



# Report Card

**2022-2023**





## Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation



Pictured left to right  
Back: Rylund Hunter,  
Brennen Mills, Nicola Bishop-  
Yong, Colleen MacPherson,  
Michael Pidwerbeski, Brooke  
Klassen, Barry MacDougall,  
Marla Adams

Front: Zeba Ahmad (CEO),  
Fatima Coovadia, Stephanie  
Yong, Allison McMillan,  
Wayne Brownlee (Chair)

Missing: Michael Linklater  
and Shane Skjerven

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Thank you to outgoing  
Board Members:

Jesse Radu, Janet Uchacz-  
Hart, Ross Tait

## Volunteer Board Chair and CEO Message

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SPSF operates on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries in the past and the imprints we'll make together going forward. We give thanks to this traditional land.

Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation's (SPSF) goal is for every child in Saskatchewan to have a viable opportunity to graduate from high school. To achieve this goal, it is critical for every child to achieve Grade 3 literacy as they move onto Grade 4.

Currently, approximately 30% of children in Saskatchewan do not achieve Grade 3 literacy in Grade 3. In some neighborhoods and

communities across Saskatchewan, up to 60% of children do not reach this critical milestone. Our strategy is two- fold.

Firstly, in Saskatoon Public Schools, SPSF is funding full-day, every day Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten, Camp Brain Power, and Page Turners Tutor Program. In the spring of 2023, SPSF announced a significant expansion of full-day, every day Kindergarten to 29 programs in 25 schools. This expansion means over 750 young learners and their families will benefit from this fundamental programming. This has been made possible by continued fundraising for Early Learning Equal Start, which has raised \$16.8 million to date. We are well on our way to hitting our target of \$20 million!



Secondly, SPSF is sharing the benefits of full-day, every day programming with the Government of Saskatchewan and other school divisions across the province. Saskatchewan is one of only a few provinces not funding full-day, every day Kindergarten. We believe all children in Saskatchewan should have the opportunity to attend and benefit from this essential programming. Data collected from our programming shows full-day students have better attendance and alphabet recognition versus their half-day counterparts.

Results of an Inshtrix study conducted at the end of June showed over 80% of Saskatchewan residents support publicly funded full-day, every day Kindergarten. We have also begun advocating with the federal government to utilize the \$500 million Early Learning and Child Care Agreement to fund full day pre-kindergarten, as demonstrated in some provincial jurisdictions. We see no reason why Saskatchewan cannot lead the country in child literacy!

We strongly feel it is our role to not only uplift students, especially those requiring extra support, but also as significant, we want to educate the community on the importance of investing in our children. All children deserve an equal start. Imagine a Saskatchewan where all students are able to realize their full potential.

Throughout the year, SPSF continued to fund and expand many other initiatives. We invite you to read through our Report Card to learn about the activities and accomplishments of SPSF, students, and staff.

SPSF can only be successful with the generous support of our donors and fully committed teachers and staff of Saskatoon Public Schools. We are more determined than ever to ensure

students have opportunities to catch up and aspire beyond their expectations. The staff of SPSF may be small in numbers but are mighty in enthusiasm and effort. We are in the business of changing lives and the efforts of our staff and our Board lifts way beyond our weight! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

**WAYNE BROWNLEE**, Volunteer Board Chair

**ZEB A AHMAD**, CEO



## SPSF Team



Pictured left to right: Krysta Shacklock, Zeba Ahmad, Debra Lishchynsky, Carly Fuentealba

# EARLY LEARNING EQUAL START

In 2022-23, SPSF continued Early Learning Equal Start initiatives that supported 13 schools with full-day Pre-Kindergarten and 14 schools with full-day Kindergarten.

