



# MemberReport









Katherine









Sandra





Trevor

#### What's inside

From your Board 1

From your Principal 2

From your Director 3

Annual General Meeting Minutes 4-5

Board Candidates 6-7

Annual General Meeting Agenda 8

# From your Board

Welcome students, parents, teachers and staff to what is sure to be another exciting year at SCS!

As we embark on this new season together, we are reminded of the incredible strength that comes from being part of a loving, faith-filled community. Our school has always been a place where bonds are formed, where support is offered, and where we grow together in faith and knowledge. It is this spirit of togetherness that makes our community so special.

We are especially excited to welcome new families to our school this year. We have been blessed with another year of tremendous growth in our school. As we welcome new families and friends into our school, we are reminded of the beautiful words of Matthew 19:14: 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.' Let us all make the extra effort to make our new families feel welcome and integrated into this amazing community.

Our growth is a reflection of the value of Christian education in Saskatoon — a place where our children are nurtured in truth, where they can learn and live according to God's Word. Each new family brings fresh perspectives, new friendships, and unique gifts that enrich our community. It is through these connections that we grow stronger, learning

from one another and building a place where everyone feels valued and supported.

As a board, we remain steadfast in our commitment to upholding the truth of God's Word in everything we do. Our mission is to ensure that each aspect of our school reflects the teachings of the Bible, guiding our decisions, our relationships, and our vision for the future. We believe that true wisdom comes from God, as Proverbs 2:6 reminds us, 'For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.' It is our priority to provide an environment where students not only excel academically but also grow spiritually, rooted in the unchanging truth of Scripture. We are dedicated to creating a space where the love of Christ is evident, and where our community is encouraged to live out their faith boldly and authentically.

We are excited for what God has in store for us this year and look forward to walking this journey together, supporting each other in prayer and love. Thank you for being a part of this community and for trusting us with the privilege of partnering with you in your child's education. May God continue to guide us, bless us, and use us for His glory.

> Regan Espeseth Chair



From your Principal

Murray Long

What an incredible start to the year! With great joy, we now have 343 students enrolled as of the end of September—an increase of 43 students from last year. A warm welcome to each new family! We are thrilled to have your children as part of our school community. Your presence enriches our school and adds to the diversity and depth of experience we can offer our learners.

In response to a desire for more connection expressed by many parents, the SCS Parent Connection Committee formed. We look forward to seeing the unique initiatives this group will introduce, which will undoubtedly enhance both the education and engagement of our students here at SCS.

This year, we've welcomed one new teacher, three new educational assistants, and a new caretaker to our staff. Did you know that five of our current staff members are alumni of SCS? This speaks volumes about the lasting impact our school has on its students. On that note, 56 of our alumni participated in the Flourishing Schools survey last spring, a significant increase from the nine who participated in 2021.

The survey revealed key areas of strength, including:

**God's Story**: 87% of students believe they are part of God's larger plan and can make a difference.

**Holistic Teaching**: 93% agree that teaching at SCS nurtures students' spiritual and emotional development, along-side their academic growth.

**Leadership Interdependence**: 84% of respondents believe our board members bring diverse perspectives, are transparent, and rely on each other's strengths.

Thank you to our board, teachers, and parents for your unwavering love and sacrifice—both financially and through your time. You are a living testament to the beauty found in the unity and diversity of God's people.

As Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." Or as Paul wrote to the church in Rome, "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

We are leaders in our field. As a Certified Independent School, the government looks to us as leaders among Independent schools in the province, and the Association of Christian Schools Western Canada (ACSIWC) sees us taking the lead in Saskatchewan this year, as I hold the position of Saskatchewan Field Director. Lastly, we're pleased to host the provincial educator conference here in February.

I am excited about the journey ahead and look forward to another successful and enriching year at Saskatoon Christian School. Thank you for your continued prayers and positive enthusiasm!



From your Director

David Harris

At Saskatoon Christian School, we are deeply committed to providing a Christ-centred education that nurtures both the academic and spiritual growth of each student. As part of this commitment, we recognize the importance of thoughtful and prayerful planning for the future of our school community.

Strategic planning is a vital tool that helps us ensure that the mission and vision of SCS continue to thrive in the years ahead. It allows us to take a step back, assess where we are, and intentionally chart a course that aligns with God's calling for our school. This planning process not only helps us improve the educational experience for our students but also ensures responsible stewardship of our resources, both financial and human.

