and equinox. Explorative learning opportunities included shelter building, slingshot, and ice suncatchers. This event was the result of collaboration between Brandon Riverbank Inc., the University of Manitoba, The Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, and Brandon School Division.

Accepting the Challenge

II. SUSPENSIONS

Below are the number of suspensions from February 3 -16, 2026.

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Number of Students Suspended</u>	<u>Category: Inappropriate Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Assaultive Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Drugs and Alcohol</u>
K-8 In-School	6	7	4	0
K-8 Out-of-School	16	5	19	0
Total Suspensions K-8	22	12	23	0
9-12 In-School	0	-	-	-
9-12 Out-of-School	20	16	5	3
Total Suspensions 9-12	20	16	5	3
All Schools Total	42	28	28	3
		possession of weapons – 3	use of weapons - 0	

Note: A suspension may involve more than one category.

III. COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND SCHOOL VISITS

The following community connections and school visits were made by Senior Administration:

- February 4, 2026 – École O’Kelly School staff meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- February 5, 2026 – Westman Multicultural Festival Kick Off – Mathew Gustafson, Jon Zilkey
- February 5, 2026 – I Love to Read Month at Earl Oxford School – Jon Zilkey
- February 9, 2026 – I Love to Read Month at Riverview School – Susan Gilleshammer
- February 10, 2026 – Green Acres School staff meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- February 10, 2026 – Brandon Local Immigration Partnership – Jon Zilkey

- February 11, 2026 – Social Work staff meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- February 11, 2026 – Alexander School – Jon Zilkey
- February 11, 2026 – École secondaire Neelin High School – Susan Gilleshammer
- February 12, 2026 – École Harrison – Jon Zilkey
- February 12, 2026 – Earl Oxford School – Jon Zilkey
- February 12-13, 2026 – Meetings regarding Wayfinders Program – Susan Gilleshammer
- February 17, 2026 – I Love to Read Month at Meadows School – Mathew Gustafson

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. SUSPENSION REPORT – SEMESTER ONE - 2025/2026, 2024/2025, 2023/2024

For InformationS. Gilleshammer

To meet the requirements of the provincial Policy Directive to Enhance Proactive Supports to Minimize the Use of Suspensions in schools, Brandon School Division reports on all school suspensions.

There were two hundred fifty-eight (258) suspensions reported in the first semester of 2025/2026; ninety (90) in elementary schools and one hundred sixty-eight (168) in senior high schools.

Appendix A includes details of the school suspensions by category and/or days of consequence (out-of-school and in-school suspensions) for semester one of the current school year and the two previous school years.

Below please find supplemental information to the Suspension Report for Semester 1.

Semester 1 2025/2026 – 258 total suspensions given to 202 students					
Number of Suspensions Given / per Student	Number of Students Suspended - K-8	Number of Students Suspended - High School	Percent of Students Suspended	Total Number of Suspensions	Total Number of Days Suspended
1	57	106	80.69%	163	728
2	9	16	12.38%	50	147
3	5	6	5.45%	33	142
4	0	3	1.48%	12	47.5
Total	71	131	100.00%	258	1064.50

2. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 5002 – ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

For InformationS. Gilleshammer

Administrative Procedure 5002 – Accessibility Standard for Customer Service, has been amended to align with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Please see Appendix B.

The following changes were made:

- minor grammatical, punctuation, and formatting changes

Page 3 – Support Persons (section continued from page 2)

New bullet added:

- “If applicable, advance notice is given that support persons must pay admission or service fees and the amount payable, if any.”

Page 5 – Accessibility Plan

Bullet 1 - Changed from:

- “In accordance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, the Division will create an accessibility plan, which outlines the steps that have been taken for the identification, removal, and prevention of barriers, including those in administrative procedures, programs, practices, and services.”

Changed to:

- “In accordance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, the Division has created a multi-year Accessibility Plan, which outlines the steps that have been taken for the identification, removal, and prevention of barriers, including those in administrative procedures, programs, practices, and services.”

Bullet 2 - Changed from:

- “When creating an accessibility plan, the Division will consult with persons with disabilities or barriers or with a representative(s) from an organization for persons disabled by barriers.”

Changed to:

- “When creating the Accessibility Plan, the Division consulted persons with disabilities or barriers, and representatives from organizations for persons disabled by barriers.”

Bullet 3 - Changed from:

- “The plan will be prepared every two years and will be available to the public.”

Changed to:

- “The plan will be reviewed every two years and will be available to the public.”

Bullet 4 - Changed from:

- “The plan will include:”

Changed to:

- “The plan includes:”

Page 5 – new section added: Requesting Accessibility Accommodations

“The Division wants to make sure everyone can access and understand information. Staff, students, and community members who may require services and resources in a different format or help with communication can submit a request for accessibility accommodations by following the steps outlined below:

1. Identify the information or resource you need in an accessible format, or the type of communication support required.
2. Send your request through one of the following channels:
 - Online Form: Complete the BSD Accessibility Request Form. All BSD forms and publications are available in alternate formats upon request. Please call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 or email info@bsd.ca for assistance.
 - Email: Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and description of the accessible service, format or support you need.
 - Phone: Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 to make a request.
 - In Person: Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.
3. After submitting your request, a representative will contact you to discuss the accessible service, format or communication support that best meets your needs.

