



Leading Change
with courage, clarity and resilience

MANITOBA

School Boards
ASSOCIATION

56th Annual Convention
March 12 - 13, 2020
Delta Winnipeg,
350 St. Mary Avenue

Report of the 2020 Nominating Committee Candidate Profiles and Rules of Procedure



Report of the 2020 Nominating Committee

Candidates

1 to be elected for all positions

Vice-President (6000+ students)

- Sandy Nemeth, Louis Riel SD

Directors

Region 1

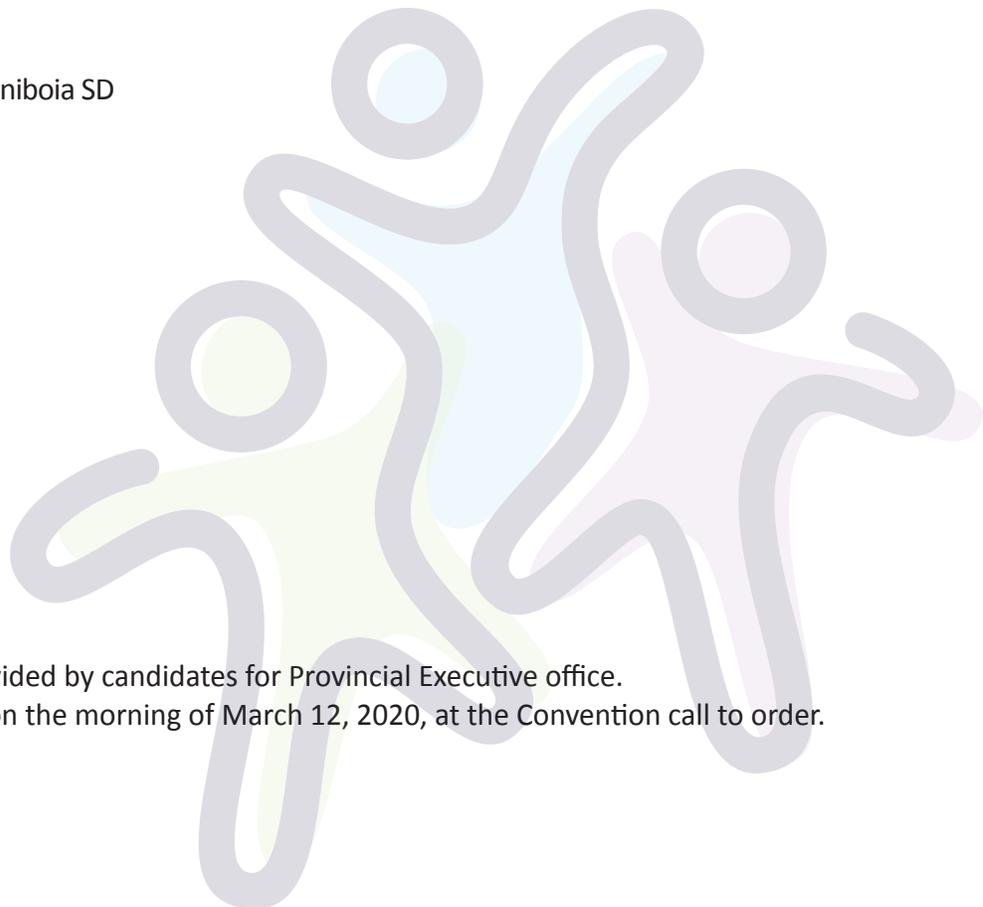
- Craig Russell, Fort La Bosse SD
- Sherilyn Bambridge, Brandon SD

Region 3

- Lena Kublick, Lord Selkirk SD

Region 5

- Sandy Lethbridge, St. James-Assiniboia SD



The information that follows was provided by candidates for Provincial Executive office.
The final call for nominations will be on the morning of March 12, 2020, at the Convention call to order.

