**Adoption of the Agenda. Moved by Chylisse Marchand, seconded by Margot Arnold**

**Friday Agenda**

4:30 – 4:50 Convention Update --- Caroline and Karen -- co-chairs of the committee

* Margot, Bev, Karen, Caroline, and Al
* 298 replies for convention
* A lot want main speaker.
* Suggestions:
  + Mindfulness
  + Sports
  + Inspiration
  + Indigenous Speaker – truth and reconciliation \*Jolee and Lorne (Tatanka Boutique 306-525-2201)\*
    - Acknowledge treaty 2 and 4 land at convention
    - Smudge ceremony
  + Engagement
* Keynote and breakout sessions for core subjects
  + We would like a high caliber keynote. Some people would like a call for a longer lunch and break. Possibility of a sports keynote who is willing to work with us with a cost we are comfortable with.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Councillors – network with others across province for suggestions\*\*\*\*\*\*

* Fee🡪 We may be looking at a possibility of raising convention fees. We may have to dip into reserve to keep fees as they are.

4:50 – 5:50 Whitney and Karen

Report for Local Association meetings September 14th and 15th (See print out)

* We are working in challenging times. Highly political.
* Divide and conquer is what’s happening with government right now – they are even trying to split local associations.
* Summit started today – Lynn Little was invited for Reimagine Education Summit
  + All educational partners were invited to Stoon. No teacher representation—directors, etc. No educators are involved in creating where the school sector plan.
  + Only one teacher association was invited to attend – they were not expecting it. They backed out of the summit in order to stay united.
  + Very heated conversation
  + Collective interest complaint was introduced
  + The Government is trying very hard to divide groups and go about things in the wrong way.
  + SSBA has pulled out of the Education Summit.
  + Started as a noble and collaborative process.
  + Last minute the Presidents were invited on Saturday.
  + Reimagine Education
    - Engaging teachers to engage the public
    - Strong commitment from organizations
    - Discussion can and will be heated
      * Any conversation is good conversation
      * Hope that we can do this at the very least with our SCC
      * Level of comfort at a large meeting compared to a small one differs.
      * It’s really just about getting ideas – very open ended.
  + What’s our “Brand”
    - Empath, caring, etc….
    - TEACHERS DON’T GIVE UP – we don’t give up on our students and we don’t give up on each other.
    - We need to improve it. We are not being picked often enough.
    - Imagine how much more we could be.
  + Arbitrator Report
    - Definition of duties – legislated duties of teachers and principals
    - Transfers or terms of employment changes – this could lead to problems
    - Expanded grievance protects coordinators, consultants, principals and vice principals.

Begin work on Presentation to Minister Wyant – Maple Room 7:45AM

* He has met already with Saskatoon public and Regina Catholic
* Karen had some hard hitting questions after her presentation to the Board. This was the first time that Karen shared some negativity. They didn’t necessarily like it. She hit it home that this presentation was made by the STF and the Executive. They possibly felt personally attacked.

**5:50 pm to 6:30 Supper**

**BREAKS will be as needed during the meeting outlined below.**

6:30 Greetings and Question Period – Patrick Maze, President, STF

* Teachers across the province are going throught similar things as us.
* Randy Shmaltz
  + Resolve
    - Courage to keep moving out issues forward
  + Commitment
    - Talk openly about our commitment to our students
  + Collectivity
    - Work collectively toward our goals
* Top managers at crown corporations have been recently been given fairly high pay raises. None of these people were asked to give money back. They were never asked to participate – it was never forced. When we were at the bargaining table asking CPI plus 1. We only wanted 2.1 percent. These people received a significant pay increase.
* There is a teacher shortage in the North. They were short 14 full time teacher positions – they were given better positions. It is getting harder and harder to attract teachers especially into the North. There is a reliance for teachers from Eastern Canada and Ontario. We need to prepare and find teachers who are from the North and train them in the North. Cancelling of NORTEP in 2017…. There was a lack of planning on their part and a short sited transition. Divisions are also having difficulties because there is no money there for recruitment and/or training.
* Government
  + Projections 2000 plus student increase… There has been no extra funds given to handle the demands of the school year. It has caused a huge disruption and turmoil.
  + 5000 extra students in two years.
  + Students with special needs are not getting the extra funding they need.
  + Class sizes are increasing, young teachers are drowning.
  + Failed to prepare for the consequences of their funding cuts.
  + There are enough new students in Regina to fill 5-6 new schools…. And enough new teachers to fill half of a staff room.
  + They are not meeting the needs of students and teachers.
* Why hasn’t teacher voice been heard?
  + We have been explicitly written out of the Provincial Leadership Team and the Education Sector plan. The STF and the SSBA are not members….
  + The STF and SSBA are the elected reps who bring teacher and community voice and they are not able to be part of it.
  + Grad rates – they want the high rates simply to save the Government money. It is no longer about the student anymore, it’s about budget. Hence…. Credit recovery programs, etc. (Julie McCrae, in the ministry said this!)
    - Directors know that if they tow the line and do as the Government wants, they have a possibility of being in the ministry. $$$$$
* Education should not be dependent on Politics
  + They want to reset the relationship with teachers
  + Unfortunately, there has been lots of words, and little follow through.
  + They have a responsibility to fund and support education appropriately.
  + It needs to be properly funded. Some chamber of commerce members are noticing that students don’t have the skills to survive in the working community. Companies are having to hire their own teachers to bring up former students who have “graduated”… they can function in the work force.