When a request is received, it is reviewed by the Accessibility Committee to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to resolve any concerns in a timely fashion:

- Consult with the person to identify the support or format that would remove the barrier.
- Provide the information to the person through the identified support or format in a timely manner.
- In the event a request cannot reasonably be provided through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will provide a comparable resource to the person who requested the support or accessible format.

Brandon School Division documents the actions taken in response to requests received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.”

Page 6 – new section added: Submitting Accessibility Feedback

“The Division welcomes feedback on how we provide accessible customer service. This feedback will help us identify barriers and respond to concerns. Staff, students, and the community may provide feedback through one of the following channels:

- Online Form: Complete the BSD Accessibility Feedback Form. All BSD forms and publications are available in alternate formats upon request. Please call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 or email info@bsd.ca for assistance.
- Email: Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and details regarding the feedback.
- Phone: Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388.
- In Person: Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

Brandon School Division documents the actions it takes in response to feedback received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.”

3. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 2200 – ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

For InformationS. Gilleshammer

Administrative Procedure 2200 – Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication has been amended to align with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Please see Appendix C.

The following changes were made:

- minor grammatical, punctuation, and formatting changes

Page 4 – new section added: Requesting Accessibility Accommodations

“The Division wants to make sure everyone can access and understand information. Staff, students, and community members who may require services and resources in a different format or help with communication can submit a request for accessibility accommodations by following the steps outlined below:

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- Email: Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and details regarding the feedback.
- Phone: Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388.
- In Person: Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

Brandon School Division documents the actions it takes in response to feedback received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.”

4. ADMINISTRATIVE FORM 2200Fb – ACCESSIBILITY REQUEST FORM

For InformationS. Gilleshammer

Administrative Form 2200Fb – Accessibility Request Form has been amended to align with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Two forms are required:

- one for stakeholders to submit accessibility requests; and
- a second form for stakeholders to submit accessibility feedback.

Please see Appendix D.

The following changes were made:

- name changed from: “Accessibility Request and Feedback Form” to “Accessibility Request Form”
- added Accessibility Standard for Customer Service to Administrative Procedures Cross Reference
- minor grammatical, punctuation, and formatting changes
- removed reference to submitting “Feedback”

5. ADMINISTRATIVE FORM 2200Fc – ACCESSIBILITY FEEDBACK FORM

For InformationS. Gilleshammer

Administrative Form 2200Fc – Accessibility Feedback Form is a new form that was created to align with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Please see Appendix E.

B. Business Arising for Board Action

I. INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. STAFFING ACTIVITY REPORT

For Information name

Included in the agenda package for the Board of Trustees is the Staffing Activity Report (Confidential No. 1), a listing of resignations and employment approved by the Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer since the last meeting.

Senior Administration respectfully submits this report for your consideration, action, and information.

Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer

K-12 Suspension Report Semester 1 2025/2026, 2024/2025, 2023/2024

Category of Suspension				
School	Inappropriate Behaviour (AP 2005)	Assaultive Behaviour (AP 2005)	Drug and Alcohol (AP 6025)	Total # of Suspensions *
K-8 Schools	101	87	7	90
High Schools	114	103	24	168
Combined Total for K-12 Schools (2025-2026)	215	190	31	258
Combined Total for K-12 Schools (2024/2025)	190	213	32	290
Combined Total for K-12 Schools (2023/2024)	123	111	14	197

Total Number of K-12 Suspensions, According to # of Days Consequence (out of school suspensions)

# of Days Consequence	Total High School By # of Days	K-8 Schools By # of Days	Total High School By # of Days	K-8 Schools By # of Days	Total High School By # of Days	K-8 Schools By # of Days
less than 3 Days	31	37	14	62	-	-
3 Days	59	5	39	17	80	13
4-6 Days	48	9	61	6	60	5
7-10 Days	17	1	19	1	29	0
11-15 Days	4	0	6	0	3	0
16-20 Days	1	0	4	1	3	0
21-30 Days	5	1	10	1	4	0
Total # of K-12 Suspensions	165	53	153	88	179	18
Combined Total (Total # of Suspensions K-12)	218 total 2025/2026		241 total 2024/2025		197 total 2023/2024	

Total Number of K-12 Suspensions, According to # of Days Consequence (in school suspensions)

# of Days Consequence	Total High School By # of Days	K-8 Schools By # of Days	Total High School By # of Days	K-8 Schools By # of Days
less than 3 Days	2	34	1	43
3 Days	1	1	0	3
4-6 Days	0	2	0	2
7-10 Days	0	0	0	0
11-15 Days	0	0	0	0
16-20 Days	0	0	0	0
21-30 Days	0	0	0	0
Total # of K-12 Suspensions	3	37	1	48
Combined Total (Total # of Suspensions K-12)	40 total 2025/2026		49 total 2024/2025	

* Infractions may fall under more than one category.