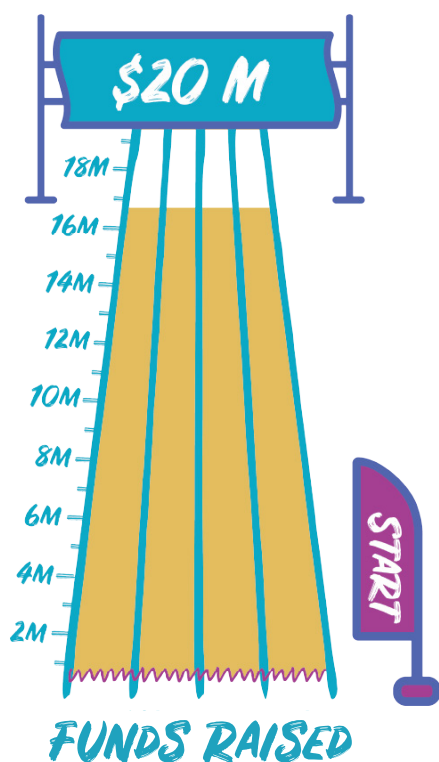
Students in full-day, every day Kindergarten have a **higher attendance rating** and see **significantly greater growth in alphabet recognition** vs their half day counterparts.



## Early Learning Equal Start Schools:

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| ✓ Brownell          | ✓ Mayfair           |
| ✓ Caroline Robins   | ✓ North Park Wilson |
| ✓ Caswell           | ✓ Pleasant Hill     |
| ✓ Fairhaven         | ✓ Sutherland        |
| ✓ Howard Coad       | ✓ Vincent Massey    |
| ✓ King George       | ✓ wâhkôhtowin       |
| ✓ Lester B. Pearson | ✓ W.P. Bate         |

**82% of SK residents** support the re-implementation of publicly funded full-day, every day kindergarten throughout Saskatchewan



## Thank You:

Barry and Laurie Green Family Charitable Trust, Lyle and Carol Minogue, Peter Martin, Wanuskewin Gift Shop, Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign, Anonymous Donor

Allison Stromberg and Terry Johnson, Asit and Ila Sarkar, Awasis Boutique, Cheryl Sutherland, Greg and Olivia Yuel, Leanne Bellegarde, Mary's Hope Foundation, Sakeena Akhtar, Sheryl Riis, Stephanie Yong, Twisted Goods





# EARLY LEARNING EQUAL START

## ALL IN



Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation is going **All In** to ensure all students have equal opportunity for learning success.

*DID YOU KNOW A CHILD WHO  
ISN'T READING AT GRADE LEVEL  
BY GRADE 3 IS 4X LESS LIKELY  
TO GRADUATE?*

## Every Dollar Matters

Please help us build a \$5 Million All In endowment to continue the important work of the Early Learning Equal Start Campaign.


Whether it's \$2 or \$200, all donations will be matched up to \$2.5 Million thanks to a generous donor!



## Establish a legacy of readers

Equal learning opportunity is a fundamental right. Early childhood literacy is the foundation for preventing poverty, improving health, and building strong economies.



How you can help			Monthly Contribution
Nutrition		1 Student for 1 Day	\$10
Camp Brain Power		1 Student for 1 Day	\$25
Page Turners		1 Student for 1 Day of Tutoring	\$50
Cheer Crate		for 1 Family	\$100

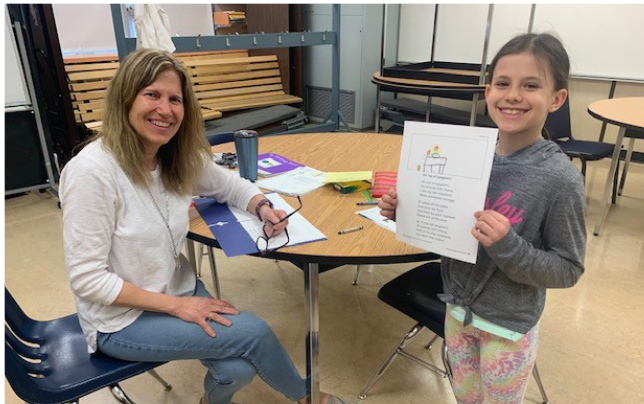


**Every contribution empowers a student to succeed.**

Sign up for monthly giving!



# PAGE TURNERS



**"I am forever grateful for the retired teachers who tutor our students with the goal of filling the gaps. I always see growth in reading ability and confidence in students who have the opportunity to work with the tutors. It is impossible for classroom teachers to meet the needs of all the students on our own. Thank you for continuing to support our students!"**

– Teacher from Westmount School



at **43 schools**  
with **50 tutors hired**

SPSF is very proud to announce the rebranding of the Early Learner Tutor Program to Page Turners in 2022-23.