Vice-President (6000+ students)

Sandy Nemeth—Louis Riel



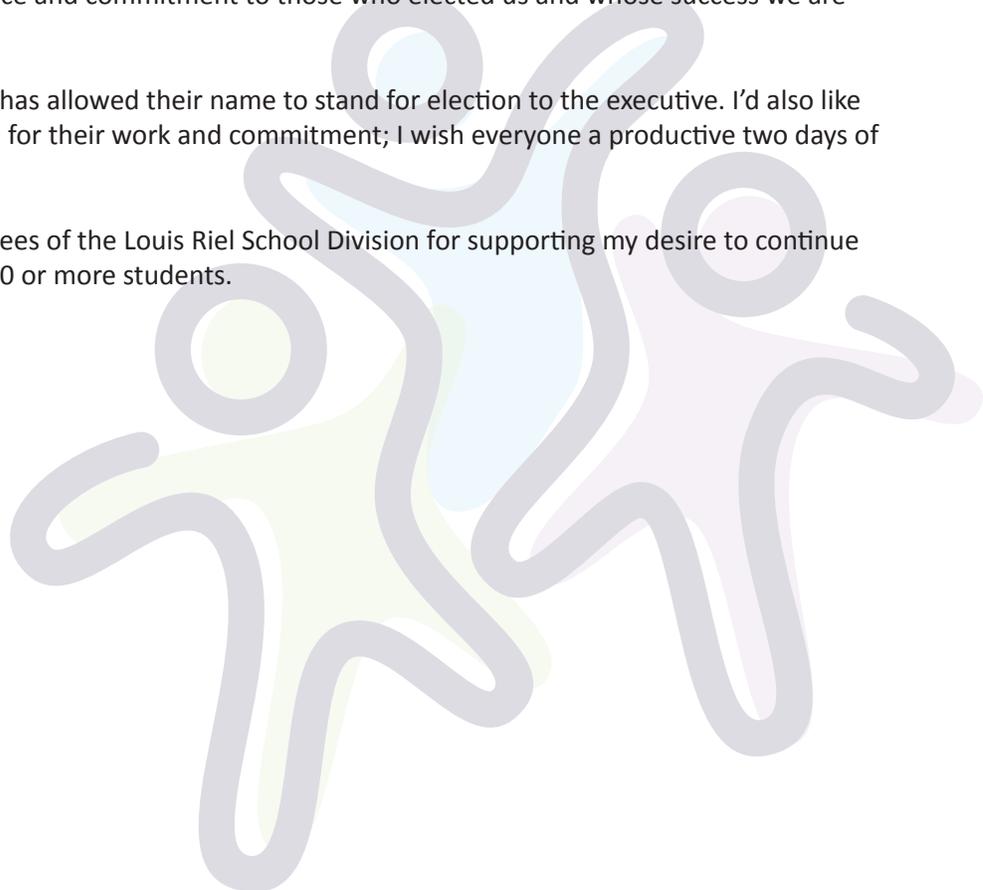
Now in my 5th year on the provincial executive, and my 10th as a trustee, I've had a front row seat to the emerging and ongoing pressures and challenges facing school boards in Manitoba. We are being called upon to defend our relevance while grappling with budget shortfalls and provincial directives that will see a significant loss of jobs and expertise in school divisions across the province. We are working to reassure nervous parents and communities that we are doing everything we can to ensure the programs and services they told us were needed are being protected, and in a financially sustainable manner. We continue to invest in the conversations that lead to student well-being and engagement, equity across our respective divisions, and adequate supports in classrooms, while championing creativity and innovation in every corner of Manitoba. In the lead up to the release of the report of the K-12 review commission, it is the demonstrated student success as a result of these investments that keep me optimistic and focused on the opportunities ahead.

Executive and staff of the Manitoba School Boards Association have risen to the challenge these pressures have placed on all boards by providing timely and robust services, information, expertise, knowledge and support. Your executive was engaged and visible during the commission review process and continues to look for ways to amplify board voice. Whether with our partners in education, the provincial government, or new stakeholder groups we identify, I can assure you that the role and work of school boards in Manitoba is shared and celebrated at every possible opportunity.