Administrative Procedure 5002

Accessibility Standard for Customer Service

Board Governance Policy Cross Reference: 1, 11, 12, 13

Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:

Use of Certified Service Dogs in Brandon School Division

Form Cross Reference:

Accessibility Standards Acknowledgement Form

Accessibility Request Form

Accessibility Feedback Form

Legal/Regulatory Reference:

The Human Rights Code of Manitoba

The Accessibility for Manitobans Act

Date Adopted: May 2021

Date Amended: May 2022; February 2026

Brandon School Division is committed to the Accessibility Standard for Customer Service as legislated by the Government of Manitoba under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, with accompanying regulations, came into effect in December 2013. Five accessibility standards were set out, the first one being “Customer Service.” The standard defined an accessibility barrier as anything that limits or prevents a person from receiving information, services or accessing space or participating in an activity. In the context of the public-school system, our primary “customers” would be our students, parents/guardians and to a lesser extent, volunteers and members of the public.

Definitions

“Service Animal” means an animal that has been trained to provide assistance to a person with a disability that relates to that person's disability, as defined in The Human Rights Code.

“Support Person” means, in relation to a person who is disabled by a barrier, a person who accompanies the person to:

- Support the person obtaining, using or benefiting from the service provided by the Division; and

- Assist the person in addressing communication, mobility, personal care or medical needs.

“The Division” means any supervisor in any divisional facility that is required to provide customer service to an individual.

Barrier-Free Access to Goods and Services – Measures and Practices

The Division will:

- Determine the current barriers individuals face when attempting to access services;
- Seek to remove all identified barriers;
- Identify procedures to ensure that, where barriers cannot be removed, the Division will provide an alternate means for accessing services;
- Address adequate means for preventing the creation of any new barriers; and
- Ensure that staff are aware of the Division’s Administrative Procedure permitting the admittance of service animals in all areas where customers are generally allowed.

Communications

The Division will make reasonable efforts to ensure that, when communicating with a person who self-identifies as being disabled by a barrier, the communication is done in a manner that takes into account the barrier.

Assistive Devices

The Division recognizes that a person who is disabled by a barrier may use assistive devices to remove or reduce the barrier, and the measures and practices that the organization implements must reasonably accommodate the use of those devices.

Support Persons

The Division recognizes that a person who is disabled by a barrier may be accompanied by a support person when seeking to obtain, use or benefit from its services.

- The person disabled by a barrier and their support person ought to be permitted to enter the premises together.

- The person disabled by the barrier ought to be able to have access to the support person at all times while on the premises.
- If applicable, advance notice is given that support persons must pay admission or service fees and the amount payable, if any.

Service Animals

The Division recognizes that a person who is disabled by a barrier may be accompanied by a service animal when seeking to obtain, use or benefit from a Divisional service. AP 4550 – Use of Certified Service Dogs in Brandon School Division.

Built Environment

The Division will ensure that all aspects of the built environment, which are designed to facilitate barrier-free access to services, are available/in place.

In the event that one or more of them are unavailable for use (e.g. an elevator), the Division will provide notice explaining:

- The reasons why it is unavailable;
- A timeframe for when it will be available; and
- The details of an alternate means of access.

This notice will be prominently displayed on the premises and on the website, or by any means reasonably practicable, considering the circumstances.

Additional Requirements

- Document in writing all procedures, practices, or additional administrative procedures related to:
 - Providing barrier-free accessible customer service to persons with disabilities;
 - Procedures for any temporary disruption(s) in services; and
 - Employee training.
- Ensure that employees, students, and visitors are aware that these documents are available upon request.
- Ensure that documentation requests are completed in a barrier-free manner.
- Ensure that documentation is provided within a reasonable timeframe and at no cost.

Training for Staff

The Division will provide training to any employee or volunteer who provides services directly to our staff and/or students.

The Division will provide training as soon as reasonably practicable upon the person being assigned to applicable duties.

The Division will also provide training where there are changes to the Division's measures, administrative procedures, and practices regarding barrier-free access to goods or services.

Training will include:

- Instruction on how to interact and communicate with persons who have a disability or face barriers.
- Instruction on how to interact with persons who have a disability or face barriers who require the help of a service animal or support person and/or the use of an assistive device.
- The way to use any equipment or assistive devices that the Division may have available.
- The process and procedures, including the steps to take if a person with a disability is facing a barrier preventing them from accessing a good or service.
- Reference to The Human Rights Code of Manitoba and The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, specifically the Customer Service Standard Regulation.

Documentation Regarding Training

The Division will document its training, a summary of the content of the training, and when training is to be/has been provided.

Accessibility of Public Events

When Divisional staff hold a public event, reasonable measures must be taken to ensure that:

- Notice of the event is given in a manner that is accessible to persons disabled by barriers.
- Notice is given that persons disabled by barriers may request that relevant supports be provided.
- The event is held in a meeting space that is accessible.
- The physical and communication needs of persons disabled by barriers are met on request.