7:00 Finalize presentation outline to Minister Wyant – Ask input from Patrick if he is able to stay for a few extra minutes. (Note: Karen will finalize the presentation itself after input from SSRs on Tuesday, October 16th and discuss via personal emails and Google Docs).

* Patrick
  + Minister Wyant has not chatted with the STF executive yet.
  + It is strange that he is calling for a meeting with our local.
  + Safety in the classroom
  + Class time
  + Teacher time
  + Teachers are not prepared to deal with some issues in our classrooms – dealing with things are not trained for
  + He has a meeting planned with the exec in November.
  + CUTS, more EAL students, FN students, mental health
  + What is it that we want our Grade 12 students to leave with when they leave our building? We are supposed to be teaching mental health now – on top of everything else we have to teach… all of these things are added to our plate with little or no response. WHAT HAVE WE TAKEN OFF THE CURRICULUM LATELY?

8:00 Re-Imagine Education Process -- Whitney and Karen to lead

* Executive members will be small group leaders as we go through the same process on Tuesday, October 16th with SSLs. John will do guidance. 1 hour meeting
  + Bold initiative to challenge our views of what education is now, and what it could look like in the future.
  + It’s important bc it’s been 30 years since we really looked at education
    - What should we keep doing? What should we stop doing? What should we introduce?
  + Teacher voice needs to be heard – they have the best sense of what needs to be improved and what needs to be done.
  + Teachers must talk with other teachers. Their views been to be brought forward to the rest of the province. We are the best ones to share what education looks like in the classroom.
  + The community needs to have a voice as well. They need to have input for the future of their schools.
  + Suggestions will come forth through discussion.
  + We will compile 10-12 issues that we feel can and should be addressed
    - We will be able to hand the government a report of what we feel is important.
    - Since then, there is potential of an early election of 2019, which means we would have to get it out there earlier than that.
  + We will put not only the STF, but the SCCs, communities, school divisions, etc on these recommendations. As teachers, we should participate in as many meetings as we possibly can. We’d like to see as many meetings as possible. Like they are purposeful and well attended.

What opportunities are you envisioning through the Re-Imagine Education initiative?

* We want to see partner groups coming together to bring a real, combined voice to educational issues and find solutions.
* We want to move away from the top down standardized model, data data data.
* Getting to the heart to see what society wants to see with education
* It’s a catalyst for significant change.

As a teaching professional, what are my CORE BELIEFS about the PURPOSE of education?

* We will need to have at least five meetings throughout our school division over the next six weeks or so. Nathan Bromm has offered to host a meeting in Rocanville with support from the SECTA executive. We will need to plan some further meetings in different areas for Teachers and the Public to attend.

9:15 Wellness committee information and direction for this year.

--- finish up and questions.

Other SECTA goals for the year?

Touch on what we will be doing tomorrow.

**Saturday Agenda (see last page of this handout)**

Resolutions – Whitney will update you on how our resolutions did last year and we will work on where we want to go for resolutions this year. It will be important that we send them in much earlier than we did last year so that the STF resolution committee has time to give us feedback before they either get rejected or put forward.

Small groups –scholarship, nomination, constitution

Nominations, Bev and Caroline

* Made slight changes – sent to Karen.

Scholarship, Teresa

* Wording on the form will change as there is a portion that is a little confusing.
* Number 6 – two sealed letters of reference… applicants are confused whether they need a separate letter of reference and do the checklist.
* Please email every high school the proper document.
* We just want one document that is the SECTA scholarship application. We want the reference form
* Mike Van Betew and Nina will make these changes and put on website.

Constitution

* Kyle, Chylisse, Scott, Kayla and Margot.
* Scott took notes and made changes – given to Whitney.