My overall goals and priorities for MSBA haven't changed since I became Vice-president: continued advocacy for local autonomy and elected school boards, the responsible use of membership dollars, and member board voice heard and represented in our discussions and decision making. I remain convinced that without local voice informing local choice we are weaker as a system, as individual school divisions, as a province, and as a society. It is incumbent on all of us to do our part, as trustees and as boards, in service and commitment to those who elected us and whose success we are tasked with.

I extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has allowed their name to stand for election to the executive. I'd also like to thank the convention organizing committee for their work and commitment; I wish everyone a productive two days of learning, networking and engagement.

Appreciation is extended to the Board of Trustees of the Louis Riel School Division for supporting my desire to continue in the role of VP representing boards with 6000 or more students.



Region 1 Director

Craig Russell—Fort La Bosse



Welcome to the 56th Annual Convention!

I have been a school trustee in Fort La Bosse for 32 years, first elected in 1988. I have been the Board Vice-Chair for the past 14 years and have served in this role 16 years in total. In the past, I have also served as Board Chair for 10 years and have served on all Board committees, both as a member and as the Chair.

My wife Leeanna and I have three children that have gone through the public education system and now have two granddaughters that are in school. I first became interested in becoming a school trustee when my daughter entered kindergarten and remain committed and dedicated to serving my community. I believe that our schools offer excellent educational programming and am encouraged to see our students excel not only in the classroom but also in the “real world”.

Our greatest challenges can always be overcome by good communication and the willingness of people at ALL levels to work together for the betterment of our children. Positive results during challenging times are **achievable**. I know there will be obstacles, but these will become our opportunities for our future.

I have identified the following as goals for the organization:

- **Advocating for the importance of local governance in public education**
- **Continuing to build on the strength in the relationships we have with our communities and stakeholders**

As your Regional Director, I am committed to serving on the MSBA Executive representing all boards from our region at a provincial level.

“We need to remember that we are all here for the kids!”



Region 1 Director

Sherilyn Bambridge—Brandon



Very early in life I recognized the value of a well-funded, equitable and inclusive public education system. My parents worked in humanitarian organizations in various places in the world. My mother, a Brandon University graduate in Education, also taught in the international school system. Thus I was exposed to countries with no education system, private elite schools, and in one situation, where there were no schools to be found, to homeschooling.

It became my life passion to advocate for proper education for all. I also am a graduate of Brandon University with a Bachelor of Education. I was employed as a middle years teacher for 23 years with the Brandon School Division. I was elected as President of Brandon Teachers' Association, elected to the Provincial Executive of the Manitoba Teachers' Society, and am currently Vice-Chair of Brandon School Division Board of Trustees. I am now employed with Workplace Education Manitoba where I facilitate a program to help unemployed people, most of whom do not have a high school diploma, change their life path.

I firmly believe in a public school system, where no matter what background a child has, they will receive the best quality education available. I believe that this can only be provided when decisions about that education are being made by people with eyes on the ground. That means a locally elected school board that is a part of the community, has a working relationship with Senior Administration, and whose members are recognized and are approachable by parents, students and staff.

The only possible way appropriate programming, and allocation of funds for that programming, can be achieved is through local school boards, local bargaining units and the ability of local taxation. As Regional Director, I will work diligently to represent your local voices and local choices of the local school boards that comprise Region 1.