Accessibility Plan

- In accordance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, the Division has created a multi-year Accessibility Plan, which outlines the steps that have been taken for the identification, removal, and prevention of barriers, including those in administrative procedures, programs, practices, and services.
- When creating the Accessibility Plan, the Division consulted persons with disabilities or barriers, and representatives from organizations for persons disabled by barriers.
- The plan will be reviewed every two years and will be available to the public.
- The plan includes:
 - A report on the steps the Division has made to identify, remove, and prevent barriers;
 - A timeline for the measures which still need to be taken for the removal and prevention of barriers; and
 - The measures the Division has taken during the assessment of:
 - Administrative Procedures, programs, practices, and services;
 - Proposed enactments or by-laws; and
 - Any other information as required for the accessibility plan.

Requesting Accessibility Accommodations

The Division wants to make sure everyone can access and understand information. Staff, students, and community members who may require services and resources in a different format or help with communication can submit a request for accessibility accommodations by following the steps outlined below:

1. Identify the information or resource you need in an accessible format, or the type of communication support required.
2. Send your request through one of the following channels:

Online Form: Complete the BSD Accessibility Request Form. All BSD forms and publications are available in alternate formats upon request. Please call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 or email info@bsd.ca for assistance.

Email: Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and description of the accessible service, format or support you need.

Phone: Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 to make a request.

In Person: Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

3. After submitting your request, a representative will contact you to discuss the accessible service, format or communication support that best meets your needs.

When a request is received, it is reviewed by the Accessibility Committee to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to resolve any concerns in a timely fashion:

- Consult with the person to identify the support or format that would remove the barrier.
- Provide the information to the person through the identified support or format in a timely manner.
- In the event a request cannot reasonably be provided through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will provide a comparable resource to the person who requested the support or accessible format.

Brandon School Division documents the actions taken in response to requests received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.

Submitting Accessibility Feedback

The Division welcomes feedback on how we provide accessible customer service. This feedback will help us identify barriers and respond to concerns. Staff, students, and the community may provide feedback through one of the following channels:

- **Online Form:** Complete the BSD Accessibility Feedback Form. All BSD forms and publications are available in alternate formats upon request. Please call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 or email info@bsd.ca for assistance.
- **Email:** Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and details regarding the feedback.
- **Phone:** Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388.
- **In Person:** Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

Brandon School Division documents the actions it takes in response to feedback received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.



Administrative Procedure 2200

Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication

Board Governance Policy Cross Reference: 1, 11, 12, 13

Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:

[Communications](#)

[Web Page Guidelines](#)

[Social Media Guidelines](#)

[Clear Print Guidelines](#)

Form Cross Reference:

[Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication Acknowledgement Form](#)

Accessibility Request Form

Accessibility Feedback Form

Legal/Regulatory Reference:

[The Human Rights Code of Manitoba](#)

[The Accessibility for Manitobans Act](#)

[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\)](#)

Date Adopted: August 2024

Date Amended: February 2026

Brandon School Division is committed to Accessible Information and Communication Standard Regulation as legislated by the Government of Manitoba under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

The Accessibility for Manitobans Act with accompanying regulations came into effect in December 2013. Five accessibility standards were set out, the third one being “Information and Communication.” The standard defined an accessibility barrier as anything that limits or prevents a person from receiving information, services or accessing space or participating in an activity. In the context of the public school system, our primary “customers” would be our students, parents/guardians, and to a lesser extent, volunteers and members of the public.

Promoting Accessible Communication

The Division will make reasonable efforts to ensure that, when communicating with a person who self-identifies as being disabled by a barrier, the communication is done in a manner that takes into account the barrier.

The Division will provide access to information in a format that meets the needs of students, staff, and community members who require supports for:

- mobility;
- vision;
- hearing; and
- understanding.

The Division will provide information and support in the following areas:

- web applications;
- print media;
- signage; and
- public information and events.

Assistive Devices

The Division recognizes that a person who is disabled by a barrier may use assistive devices to remove or reduce the barrier, and the measures and practices that the organization implements must reasonably accommodate the use of those devices.

Accessible Communication Training

The Division will provide training to any employee or volunteer who provides services directly to staff and/or students.

The Division will provide training as soon as reasonably practicable upon the person being assigned to applicable duties.

The Division will also provide training where there are changes to the Division's measures, administrative procedures, and practices regarding barrier-free access to information and communications. Training will include:

- Instruction on how to identify, prevent, and remove barriers to accessible communications;
- Instruction on how to provide information through a communication support or accessible format;

- Instruction on how to interact and communicate with persons who have a disability or face barriers.
- The process and procedures, including the steps to take if a person with a disability is facing a barrier preventing them from accessing information and communications.
- Reference to The Human Rights Code of Manitoba and The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, specifically the Accessible Information and Communication Standard Regulation.

The Division will document its training, a summary of the content of the training and when training is to be/has been provided.

Duty to Notify

The Division will take appropriate measures to inform the public and its employees that on request the Division will provide information through a communication support or accessible format.

The Division will take appropriate measures to inform the following individuals that educational materials are available through a communication support or accessible format upon request:

- (a) Employees;
- (b) Students;
- (c) Applicants or prospective applicants; and
- (d) Parents and guardians of students.