Meeting adjourned. Motioned by Kayla Henderson, seconded by Chylisse Marchand

**Report from the Meetings on the Weekend:**

The political climate right now for the STF is not that great and the more people that can share stories that the education system is not going well right now, the better.

Especially before the Education summit.

Here is some of what Whitney and I heard at the meetings this weekend:

Information on the Letters to the Local Associations from the Ministry:

-Unsettling -- the war of words in the medial after the arbitration report

-divide and conquer is the strategy of choice we find ourselves dealing with

-the students and the reality of the classroom are what is important

-the Perrin’s report itself was a bout trying to control and reign in school boards -- boards are basically just glad they are still alive and will do the ministry’s biding.

-The structure of the ministry shows that the only advisors they are using are Directors of Education through a group called the PLT (Provincial Leadership Team)....  These are the people who determine the ESSP (Education Sector Strategic Plan). No one (Other than Directors) from the STF, SSBA, LEADS or SASBO are on the PLT at all.  As you can imagine, not having representation from these other groups for the ESSP is a problem.

-The letters sent to Presidents of the Locals from the ministry are not really in alignment with their own legislation -- again, it seems to be a divide and conquer strategy.

-[Re-imagine Education](https://www.stf.sk.ca/about-stf/news/stf-calls-new-vision-future-public-education) (started last spring by the STF -- a large undertaking of getting information from people across the province on their hopes, dreams and vision of Education for the future.) turned into conversations with the traditional “partners” of education --  SSBA (Saskatchewan School Boards Association), LEADS (League of Educational Administrators and Superintendents), SASBO (professional association of School Business Officials) -- Not considered partners anymore unfortunately -- they are Education Stakeholders

At first re-Imagine Education was partnered with SSBA, LEADS, SASBO

But the PLT phoned board chairs and told them to bail out of Re-Imagine Education

  ---  SSBA pulls out, then LEADS and then SASBO

\*\*the Government creates their own process and steals re-imagine education for an Educational Summit.

-SSBA also will have their own consultation with the public -- deliberately aimed at undermining the STF re-Imagine Education process.

-The Government continues to take steps to side-stp the STF -- Some things are subtle -- others more blatant (Like the letters) -- The education minister does not even answer the STF’s calls since their first face to face meeting in February.

-The letters to local associations need to be the same 26 messages to the minister.

**Sample request letter:**

Hi there to the Youngfellows Executive,

I was wondering if I would be able to use one of your meetings to go through an activity called Re-Imagine Education with your members?

The Re-Imagine Education initiative will clarify the issues facing education today, imagine what the future might look like and plan how to make the vision a reality. As Minister of Education Gord Wyant often says, “not a wheel turns in Saskatchewan’s economy without a strong and good educational system.”

The STF and many partners are asking groups around the province to participate, as we truly wish to find out what is at the heart of what people want for Education in this province.

Please see <http://www.reimagineeducation.ca/> for more details and let me know when I might be able to facilitate the activity at a Youngfellows meeting,

Thank you,

Karen Kennedy-Allin, B.Ed., M.Ed.

President, South East Cornerstone Teachers’ Association

Office Hours: 8:00am – 1:00pm

Non-School email: kennedyallin@live.ca

Personal Phone: 1.306.861.9079

***Saturday***

**Scholarship** -- update form and decide on any new procedures. Clarify process so that it is posted accurately on the website. Teresa, please make 40 handouts for Tuesday to hand out at the SSR meeting and do a report for the SSRs.

**Nominations** -- update form (actually, I think this is already done) and decide on any new procedures and decide which positions are up for re-election this year. Clarify process so that it is posted accurately on the website. Bev, please make 40 handouts for Tuesday to hand out at the SSR meeting and do a report for the SSRs.

\*\*\*Michael please make sure you are aware of what needs updating for the website. Thank you so very much for doing that part of SECTA! Michael, we will have to post the minutes from 2017-2018 up on the website as well. Let’s do that by October 31st.

**Constitution**  -- Read through proposed changes from May 2014 to compare to the constitution we have been using to guide us from 2012. I’m not sure how it happened, but it was never actually changed officially, even though it was proposed and passed as a motion.

Do we agree with the proposed changes? Do we want to consider other changes? For example…-- a proposed change was crossing out the responsibility of a superannuation supper, but I think we need to keep that part in there as that is our responsibility again.

Perhaps divide into small groups and each analyze specific sections and then come back together and share ideas?

Is this something we want to set as a goal for the year? Constitutional Change? If so, we should dedicate the majority of our December meeting to this discussion.

We can make a motion for the changes and then send it to the STF for approval. All Constitutional changes need to be vetted through the STF (Scott Burant, I believe)