



North East School Division

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Response to the Educational Governance Review Report

1. It is encouraging that the Perrins report advocates for the continuation of Boards of Education as a governance body for K-12 education in Saskatchewan.
2. Elected boards are representative and accountable to local voice in education and accountable to government.
3. The North East School Division is efficient and effective. We consistently achieve above average results with below average expenditure levels.
4. Past experience would indicate the impact on schools and front-line services should not be underestimated when governance and management changes occur.
5. The amalgamation of 2006 provided the North East School Division the opportunity to achieve greater capacity and specialized services to students and school communities. This level of service is sustainable.
6. The Kinistin Saulteaux First Nation, Saskatoon Tribal Council and North East School Division have established a strong partnership model developed over the last 9 years.
7. The relationship among the stakeholders is a primary reason for harmonious labour relations and a high level of trust between governors and school communities.
8. The sector and school divisions are achieving significant improvement in all areas identified in the Education Sector Strategic Plan. (i.e. grade level reading; First Nation & Metis on-time graduation rates; preparing vulnerable children for school readiness)
9. There are successful schools and successful school systems. A scale up and scale out model of innovation can be nurtured and developed in classrooms, schools, school systems and the sector. (i.e. NESIP, SWISI, Distance Learning, Advocacy Project, Following Their Voices).
10. Sector wide approaches to seek efficiencies can co-exist with local school boards. The structure and processes put in place to support the Education Sector Strategic Plan in 2014 can be leveraged to gain further sector-wide effectiveness and efficiencies, such as a unified student information system, absence management, professional development, innovation, business practices, on-line schools etc.; see page 14 heat map. Balancing sector efficiencies with local fiscal decision making is the most efficient manner to reduce expenditures in the current environment.
11. The benefits and challenges in an approach such as 3s Health to drive sector-wide operational efficiencies has not been detailed in the Perrin's report. There is not an explanation to quantify value in the sector and improved services to students. Value is

lost if front line services are required to increase processes to support the standardization required for a new entity.

12. The benefits and challenges in an approach such as an Education Quality Council to focus on measurement of education performance and student outcomes has not been identified in the Perrin's report.
13. It is not clear how the approach of a 3s model and Quality Council align with the principles of good governance for assessing options on pages 18-19. How are the entities to be funded? Governed and accountable to? Staffed? Are employees able to move into new roles from the sector (i.e. pension transferability STRP, MEPP, PEP)? Is legislation required?
14. Reorganization of governance and administration across the sector may result in a loss of momentum in achieving the education sector plan vision for 2020. It is difficult to assess the benefit and challenges of multiple changes such as amalgamation, quality control council, 3s education.
15. Government should consider the risk of engaging in significant change across multiple sectors simultaneously. Consideration of the human resource capacity of the province to initiate, implement, monitor and adjust to changes in governance and leadership should be evaluated from a labour perspective, a rural community perspective, and a change management perspective.
16. Limitations exist within moves of centralization and de-centralization. (System of schools vs. a school system).
17. Large scale implementation of changes in education governance should build upon the principles and good practices agreed upon by the Restructuring Coordinating Committee established in 2005 and the Good Practices and Dispute Resolution report of the Joint Committee of the parties to the Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement.