

Our mission is to enhance the work  
of locally elected school boards through  
leadership, advocacy and service, and to  
champion the cause of public education  
for all students in Manitoba.

### What is the Manitoba School Boards Association?

The Manitoba School Boards Association is a voluntary association of Manitoba's public school boards. These school boards pay an annual membership fee to access services and programs that the Manitoba School Boards Association offers to help them fulfill their mandate of managing the public education system in their communities.

The Manitoba School Boards Association's policy direction is established by its membership through the resolutions process at its Annual Convention. Between Conventions, the Association is governed by an elected 11-member Provincial Executive. Each member of the Provincial Executive is a school trustee who currently serves on a Manitoba school board. The Provincial Executive is supported by the Association staff. The Association office is at 191 Provencher Boulevard in Winnipeg.

### What does the Manitoba School Boards Association do?

The Manitoba School Boards Association provides a range of programs and services for all school boards, programs and services which otherwise might not be available or affordable to individual school boards.

These include:

- labour relations and human resource management
- risk management
- trustee education
- employee benefit plans
- property and liability insurance
- policy development

The Manitoba School Boards Association also provides a common voice with which Manitoba's school boards can speak to governments or other organizations at the local, provincial, or national levels on issues of interest or concern.

**LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE  
FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS**

visit us at: [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca)

In addition to these direct services to school boards, the Manitoba School Boards Association supports a number of student-focused initiatives, including:

- child anti-poverty initiatives
- the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba
- early childhood learning and care initiatives
- TADD Manitoba
- Safe Grad Manitoba

The Manitoba School Boards Association also sponsors programs that recognize student citizenship, outstanding educators, and innovative programs.

To learn more, contact:

**Manitoba School Boards Association**  
191 Provencher Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G4  
phone 204-233-1595 or toll-free 1(800)262-8836  
on Twitter @MBSchoolboards



# Your School Board

A school board is made up of office workers, farmers, business owners, homemakers, doctors, students, and retirees.

In short, a school board is a cross-section of the community it serves.

*SCHOOL TRUSTEES— the individuals that collectively make up the school board—are elected every four years. These*

*elections take place in October, at the same time as the elections for municipal officials.*

*The legal requirements for serving as a school trustee are simple: a candidate must be 18 years old, a Canadian citizen, and reside within the school division or district.*

*Beyond that, school trustees must have a genuine interest in education and children, and be willing and able to commit the time required to the job.*

School Boards Link Communities and Schools

## About Roles and Responsibilities

The primary role of a school board is to govern the schools under its jurisdiction in accordance with all legal requirements, while at the same time reflecting community beliefs and values.

The major legal obligations of school boards are described in provincial laws such as The Public Schools Act and The Educational Administration Act. School boards are also bound by federal and provincial legislation in areas such as human rights and privacy protection.

Community beliefs and values are reflected in policy that school boards develop. Policy “customizes” local schools within a common legal framework. Policy touches on many aspects of school operations. It may expand upon provincial graduation requirements, provide bus transportation to students other than those for whom that service is legally required, or offer locally developed courses or programs. Within a school division, school board policy has the weight of law.

Because school trustees are not usually professional educators, school boards employ experts to assist them as part of a management team. Two key positions are the superintendent and the secretary-treasurer. The superintendent is a professional educator, while the secretary-treasurer is a school division’s financial officer. The school board, superintendent, and secretary-treasurer work together closely to ensure that a community’s schools are managed in an educationally sound, fiscally responsible and responsive manner.

## About Funding Education

School boards manage the school system with funding from two principal sources. The provincial government provides annual operating grants to school divisions. The amount of money received by each school division is based on a complex formula that takes into account factors such as the number of students overall and the number of these with special needs, size of schools, and the local tax base. The remaining operating funds come primarily from the local levy, which is a tax on property collected by municipalities on behalf of school boards.

### To find out more about your schools and school board:

- talk to a trustee, an administrator, a teacher, or a student
- attend a school board meeting
- visit your school division’s website (you can find a link to it at [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca))

### To find out more about the role of school boards, becoming a school trustee or Manitoba’s public education system:

- call the Manitoba School Boards Association at 204-233-1595 or toll-free 1(800)262-8836
- explore [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca)
- visit websites of other education organizations (you can find a list of such organizations, and link to their websites, at [www.mbschoolboards.ca](http://www.mbschoolboards.ca))