Region 3 Director

Lena Kublick—Lord Selkirk SD

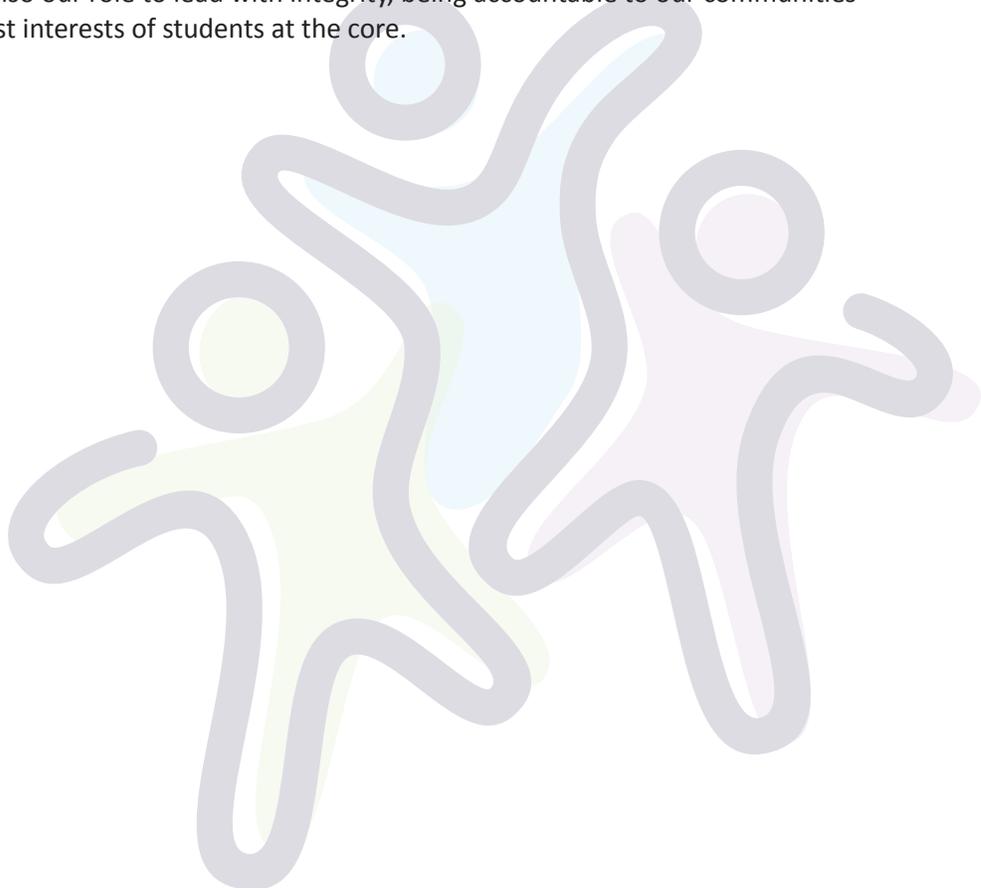


My husband, Dave, and I live in Lockport and have 3 adult children who are proud graduates of the public school system. In my “day job”, I am a Pediatric Occupational Therapist at the SSCY (Special Services for Children and Youth) Centre in Winnipeg. I work with infants and preschoolers. A large part of what I do is help these children prepare for their entry to school. I have a passion for improving the lives of children and their families, and the combination of my career and position as Trustee complement each other. I believe that education is dynamic and that in order to be relevant, we need to continually seek to do better. I am so very proud of the work being done in our Division to that end!

In my 14 years as Trustee with the Lord Selkirk School Division, I have participated on all our various committees, and for the last 4 years, I have had the privilege of serving as Chair of our Board. I am a member of the Aboriginal and Indigenous Education Planning Committee and the Staff Compensation Committee with MSBA and have served as Region 3 Director for the past 3 years. This year, I have the honor of serving as chair for the Convention Planning Committee.

I believe that there is strength in diversity, and that critical thinking and collaboration are fundamental in any organization. I believe that knowledge is power and that we can effect enormous societal changes through education. We have a moral and ethical obligation to provide the students in our schools with not just the academic foundation that they will need, but also the tolerance, empathy and integrity to contribute to society.

Now, more than ever, discernment, dialogue, active listening and an unwavering commitment to the students of Manitoba is needed. In the face of fiscal challenges, and the upcoming release of the K – 12 Education Review, it is critical that we are articulate in communicating the vital role we play as individual trustees, as Boards and as an Association in upholding public education in Manitoba. It is also our role to lead with integrity, being accountable to our communities and consistently making decisions with the best interests of students at the core.



