

June 9, 2020

Dear Members:

First, I want to commend each and every one of you for the professionalism and commitment to your students you have demonstrated through this period of emergency remote learning. I know it hasn't always been easy and that many challenges exist in connecting to students remotely. The inequities that existed pre-pandemic are still relevant and have become even more evident.

As we adjust to our new normal, many questions remain. I know the lack of clarity is difficult and can be frustrating. While Education Minister Gord Wyant's announcement today provided some answers, there are many details and logistics that still must be determined.

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation continues to contribute to the Response Planning Team, which has representation from all education partners. We are not public health experts, but we are experts in education. Working with our sector partners, we will recommend solutions to the Government of Saskatchewan to ensure the delivery of education in a manner that follows the guidance of public health experts.

It is anticipated each division will need to create contingency plans based on local circumstances and parameters set out by government. The Federation's job is to ensure the interests of teachers and students are addressed in each of these plans.

I ask you to continue to be patient as we all navigate these unprecedented circumstances and try to find solutions that ensure delivery of public education and ensure the safety of teachers and students during this pandemic.

Your hard work and dedication during these uncertain times has not gone unnoticed. The Federation will continue to provide you with updates as plans are determined, represent your interests and provide you with timely professional learning opportunities.

Patrick Maze,
President