Through strategic planning, we aim to:

- Strengthen our academic programs and foster a deeper integration of faith into every aspect of the curriculum.
- Enhance our facilities and resources to better serve students and teachers.
- Build strong relationships within our school and the broader community, expanding opportunities for service and outreach.
- Plan for future growth and sustainability, so that we can continue to provide a quality Christian education for generations to come.

In December, the board will receive a draft of the school's strategic plan for the next 5 years. We invite your prayers and support as we embark on this journey.

Together, with God's guidance, we will ensure that SCS continues to be a place where students can grow in wisdom, stature, and favour.

## Minutes of Previous Meeting

# Saskatoon Society for Christian Education, Inc. Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, October 26, 2023 - 7 pm

Board Meeting Location: Saskatoon Christian School

Board Meeting Start Time: 7 pm

#### 1. Opening & Welcome

Myron Johnson opened the meeting with 43 members in attendance.

#### 2. Introduction of Board Members & Board Candidates

<u>Introduction of Board Members</u>—Myron Johnson (Chair), Regan Espeseth (Vice Chair), Sara Buckingham, Sandra Dick, Del Hutton, Katherine Meginbir, Shawn Hermanson—resigned October 11, 2023

#### Introduction of Board Candidates (Amanda Munshaw, Ken Berg, Trevor Reid)

Up to three (3) positions are available for serving on the board. There are 3 individuals who are willing to serve as board members and whose names are presented on the ballot for this evening's election. Each Candidate must receive 67% in favor to be able to serve on the SSCE Board of Trustees, this evening.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of Oct 27, ---2022 AGM

**MOTION:** That the members of Saskatoon Society for Christian Education, Inc. accept the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, as circulated, the meeting having been held on October 27, 2022. Moved by Karen Kotanko. Seconded by Brock Rutherford. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION: #2023-58** 

#### 4. Receipt of Audited Financial Statements

**MOTION:** That the members of Saskatoon Society for Christian Education, Inc. receive the audited financial statements as circulated. Moved by Aletta Luma. Seconded by Daniel Gorin. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION:** #2023-59

#### 5. **Appointment of Auditor**

**MOTION:** That Heagy LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed the auditors of the Corporation to the close of the next annual general meeting or until a successor is appointed, at such remuneration as may be fixed by the directors, and the directors are hereby authorized to fix such remuneration. Moved by Trevor Reid. Seconded by Brada Berg. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION: #2023-60** 

#### 6. **Proposed Bylaw Amendments**

**MOTION:** That the bylaws of the Society be updated to reflect the name change from "Board of Directors" to "Board of Trustees". Moved by Karilyn Erickson. Seconded by Leanne Deobald. Discussion on the policies that the Saskatchewan Government has implemented for Independent Schools. This aligns with the Provincial School Board governing titles. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION:** #2023-61

MOTION: That the bylaws of the Society be updated to reflect the name change from "Executive Director" to "Director". Moved by Randy Seib. Seconded by Aletta Luma. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. MOTION: #2023-62

**MOTION:** That the members of the Saskatoon Society for Christian Education Inc. consider changing Bylaw IV.C.(vi) to read; "No person employed in a regular contract by the Society nor that person's immediate family (spouse, children,

# Minutes of Previous Meeting

(Continued)

parents or in-laws) shall be eligible for service on the Board of Directors." Moved by Murray Buckingham. Seconded by Shawna Reid. Discussion regarding the difference in the reading of this bylaw. "No person employed by the Society..." this could include any persons hired in a Casual or Substitute position, can serve on the SSCE board of trustees. All in favor. Carried. MOTION: #2023-63

#### 7. **Board Election**

**MOTION:** That the members of the Saskatoon Society for Christian Education Inc. accept proxy votes for board elections. Moved by Daniel Gorin. Seconded by Leanne Deobald. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION: #2023-64** 

#### 8. Scrutineers

There are 3 individuals who have agreed to act as scrutineers in counting the ballots: Marla Kotelnikoff, Brock Rutherford, Karen Kotanko

**MOTION:** That the members of the Saskatoon Society for Christian Education Inc. accept the panel of scrutineers as presented. Moved by Amanda Munshaw. Seconded by Naomi Brecht. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **MOTION:** #2023-65

#### 7. Principal's Update – Mr. Murray Long

Discussion on increase of enrollment and the quality staff for this year. Question from the floor about the "Meet the Teacher" that was not included in the list of events. Discussion of possibility of events being held in the evening for working parents to attend.

