

## Board Development Topic: Student Engagement in the Middle Years

### Date of Board Meeting:

October 9, 2025

### Strategic Priority:

- ☒ High Quality Teaching and Learning
- ☒ Engagement of All Students, Families, and Communities
- ☐ Effective Policy and Procedures
- ☐ Healthy, Sustainable Physical & Social Environments

### Quality Indicator(s):

QI 1.1 Facilitating environments where students feel a sense of belonging and have high levels of intellectual engagement.

QI 11.1 Providing effective educational leadership.

QI 11.5 Demonstrating a high commitment to the needs of students.

### Information for the Board (10 fast facts):

#### 1. Chromebooks - Tech in Every Hand

From Grades 4-12, every GSSD student has a Chromebook - ensuring equitable access to digital tools that support creativity, collaboration, and personalized learning. This initiative reflects both the provincial and divisional goals of inclusive, tech-enabled classrooms.

#### 2. Blended Learning - Tech Meets Teaching for Student Success

GSSD is redefining classrooms with blended learning that puts students in the driver's seat. With flexible, tech-enhanced instruction, learners explore at their own pace, make choices, and build agency. This shift from one-size-fits-all to personalized pathways aligns with Saskatchewan's vision for responsive, student-centered curriculum and GSSD's commitment to high-quality, equitable learning environments.

#### 3. Building Thinking Classrooms - Elevating Math Through Engagement

GSSD is enhancing math instruction by implementing the research-based Building Thinking Classrooms framework. Over 80 educators have completed Day 1 training in the 14 key practices that promote student collaboration, problem solving, and resilience. These practices shift classrooms from traditional, teacher-led instruction to dynamic, student-driven learning environments. This initiative aligns with provincial priorities for innovative teaching and supports GSSD's strategic goal of improving student engagement and achievement in mathematics across K-12.

#### 4. Writing Engagement - Crafting Voices That Matter

Grade 7 and 8 ELA teachers dove into writing workshops that spark creativity and student voice. These strategies support the provincial goal of strengths-based instruction and GSSD's mission to ignite literacy through engaging, authentic experiences.

#### 5. Treaty Education - Living the Promise

Treaty Education in GSSD is more than curriculum - it's a commitment. By embedding K-12 Saskatchewan Treaty Education Outcomes into everyday learning, students explore Treaties as living agreements that

shape our shared responsibilities. GSSD honors its role as treaty people, supporting teachers in delivering meaningful instruction and assessment that deepens understanding, fosters respect, and builds a stronger future together.

**6. Provincial Assessment - Measuring What Matters**

GSSD supports the Ministry of Education's Provincial Assessments in Grade 7 ELA and Grades 5 and 9 Math as part of our commitment to high-quality teaching and learning. These assessments will provide valuable insights into student achievement and instructional impact, helping educators tailor support and improve outcomes. It's about using data to drive meaningful learning for every student.

**7. Coding & Robotics - Hands-On Learning for a Digital World**

Ozobots, Micro:bits, Minecraft, and coding bring curriculum to life. GSSD students aren't just learning - they're building, solving, and creating. These experiences foster future-ready skills and reflect the provincial strategy to leverage technology for innovation, while supporting GSSD's vision of engaged, empowered learners.

**8. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Smart Use of Smart Tools**

AI is here - and GSSD is leading with purpose. Our AI Beliefs and Guidelines ensure ethical, safe, and meaningful integration of generative tools in learning. This aligns with Saskatchewan's call for global competencies and GSSD's focus on innovative, responsible digital learning.

**9. Google Workspace - Smart, Secure, Student-Centered**

Docs, Drive, Classroom-GSSD students and teachers collaborate seamlessly with secure, ad-free tools. This supports the provincial strategy for connected learning environments and GSSD's priority of safe, efficient digital ecosystems.

**10. Digital Tools - Learning That Fits Every Learner**

From visual thinkers to hands-on creators, GSSD's digital tools meet students where they are. Whether it's slides, videos, multimedia tools - learners show what they know in ways that work for them. These tools fuel personalization, boost engagement, and ensure every student has a voice and a choice in how they learn. It's tech that adapts to the learner - not the other way around.

Respectfully submitted,

Quintin M. Robertson, Director/CEO  
Good Spirit School Division