Requesting Accessible Information and Educational Materials

When a person requests information through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will:

- Consult with the person to identify the support or format that would remove the barrier.
- Provide the information to the person through the identified support or format in a timely manner.
- In the event a request for accessible educational materials is made, and the educational material cannot be reasonably provided through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will provide a comparable resource to the person who requested the support or accessible format.

Requesting Accessible Library Resources

When a person requests that a library provide a library resource through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will:

- Consult with the person to identify the support or format that would remove the barrier.
- Provide the information to the person through the identified support or format in a timely manner.
- In the event a request for accessible library materials is made, and the library material cannot be reasonably provided through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will provide a comparable resource to the person who requested the support or accessible format.

Accessible Web Content and Web Applications

Brandon School Division's website (www.bsd.ca), school websites, and any associated web applications exceed the standards set out in WCAG 2.1 Level AA.

Requesting Accessibility Accommodations

The Division wants to make sure everyone can access and understand information. Staff, students, and community members who may require services and resources in a different format or help with communication can submit a request for accessibility accommodations by following the steps outlined below:

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Email: Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and description of the accessible service, format, or support you need.

Phone: Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 to make a request.

In Person: Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

3. After submitting your request, a representative will contact you to discuss the accessible service, format or communication support that best meets your needs.

When a request is received, it is reviewed by the Accessibility Committee to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to resolve any concerns in a timely fashion:

- Consult with the person to identify the support or format that would remove the barrier.
- Provide the information to the person through the identified support or format in a timely manner.
- In the event a request cannot reasonably be provided through a communication support or accessible format, the Division will provide a comparable resource to the person who requested the support or accessible format.

Brandon School Division documents the actions taken in response to requests received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.

Submitting Accessibility Feedback

The Division welcomes feedback on how we provide accessible customer service. This feedback will help us identify barriers and respond to concerns. Staff, students, and the community may provide feedback through one of the following channels:

- **Online Form:** Complete the BSD Accessibility Feedback Form. All BSD forms and publications are available in alternate formats upon request. Please call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388 or email info@bsd.ca for assistance.
- **Email:** Send an email to info@bsd.ca with your name, contact information, and details regarding the feedback.
- **Phone:** Call the Office of Communications at 204-729-0388.
- **In Person:** Visit a BSD facility and speak with staff for assistance.

Brandon School Division documents the actions it takes in response to feedback received regarding accessible customer service and, upon request, makes that documentation available in a manner suitable for persons disabled by barriers.



Administrative Form 2200Fb Accessibility Request Form

Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:

[Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication](#)

[Accessibility Standard for Customer Service](#)

Amended: August 2024; February 2026

Brandon School Division is committed to improving accessibility to all parts of the Division for all people, and values the opinion of its stakeholders. If you have an accessibility request, please complete and submit this form:

Please choose the option that best describes you:

- I am a parent/guardian/student registered in Brandon School Division.
- I am a staff member with Brandon School Division
- I am a volunteer with Brandon School Division.
- Other: _____

Name (First and Last): _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Home Address (Street, City/Town, Province & Postal Code)

Topic of Inquiry:

Details of your Request (Please include as much information as possible. If additional space is required, please continue on a separate page and attach to this form.)

Please return the completed form to:

Brandon School Division (Administration Office)
1031 – 6th Street, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 4K5
Attention: Accessibility Coordinator

Scan & Email: info@bsd.ca
Facsimile: 204-727-2217



Administrative Form 2200Fc

Accessibility Feedback Form

Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:

[Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication](#)

[Accessibility Standard for Customer Service](#)

Adopted: February 2026

Brandon School Division is committed to improving accessibility to all parts of the Division for all people, and values the opinion of its stakeholders. If you would like to provide feedback related to accessibility, please complete and submit this form:

Please choose the option that best describes you:

- I am a parent/guardian/student registered in Brandon School Division.
- I am a staff member with Brandon School Division
- I am a volunteer with Brandon School Division.
- Other: _____

Name (First and Last): _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Home Address (Street, City/Town, Province & Postal Code)

Topic of Inquiry:

Details of your Request (Please include as much information as possible. If additional space is required, please continue on a separate page and attach to this form.)

Please return the completed form to:

Brandon School Division (Administration Office)
1031 – 6th Street, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 4K5
Attention: Accessibility Coordinator

Scan & Email: info@bsd.ca
Facsimile: 204-727-2217



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, February 9, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross
K. Carr
K. Fallis
S. Mozdzen
B. Sieklicki

D. Ross
C. Ekenna
L. McConnell
J. Murray

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

A. HEALTH CARE AIDE PROGRAM

Mr. Labossiere advised that Assiniboine College (AC) will be proceeding with the Comprehensive Health Care Aide (CHCA) Program at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School as a rotating site for the 2026-2027 school year with the same terms as in 2025-2026. Assiniboine College will fund the program for the upcoming year. An updated MOU has been received from AC for approval of the delivery of this program for the 2026-2027 School/Academic Year. Mr. Labossiere and Mr. Gustafson answered Trustee questions for clarification.