#### 8. Executive Director's Update – Mr. David Harris

Discussion on the Audited Financials and the budget for 2023-2024. Relationship building with the Ministry and the challenges that arise. Administrative procedures and policies that the government would like to see from independent schools. Question and statements from the membership about school enrollment capacity and growth. Maintaining the upkeep of the building, as the facility is now 25 years old. Discussion on special needs students; funding and assessment process.

#### 9. <u>Board Update</u> – Mr. Myron Johnson

Update of the board development and purpose. Presentation of the structure of the governance board.

#### 10. Ballots and Proxies

**MOTION:** That the ballots and proxy forms for voting for SSCE Board Members be destroyed. Moved by Randy Seib. Seconded by Layne Erickson. No discussion. All in favor. Carried. **Motion: #2023-66** 

#### 11. Questions/Comments from the Floor

"Thank you" to the Board and the membership appreciates the time and work that goes in to serving the membership. "Thank you" to the teachers at Saskatoon Christian School for their faith-based instruction to our children.

#### 12. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

Announcement of the results of the election this evening. All candidates have been elected by the membership to SSCE Board of Trustees.

Prayer.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 pm.

# Board Candidates (3 Candidates for 3 Positions)



#### Tamara Hominuke

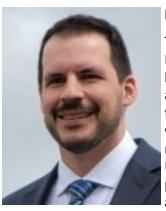
My name is Tamara Hominuke. I am the mother of Lincoln (Grade 3) and Silas (Grade 1). I have been married to Joel for 11 years. I work at the University of Saskatchewan and have a Master's in Education. I enjoy reading and spending time outside with my family, and I recently started kickboxing classes. I grew up in the church, drifted in my teens and twenties, but came back to the Lord, and am committed to my faith and now seeking the Lord.

Essential characteristics of a board member include strong communication skills, integrity, collaboration, and critical thinking. These traits foster trust, enhance teamwork, enable informed decision-making, and support the school community.

I'm eager to join the SSCE Board because I believe in the importance of active involvement in my children's education and the broader community. I want to contribute to the strategic plans that support growth and promote Christian educational values.

I bring a level-headed approach to decision-making and considering the big picture. My ability to analyze complex situations and seek optimal outcomes can help the board navigate challenges effectively. My previous leadership experience includes serving on the ASPA Executive Committee at the University of Saskatchewan. I acted as treasurer for a year and contributed to the Occupational Health Committee for two years, gaining valuable insights into governance and teamwork.

I expect to develop an understanding of the Carver model while collaborating with fellow board members, the principal, and the director to shape the strategic direction for SCS. I look forward to reviewing policies, engaging with members, and actively contributing to the committee. To contribute effectively, I will thoroughly review meeting minutes and relevant materials in advance. I'll organize my thoughts on any issues I wish to address, ensuring clear communication.



#### **Haven Roy**

Thanks for reviewing my application to the SSCE board. My name is Haven Roy. My wife is Lilee Roy and we have three boys (Brady 10; Ethan 8 Owen 6) who each attend SCS. I work as a surgeon here in Saskatoon. I have been a Christian since I was young. I wanted to grow in my discipleship after high school and spent 4 years of undergrad at Briercrest College studying biblical studies. I transitioned out of undergrad into pastoral ministry for three years in Wetaskiwin, Ab, where I worked with middle and high school students in youth ministry. I then moved to Wheaton, Illinois, where I completed a masters degree in biblical studies and languages at Wheaton College. Upon completion, my wife and I relocated back to Canada, where I studied medicine and completed my surgical training at the University of Saskatchewan. During this time, I have been an active member of our local church, first at Ebenezer Baptist, where I spent several years on the

elders board and teaching classes, and, more recently, at Martensville Baptist church.

I think great board members are great disciples who humbly follow the Lord and seek his guidance in all things. I think they are also capable of working together with a board to set a vision for others to see and to follow. I am still learning about the SSCE board, but I believe it's role is to provide leadership and direction for the school through governance and mission-shaping. I'm interested in committing my time and energy to this because I place a high value on Christian education and the role it can play in our children's lives, and I want to be able to work with others who value the same things to positively shape that education. I have spent a fair amount of time on board teams in the past, be they Christian, during my time in pastoral ministry and on Ebenezer's board, or secular, in various capacities in the medical community. Through these experiences, I have developed leadership skills, am learning to be a careful listener, and can work together with a group to affect positive change. I can contribute to the team by preparing and thinking carefully about the topics and issues to be discussed at each meeting, working with the rest of the group to help everyone be on the same page as we work through the issues. I have a lot of experience in leadership and education, and I believe I can apply my knowledge to serving the SCS community well.