Region 5 Director

Sandy Lethbridge—St. James-Assiniboia



My name is Sandy Lethbridge, and I ask for consideration to be your Region 5 Representative at MSBA.

I am currently in my 10th year serving the St. James-Assiniboia School Division as a School Trustee after being first elected in 2010. At present, I am the Chair of our Personnel Committee and an active member at Education, Finance, Community Engagement, and working with our Scholarship Foundation and Divisional Mental Health Committee. Within the MSBA, I have previously served as the Provincial School Boards representative on the Provincial Arts in Education Steering Committee and assisted on the MSBA Conference Committee for four years. I am a committed, energetic and enthusiastic School Trustee, and I hope to bring those same qualities to this role.

My philosophy is that Manitoba students must receive the best education. With the possibility of amalgamation, losing our ability to tax, pressures to increase test scores, provide nutrition and support our students, it has been an extremely stressful time. Despite these challenges, we need to stay focused on our students and work together to support each other. Our communities and school boards have distinct needs, and as your MSBA representative, I will represent the concerns and ideas of each member board and ensure the government knows the importance of Local Choice in our communities.

As a Region 5 Representative, I would also seek to improve communication and collaboration amongst all boards. I would inform member boards and encourage participation in MSBA organized events and meetings – ensuring all Trustees know about opportunities to collaborate, learn and grow.

I am passionate about serving in this role and look forward to representing you and all divisions in Region 5 to best serve our communities. Thank you for your consideration.



Rules of Procedure for Nominations and Elections

Nominations

1. In 2020, the Vice-President (6000+ students), and one Director each for Regions 1, 3, and 5 will be elected at the Annual Convention of the Association.
2. Every candidate for office shall be a trustee of a member board at the time of being nominated.
3. No person shall hold the same Executive position for more than two, complete consecutive terms.
4. The Nominating Committee will ensure that there is at least one qualified candidate for each position up for election. None of the Committee's nominees shall be a member of the Nominating Committee.
5. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the Annual Convention by a convention delegate with the consent of the nominee.
6. An individual trustee may submit their name to the Nominating Committee, in writing, with the support of an electorate of five (5). This will not apply to candidates nominated from the floor.
7. Nominations will be accepted by the Nominating Committee until the last call for nominations from the floor at the call to order of the Annual Convention.
8. If a candidate for President or Vice-President is not elected, that candidate is deemed to have been nominated for any other position for which they are qualified, if that candidate so desires.
9. Voting shall be by ballot. Voting for President shall be by board ballots, which will be distributed in such numbers as determined by Association by-laws to a trustee authorized by each board to receive those ballots. Voting for all other positions will be by individual trustee ballots, with the Vice-Presidents elected by trustees at large, and Directors elected by the trustees of each respective region. Every trustee of a member board is eligible to register as a voting delegate at a Convention and upon registration shall be given a ballot book. Only Convention delegates and members of the Executive present at the convention shall be entitled to vote at Convention, and no person or member shall vote by proxy.
10. Prior to the elections, the President shall appoint an Elections Committee, none of whom shall be voting delegates or staff, and in the event that a vote is required on any election, the Elections Committee shall collect and count the ballots and declare the name of the successful candidate for each office.
11. Where one officer is to be elected, a candidate, in order to be elected, must receive over 50% of the votes cast. If on the first or subsequent vote no candidate receives over 50% of the votes cast, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be deleted and another vote taken.
12. Where two or more Directors are to be elected at one time, a candidate, in order to be elected, must receive over 50% of the ballots cast. In the event that more than one ballot is necessary, any successful candidate will be declared elected and the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from the ballot; except where this would reduce the remaining candidates to one, in which case only the successful candidate shall be removed from the ballot.
13. Should a tie vote occur during an election which would have the effect of no change in the makeup of the next ballot, a second vote shall be taken, where possible. If the second vote again results in a tie, the successful candidates shall be determined by lot.

The final call for nominations for all Manitoba School Boards Association Executive positions will take place at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, March 12. All elections will take place on Friday, March 13, in accordance with the Convention program.