The Committee agreed to bring forward the following recommendation as a motion to the February 23, 2026, Regular Board Meeting:

Recommendation:

That the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Brandon School Division and Assiniboine College (AC) to facilitate the delivery of AC's Comprehensive Health Care Aide (CHCA) program at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School (CPRSS) for the 2026-2027 Academic/School year be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

2. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Mr. Zilkey spoke to the correspondence received from Allison Potter, Executive Director, Continuous Improvement Branch regarding, the Launch of the School Nutrition Programs Dashboard.
- Ms. Gilleshammer reviewed the correspondence received from Mona Pandey, Deputy Minister, Education and Early Childhood Learning regarding, AI in Education Summit.
- Mr. Gilleshammer spoke to the correspondence received from Mona Pandey, Deputy Minister, Education and Early Childhood Learning regarding, the Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) Survey Implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Ekenna



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, February 9, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross
K. Carr C. Ekenna
K. Fallis L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen J. Murray
B. Sieklicki

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
T. Despiegelaere, Director of Facilities and Transportation
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- A. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – SUPPLY OF COMPUTER LAPTOPS
Mr. Labossiere reviewed the memo and cost analysis regarding the supply of computer laptops. He noted that the tender was posted on the Brandon School Division website and MERX with two firms submitting proposals.

The Committee agreed to bring forth the following recommendation to the Regular Board Meeting on February 23, 2026:

Recommendation

That the Tender from Powerland in the amount \$625,950.00 (plus applicable taxes) for the supply of 900 laptop computers funded from the 2025-2026 Operating Budget be accepted.

- B. 2026-2027 BUDGET
A summary of the Senior Administration and Trustee/Board Budget Requests were provided to the Committee for discussion and were as follows:

Senior Administration Budget Requests:

- Maintenance Workers (2.00 FTE) - \$133,110
- Facility Maintenance and Adaptations - \$250,000
- Carpenter (1.00 FTE) - \$100,260
- School Safety – Controlled/Monitored Access – Home School Liaison (9.00) FTE - \$302,150
- Security as a Service - \$111,320

Trustee/Board Budget Requests:

- Add back teachers reduced in the 2025-2026 budget through the Pupil/Teacher ratio - (5 FTE) Grade 4-8, (10 FTE) Grades 9-12 - \$1,575,750
- Educational Assistants – Change model used for EA Ratio (18.37 FTE) - \$616,680
- Instructional Support - \$930,000

Mr. Labossiere indicated that the Budget Requests are not built into the preliminary budget and will be deliberated by the Board. Senior Administration answered Trustee questions for clarification.

C. **PROMISSORY NOTE**

Mr. Labossiere spoke to the Promissory Note received from the Province for Maryland Park School and New Era School.

The Committee agreed to bring the following recommendation as a late motion to the Regular Board Meeting Monday, February 23, 2026:

Recommendation

That the Promissory Note LTPS0851 for the purpose of borrowing the sum of Two Million Three Hundred Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,352,300) to meet partial costs of the following:

School:

Maryland Park School
New Era School

Project:

Classroom Addition
Roofing Replacement

be approved.

D. **CONFIRM PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNT (JANUARY)**

The payments of account for the month of January were provided for information and accepted as circulated.

2. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Mr. Labossiere spoke to the letter received from the Education Funding Branch regarding Maryland Park School – Classroom Addition – Additional Project Support.
- Mr. Labossiere spoke to the funding letter received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning regarding the Community Schools funding for the 2025-2026 school year. He indicated the funds will be allocated as follows:
 - Betty Gibson School - \$80,000
 - Earl Oxford School - \$80,000

- George Fitton School - \$80,000
 - Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School - \$80,000
-
- Mr. Labossiere reviewed the correspondence received from Mona Pandey, Deputy Minister, Education and Early Childhood Learning regarding the establishment of the School Space Planning Branch (SSPB).

B. FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES:

- Mr. Despiegelaere presented on the 2025-2026 Plumbing Projects. He indicated the presentation had been put together to give a short glimpse into some of the projects that have been completed over the last year within the plumbing trade. The projects show the depth to which the Division's tradesmen have to go to make repairs within the schools. He stated the projects don't always get noticed but they are essential to keep the Division's buildings functioning and prevent school closures when possible. Mr. Despiegelaere and Mr. Labossiere answered Trustee questions for clarification.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Sieklicki



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, February 9, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross
K. Carr C. Ekenna
K. Fallis L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen J. Murray
B. Sieklicki

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

A. BSD ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

Ms. Gilleshammer provided the Committee with an update surrounding the Accessible Customer Service audit which was conducted in February 2026. She indicated there will be amendments made to the Division's Accessibility Administrative Procedures and Forms which will be brought forward at the February 23, 2026, Regular Board Meeting. She further indicated that on February 6, 2026, the Division received notice from the Accessibility Compliance Secretariat stating that the Brandon School Division is in compliance.

B. PERSONNEL MATTER

Mr. Labossiere reviewed information on a Personnel Matter and answered Trustee questions.

2. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. MSBA – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UPDATE/SALARY BULLETINS

- Collective Bargaining Update:
 - Mr. Labossiere reviewed information on a Personnel Matter.

B. CORRESPONDANCE:

- Mr. Zilkey spoke to the correspondence received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning regarding, website information on the Office of the Commissioner of Teacher Professional Conduct.

- Ms. Gilleshammer reviewed the correspondence from Stephanie Westra, Accessibility Compliance Officer, Department of Families, Government of Manitoba regarding, Compliance Notice – Accessible Transportation Standard Regulation. She indicated the Brandon School Division is in compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

L. McConnell



February 11, 2026



INTRODUCING BRIGHTSPACE WITH MSBA

Brightspace with MSBA is a new learning management tool that will be arriving soon, bringing a simpler, more organized way for trustee and senior administration education.

Brightspace will serve as your online classroom, giving you one easy place to access all your courses, videos, and learning resources.



Instead of juggling emails or keeping track of loose handouts, you'll be able to track your progress, complete coursework, and even earn certificates through a clean, user-friendly platform available anytime you need it.

The learning content on Brightspace will cover a wide range of MSBA topics, including governance, legislation, policy, community leadership, financial planning, strategic planning, and much more—offering valuable training for every stage of your development.

Brightspace is set to launch in **Spring 2026**, and more details, including a first look at the platform, will be shared as we get closer to the rollout. Stay tuned for updates on the trustee education [page](#) of the MSBA website as we prepare to introduce this exciting new learning experience.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

Reminder! The MSBA Annual Convention, being held March 19 and 20 in Winnipeg, is rapidly approaching. Check out the [convention web page](#) to register for the event and to view information on keynote speakers, workshops, the Presidents' Banquet, awards, schedule at a glance and more!

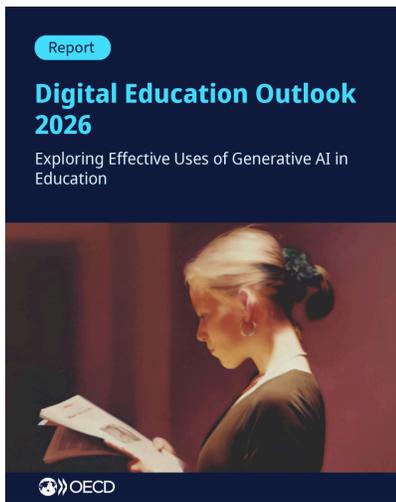


GOVERNANCE for Sustainable Success

FEBRUARY IS INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MONTH!

Inclusive Education Month is an opportunity to acknowledge diverse learners in our province and celebrate their daily successes and achievements. School Divisions across the province are dedicated to educational excellence through challenging and enriching experiences for all, in safe and caring communities.

 <p style="text-align: center;">PROVINCE OF MANITOBA</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">PROCLAMATION</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MONTH IN MANITOBA February 2026</p> <p>WHEREAS Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning is committed to fostering inclusion for all Manitobans;</p> <p>WHEREAS Manitoba supports all students to develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to reach their full potential and live <i>Mino-Pimatisiwin</i> (The Good Life);</p> <p>WHEREAS Inclusion is a way of thinking and acting that allows every individual to feel accepted, valued, and safe. An inclusive community consciously evolves to meet the changing needs of its members;</p> <p>WHEREAS Through recognition and support, an inclusive community provides meaningful involvement and equal access to the benefits of citizenship;</p> <p>WHEREAS In Manitoba, we embrace inclusion as a means of enhancing the well-being of every member of the community. By working together, we strengthen our capacity to provide the foundation for a richer future for all of us;</p> <p>WHEREAS The philosophy of inclusion and appropriate educational programming in Manitoba sustain equal access to educational opportunity and support efforts to remove barriers to learning;</p> <p>WHEREAS Manitoba will foster school and classroom communities where all students, including those with diverse needs and abilities, have a sense of personal belonging and achievement;</p> <p>WHEREAS Students with diverse needs and abilities are recognized and celebrated for their accomplishments;</p> <p>WHEREAS Schools, families, and communities make a positive difference in the lives of students in Manitoba through their commitment towards inclusion.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT KNOWN THAT I, Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, for the Province of Manitoba, do hereby proclaim that the month of February 2026, be designated as</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MONTH</p> <p>in Manitoba and I commend its observance to all citizens of the province to celebrate the achievements of children and youth with exceptional needs and the people who support them.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"><p>Honourable Tracy Schmidt Minister Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning</p></div>	 <p style="text-align: center;">PROVINCE DU MANITOBA</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">PROCLAMATION</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">MOIS MANITOBAIN DE L'ÉDUCATION FAVORISANT L'INCLUSION Février 2026</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE le ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Apprentissage de la petite enfance du Manitoba s'est engagé à favoriser l'inclusion de tous les Manitobains;</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE le Manitoba appuie tous les élèves dans le développement des connaissances, des compétences et des qualités dont ils ont besoin pour réaliser leur plein potentiel et connaître <i>Mino-Pimatisiwin</i> (le bien-vivre);</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE l'inclusion est une façon de penser et d'agir qui permet à chaque personne de se sentir acceptée, appréciée et en sécurité. Une collectivité qui favorise l'inclusion choisit d'évoluer au rythme des besoins changeants de ses membres;</p> <p>ATTENDU QU' en reconnaissant et en appuyant ses membres, une collectivité inclusive leur permet de jouer un rôle significatif et d'obtenir un accès égal aux avantages qui leur reviennent en tant que citoyens;</p> <p>ATTENDU QU' au Manitoba, on considère l'inclusion comme étant une source d'enrichissement du bien-être de chaque membre de la collectivité et qu'en travaillant ensemble, nous pouvons plus facilement jeter les bases d'un avenir meilleur pour tous;</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE la philosophie manitobaine en matière d'inclusion et de programmes d'éducation appropriés permet l'accès équitable aux possibilités éducatives et appuie les efforts visant à enlever les obstacles à l'apprentissage;</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE le Manitoba fera en sorte que l'école et la classe forment un environnement d'apprentissage au sein duquel tous les élèves, quels que soient leurs besoins et leurs aptitudes, éprouvent un sentiment d'appartenance et d'accomplissement;</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE les élèves ayant des besoins et des habiletés particuliers sont reconnus et célébrés pour leurs accomplissements;</p> <p>ATTENDU QUE les écoles, les familles et les collectivités améliorent la vie des élèves au Manitoba grâce à leur engagement en faveur de l'inclusion.</p> <p>NOUS, Tracy Schmidt, ministre de l'Éducation et de l'Apprentissage de la petite enfance de la province du Manitoba, proclamons par la présente que février 2026 sera le</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOIS MANITOBAIN DE L'ÉDUCATION FAVORISANT L'INCLUSION</p> <p>au Manitoba et invitons tous les Manitobains à l'observer scrupuleusement pour célébrer les réalisations des enfants et des jeunes ayant des besoins exceptionnels ainsi que les personnes qui les soutiennent.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"><p>Tracy Schmidt Ministre Éducation et Apprentissage de la petite enfance</p></div>
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GENERATIVE AI IN EDUCATION