Launched in 2013 to address literacy and equity needs, Page Turners invites struggling readers in Grades 1 to 3 to be paired with retired master-level teachers to help them progress toward grade-level reading while improving confidence and skills. Students who would benefit from tutoring are invited to participate in one of three 7-week sessions where they receive over 21 hours of tailored 1-on-1 instruction throughout the school year.

Students **gain over half a year of literacy growth per session** and **90% are on track for on-time high school graduation.**

## POWERUP PROJECTS



Formerly Programs of Excellence, each year SPSF provides grants to classrooms and schools for innovative and supplemental projects that provide unique learning opportunities for students.

Examples of 2022-23 projects include Oral Language through Indigenous Tales & Puppets at Lakeridge and Lakeview, ButterFlyway Pollinator Garden at Hugh Cairns V.C., Ribbon Skirt Teachings at Ernest Lindner, and irch Bark Canoe teachings at the kâniyâsihk Culture Camp for Bedford Road Collegiate. Stories are available on the SPSF website.



awarded to **15 schools**  
for innovative  
projects in 2022-23.





Camp Brain Power is one of SPSF's Early Learning Equal Start key initiatives to help all students read at Grade 3 level by Grade 3.

Camp Brain Power helps to ensure students enter school in the fall with confidence and renewed enthusiasm. Held August 14-18, Camp Brain Power is a full-week, all day summer camp that focuses on literacy, physical activity, engagement, and well-being.



from **43 schools**  
at **18 camps**.

led by **46 SPS Teachers**  
and **11 volunteers**



Camp Brain Power is offered completely free for all students within Saskatoon Public Schools. Lunch and snacks provided daily with support from the Summer Snack Program.



**TD READY  
COMMITMENT**

SPSF thanks BHP and TD Ready Commitment for their multi-year contribution to Camp Brain Power.



## Nutritional Support



Over **950,000 breakfasts, lunches, and snacks** were served in 2022-23 to approximately **3600 students**.

“The program helps students who do not have food security at home do better in their everyday life at school. They learn better and have a clear mind because they are not worried about food and have the proper nutrients their body needs for energy and health.”

– Teacher from Sutherland School

Nutrien generously contributed \$200,000 to the Nutrien Food4Thought Program which supported 14 elementary and 5 secondary schools.

Additional donors:

- ✓ Sunrise Foods International
- ✓ SaskMilk
- ✓ Never Hungry Saskatoon



# Tim Hortons. smile cookie™



Saskatoon Tim Hortons owners chose SPSF as a recipient for their September 2022 Smile Cookie Campaign. The results of the fall campaign were so successful that SPSF was selected as the recipient again in May 2023.

100% of the proceeds from cookie sales in Saskatoon were donated to SPSF's Early Learning Equal Start Campaign.

With the support of school community councils, local businesses, volunteers, and donors, SPSF achieved record breaking sales during both the September and May campaigns.

TOTAL RAISED:  
\$296,511

RECORD  
BREAKING!

SEPTEMBER '22:  
\$139,898



MAY '23:  
\$156,612



# LIGHTLY GRILLED



**GUEST SPEAKER**

*Kim Coates*  
Nutana Grad '76



**GRILLEE**

*Troy Davies*  
Mount Royal Grad '92

**EAT. DRINK. LAUGH.**  
**SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS.**



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

### **RARE** 🔥🔥🔥

Medavie Health Services West

### **MEDIUM RARE** 🔥🔥

Graham Group, Saskatoon Fire and Flood,  
Ens Auto Group

### **MEDIUM WELL** 🔥🔥

NexGen Energy, Dakota Dunes Community  
Development Corporation, PwC, SIGA, Suer &  
Pollon Mechanical

### **WELL DONE** 🔥

Saskatchewan Polytechnic, SGI, Touchstone  
Homes, Butler Byers, Wawanesa Insurance,  
Ledcor Group

SPSF hosted the 10th Annual Lightly Grilled (formerly Alumni Celebrity Roast). We were excited to welcome Kim Coates, Nutana Grad '76 and Sons of Anarchy star, as our guest speaker and Troy Davies, Mount Royal Grad '92, community leader and Saskatoon City Councillor, as our Grillee.

Each year, Lightly Grilled brings together more than 300 guests, including community leaders and Saskatoon Public Schools' most distinguished graduates, for an evening of entertainment and light-hearted humour to benefit the programs offered by SPSF. Proceeds from Lightly Grilled will be used to provide enhanced learning opportunities for Saskatoon Public Schools' students, schools, and teachers, with a focus on literacy, wellness, and innovation. These programs include Page Turners, Camp Brain Power, Canpotex Cheer Crates, and Power Up Projects.