# **Board Candidates**

(Continued)



#### Joshua Frost

Hello! My name is Joshua Frost. I was born and raised in Saskatchewan. I grew up in Regina and moved to Saskatoon for medical school, where I have lived since. I am married to my wife, Lesya, and we have three children Emerson, Charlotte and Isaac. My two oldest kids attend Saskatoon Christian School. I work as a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist in Saskatoon, helping with the mental health needs of our youth in Saskatchewan. I grew up in a Christian home and have been a follower of Christ since childhood. Over the years my faith has become my own as I have chosen to follow Christ and a steadfast walk with Christ has been the foundation of my life. I was homeschooled throughout my childhood, and a Christ-centred education allowed me to see the benefit of such an education and the big impact that it had on the rest of my

life, faith-wise but also in excellence in education.

I think a great Board member is someone who is humble, wise, willing to listen to others, able to make decisions in a calm and well-thought out manner and is easy to engage with. We need wisdom in our current political environment in Canada on how to move forward with policies that both align with the educational requirements in Saskatchewan and also with our spiritual beliefs as followers of Jesus, ensuring that every decision that we make is made prayerfully and with Christ at the centre.

The SSCE Board is involved in providing guidance and making policy decisions at SCS. I am interested in becoming a board member because I have a passion for Christ-centred education as well as academic excellence. I am passionate about Saskatoon Christian School being a Christ-centred school for our children and our children, and want to be a part of making this legacy.

I believe my experience as a physician, and specifically as a child & youth psychiatrist allows me to see the specific challenges that our youth in Saskatchewan are struggling with on a daily basis. I want to be involved in ensuring our policies at the school are aligning with Christ at the centre of these conversations and issues that our kids are facing. I also bring experience with the public school system. I speak with teachers, principals, educational assistants and school counsellors regularly. This experience may also be helpful in understanding the public system, and what resources are regularly offered to youth in that system, and how to collaborate effectively with our educational team at SCS.

I have worked on committees in the past including a Safety Committee during the development and construction of Jim Pattison Children's Hospital, ensuring that the building itself was safe for children with mental health concerns. I also worked on a committee for the development of a new curriculum for subspecialty residents entering into the child & adolescent psychiatry residency program.

My expectations are that I will begin to be involved in policy decisions and issues that arise at SCS. I am looking forward to working closely with the leadership team at SCS as well as my fellow board members.

I will bring my experience and skill-sets developed during my time as a physician. I will bring my desire and passion to have a foundational Christ-centred school for my children to every meeting. I will bring my skill-sets developed over the years of my own training in helping settle disputes and conflict management to the team as well as my knowledge of the public school system.

## **Annual General Meeting Agenda**

### Thursday, October 24 | 7:00 pm

Estimated Meeting Length: 60 minutes (90 min. max.)

- 1. Opening & Welcome
- 2. Introduction of Board Members & Board Candidates
- 3. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting (2023)
- 4. Receipt of Audited Financial Statements & Appointment of Auditor
- 5. Proposed Bylaw Amendments
- 6. Board Election & Results
- 7. Principal's Update
- 8. Director's Update
- 9. Board Update
- 10. Questions/Comments from the Floor
- 11. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

#### **List of Proposed Motions**

#### Motions will include those required for election procedures *plus* the following:

**Possible MOTION:** That the members of Saskatoon Society for Christian Education, Inc. accept the minutes of the Annual General Meeting as circulated, the meeting having been held on October 26, 2023.

**Possible MOTION**: That the members of Saskatoon Society for Christian Education, Inc. receive the audited financial statements as circulated.

**Possible MOTION:** That Heagy LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed the auditors of the Corporation to the close of the next Annual General Meeting or until a successor is appointed, at such remuneration as may be fixed by the directors, and the directors are hereby authorized to fix such remuneration.

**Possible MOTION:** That bylaw II.B. be amended to delete "once they have completed the Application for SSCE Active Membership" so that it reads "Parents of currently enrolled students at SCS and regular paid staff members while employed by the Society are automatically active members of the Society."

**Possible MOTION:** That the title of bylaw II.B. be amended to read, "Membership and Renewal", rather than "Application and Renewal".

#### Your Board for the 2024 - 2025 School Year

Ken Berg

Sara Buckingham

Sandra Dick

Regan Espeseth

Amanda Munshaw

Trevor Reid

+ up to 3 additional board members