

Local Voices Local Choices

Because schools belong to communities



MANITOBA

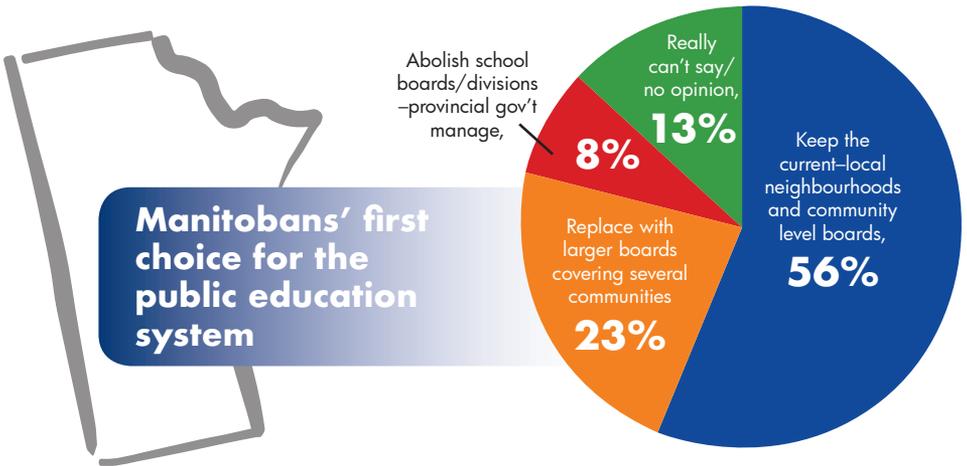
School Boards

A S S O C I A T I O N

localvoices.ca

Did you know?

Manitoba's 37 elected school boards provide quality education for 210,000 students every school day. **Many of the experiences they enjoy depend on local decisions, made at the community level. A significant majority of Manitobans support this.** Based on a representative survey conducted by Probe Research last fall—



Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree

It's an important democratic right for Manitobans to directly elect their own representatives to oversee their local public schools



Source: Probe Research Omnibus Survey (Sept. 19-28, 2018) 1,116 respondents

It is your right alone to decide whether changes take place to education in your local community. **Now is the time to make your voice heard.**

Economic impacts

Schools benefit from services provided by local businesses, companies and organizations, including for capital infrastructure, fuel, classroom goods and supplies, and practical experiences such as field trips, work placements and high school apprenticeships. Many positive relationships have been established between school divisions and local businesses in Manitoba.

As of 2019, the overall economic impact of the educational services sector accounts for 5.6% of GDP and 21% of public spending in Manitoba. These impacts create important local spin-offs in every community across our province.

Where does your tax investment go?

Some believe that school taxes are used to fund significant salaries at the top, while classroom needs go unmet. This is simply not true: on a yearly average

Of each dollar spent:

80¢ goes directly to the frontline, to pay for the teachers and support workers

10¢ goes to operations and maintenance, to provide supplies, to fix and repair schools and to keep the heat and lights on

4¢ goes to transporting kids to and from school, including maintaining and fuelling the bus fleet

3¢ pays for qualified administrators to meet the needs of changing, demanding, and fast-paced school divisions

0.5¢ supports the work of locally elected school boards, who ensure that the local voices and local choices are protected when it comes to meeting the needs of each community's children

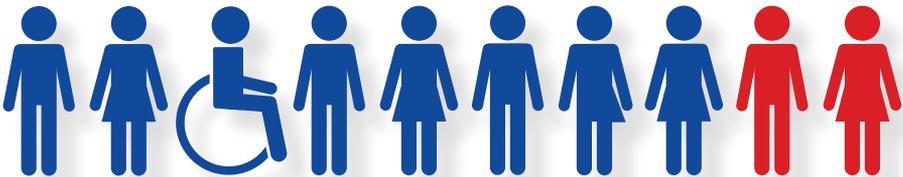
2.5¢ Any remaining funds are used to deliver programming for local communities and to operate Adult Learning Centres

Source: Financial Reporting and Accounting for Manitoba Education Reports



Our students' results

On national and international assessments in literacy, math and science, **Manitoba students remain competitive with every province in Canada:** 8 out of 10 students perform at or above the expected level in all three subjects. We know that poverty affects the remaining 2 out of 10 who do not do so.



Manitoba must remain on the right track: on the last national assessment, only Manitoba improved across all three subjects (Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, 2018). School boards cannot afford to lose focus, if Manitoba wants to continue making improvements. Together, we must also address poverty for the sake of all students.



Help Shape Our Education System.

Participate in the Manitoba Government
K-12 Education Review.

Written submissions may be emailed to: K12educationcommission@gov.mb.ca
To learn more: edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/

Did you know?

The Government of Manitoba has recently launched a significant commission to review Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education. Every Manitoban deserves to have their voice counted when this commission undertakes its important work in the months ahead.

Twenty years ago, the Manitoba Government eliminated twenty school divisions following a similar review. A follow-up study undertaken by the Frontier Centre for Public Policy (Owens, 2005) concluded that the *time that was invested in the restructuring of public education would have been better spent in more meaningful educational reform.*

With such an important lesson learned in the recent past and so much at stake for the future, Manitoba's public school boards encourage all Manitobans to remember that **schools belong to communities**. In our immediate future, the Manitoba Kindergarten to Grade 12 Review Commission will make important recommendations and decisions that will impact Manitoba's children and our future.

To learn more about how you can participate in the review and about why local voice and local choice still matters when it comes to education in Manitoba, please visit **localvoices.ca**.

For more local information contact
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