**\$151,653 RAISED!**



SPSF assembles and delivers Canpotex Cheer Crates to Saskatoon Public Schools families identified by staff as requiring extra support during school breaks. In October and February, over 1500 families received a Canpotex Cheer Crate thanks to the generosity of corporate and individuals donors, teachers, and our many volunteers.

Each Canpotex Cheer Crate is valued at over \$100 and consists of food including dairy products, eggs, bread, fruits and vegetables, cereal and canned goods, as well as books, hygiene items and fun activities for the whole family.



**Thank you to Canpotex for their generous gift of \$225,000 to fund groceries for Cheer Crates.**



SPSF hosted the 3rd annual Spring for our Students online auction in support of essential literacy, wellness, and innovation initiatives within Saskatoon Public Schools. Spring for Our Students provides an opportunity to offer unique auction items that celebrate the season while supporting students and recognizing local businesses.



Thanks to the **Sargeant Hugh Cairns VC Armoury** personnel, over **100 volunteers** including various local companies and the **Saskatoon Industry Education Council** team.

Additional donors:

- ✓ Federated Co-operatives
- ✓ Saskatoon Co-op
- ✓ Saskatchewan Egg Producers
- ✓ Saskatchewan Health Authority



Event Sponsor:



**SPSF Champions:**  
**SaskTel, SIGA, Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation**

**Friends of SPSF:**  
**Dynamic Core Benefits, Kindrachuk Agrey Architecture, Connect Energy**



# Thank You to Our Community Contributors:

- ✓ Blanche and Dan McDonald
- ✓ BRCI 100th Anniversary Reunion
- ✓ Canpotex
- ✓ CL Hayden
- ✓ Curtis and Shanna Bell
- ✓ Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation
- ✓ Darryl Okrainetz
- ✓ Dr. Abdullah Patel
- ✓ EHCI Class of '72 Reunion
- ✓ EHCI Class of '83 Reunion
- ✓ Enterprise Holdings Foundation
- ✓ Hyunsook Lee
- ✓ Ignite Coaching and Consulting
- ✓ Inland Steel
- ✓ Janna Dutton
- ✓ Lawson Heights Extended Day Program
- ✓ Lloyd Inman
- ✓ National Council of Women of Canada Development Organization
- ✓ Our Lady of The Prairies Foundation
- ✓ PHE-EPS Canada
- ✓ Shannon Rogal
- ✓ Saskatoon Community Foundation
- ✓ Sheila May
- ✓ Imagine That Media YXE
- ✓ TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
- ✓ Thomas and Merne Wilson
- ✓ Westburne Midwest

## Donations in Memory:

Allan Mulhall	Justin Swan
Anne Maduke	Kelly Bowers
Arthur Shepherd	Larry Mintzler
Doreen Walker	Linda Inman
Hugo Alvarado	Ron Luciuk
Jacinta Morrissey	Ron Migneault

## Community Sponsored Projects:

Bedford Road Alumni  
Help One  
Hugo Alvarado Art Project  
Hope Project  
Mark Family Scholarship  
Patricia Prowse and Don Speidel Legacy Fund  
SPS Playgrounds

## Donations in Honour:

Brownlee Family	Leah and Cole Inman
Jennifer Reid	Patricia Prowse
Kathleen Germs	



# JOIN US!

Together, we are making a difference.



# IMAGINE

A Saskatchewan where all students are  
able to reach their full potential!

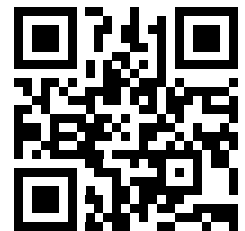


## WAYS TO DONATE

Donate online at [SPSFoundation.ca](https://SPSFoundation.ca)

SPSF also accepts cheques, EFTs, credit cards  
and securities including stocks, bonds, and  
mutual funds.

Cheques payable to:  
Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation  
310 21st Street E. Saskatoon, SK S7K 1M7  
[info@spsfoundation.ca](mailto:info@spsfoundation.ca) | 306-683-8550



Donate Today!



Saskatoon Public  
Schools Foundation