How can education systems leverage generative AI tools to support students and teachers?

The OECD's Digital Education Outlook explores how educational GenAI tools can improve learning and teaching.

This new report presents the latest evidence on how schools can integrate generative AI effectively into teaching and learning. See what experts say about GenAI tools in education and what risks need to be managed. Read the full report on the OECD website.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) **2026 Trustee Gathering on Education, Innovation and Reconciliation** is Canada's premier K-12 public education gathering, bringing together leaders and decision-makers from across Canada's K-12 public education systems.

From **July 5 - 8**, school trustees, senior district leaders, Indigenous rights holders and knowledge keepers, and education and corporate partners will gather in beautiful Whistler, BC, for exceptional learning, deep connection, and collective leadership. **Registration closes on June 2.** [Learn more.](#)

STONE SOUP 2026 RAFFLE NOW LIVE!

The Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba (CNCM) is proud to continue its mission of helping school children learn, grow, and succeed by supporting vital school meal and snack programs. As a charitable organization, CNCM ensures that every dollar raised stays right here in Manitoba, reaching students in communities across the province.

CNCM is excited to announce that the annual Stone Soup 2026 Raffle is officially underway! Thanks to the incredible generosity of CNCM donors, this year's raffle is bigger and better than ever, featuring five early-bird prizes leading up to the final 50/50 draw, which will take place on Friday, March 27.

Early bird prizes include:

- **Four restaurant gift card packages, each valued at over \$500**
- **One grand early bird prize of a trip for two to Churchill with a Beluga Whale Dream Tour, valued at \$5,800**

By participating in the Stone Soup Raffle, you're helping ensure that Manitoba students have access to nourishing meals and snacks that support their learning and well-being.

To learn more about CNCM or to explore additional ways to support school food programs, please visit the CNCM website.

50 / 50 RAFFLE + 5 Early Bird Prizes

Help fill the pot in support of Manitoba school food.



STONE SOUP 2026



Together, Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro are helping create Energy for Life.

LGCA 8096-RF-50365

CELEBRATE LOUIS RIEL DAY - FEBRUARY 16

On Louis Riel Day, Manitobans honour the legacy of Louis Riel, Métis leader, advocate for Indigenous rights, and the driving force behind Manitoba becoming Canada's fifth province. His commitment to inclusion, cultural respect, and community voice continues to guide our work in education today.

On the third Monday of February, communities across Manitoba celebrate with Métis cultural events, winter festivals, family activities, and learning opportunities that highlight Riel's enduring impact. These festivities offer meaningful ways for students, families, and educators to engage with Manitoba's history and strengthen connections to the diverse cultures that shape our province.

As school trustees and boards, this day is a reminder of the important role public education plays in upholding Riel's vision of a province where all cultures are respected and represented.

Wishing you a reflective and celebratory Louis Riel Day as we continue to support inclusive learning across Manitoba.

Celebrate Manitoba's *Louis Riel Day*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Join Manitobans from all across our great province to celebrate Louis Riel's vision. [Learn more.](#)



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