

PARENT ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE

BETTER EDUCATION STARTS TODAY—MANITOBA EDUCATION

MANDATE

The Manitoba government is establishing a Task Force to guide public input and provide advice to the province on how to move forward with parent engagement as a key component of education reform in Manitoba. This Task Force will listen to Manitobans in order to

- ✓ help shape the roles and responsibilities of the School Community Councils
- ✓ explore how parents can participate in supporting their children's education in ways that respect their time commitments
- ✓ explore best practices for parent participation and engagement
- ✓ assist in improving educational experiences and outcomes through innovative, collaborative approaches among parents, teachers, and principals

MEMBERSHIP

The Task Force will consist of parents, community and school leaders, and MLAs and will be chaired by Scott Johnston, legislative assistant to the Minister of Education. Members include the following:

- ✓ MLAs (Chair: Scott Johnston; Vice-Chairs: Ian Wishart, Janice Morley-Lecomte)
- ✓ Parents
- ✓ School leaders/division representatives
- ✓ Manitoba Education representatives (Deputy Minister of Education, Assistant Deputy Minister of Planning and Transformation, and Director of Transformation Management Office)

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Focus on listening to participant feedback during engagement sessions including 15 regional town halls, four telephone town halls, as well as workshops with parent advisory councils and school leaders as outlined in the engagement plan and based on member availability. Regional sessions will be led and moderated by the Chair and Vice-Chairs.
- ✓ Put forth recommendations to the Minister of Education on how to move forward with parent engagement, including the role and responsibilities of the councils, and the resources required to support parent engagement.

The Transformation Management Office at Manitoba Education will be responsible for coordination, logistics, and support.

TIMELINE

- ✓ Public engagement will occur in May and June. Initial recommendations will be submitted to the Minister of Education by August 2021, with a plan for ongoing engagement to be determined.
- ✓ A schedule of attendance for these sessions will be established as Task Force members are not expected to attend each public engagement session. During these public engagement sessions, the role of the Task Force is to listen to Manitobans. After the sessions, the members will bring forward observations for discussion at Task Force meetings.
- ✓ The Task Force will operate for approximately 12 months, at which point its activities are expected to conclude. If needed, the Task Force may be extended or renewed.

MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the call of the Chair. It is anticipated that virtual meetings will be held bi-weekly until June 30, 2021, and then, if required, monthly thereafter. The schedule may change from time to time in order to meet the work plan to accomplish the tasks as outlined.