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## MEDIA RELEASE

May 15, 2018

### Living Sky School Division Approves 2018-19 Budget

The Living Sky School Division Board of Education has approved the budget for the 2018-19 school year. The Division was faced with a funding reduction of \$653,000, mainly due to a decrease in enrolment projections for the next school year.

The Board of Education's responsibility when developing the budget is to represent the voices of families and communities and ensure education is the best it can be for students in our division. The operating budget of about \$75 million will continue to support LSSD's commitment to ensuring all students have the resources they need to succeed and achieve, regardless of where they live or their personal circumstances.

*"Budgeting was a collaborative process. We kept our Strategic Plan front and centre and used our values to guide our decision-making. In the end, we were able to support the outcomes we are trying to achieve, even though our funding was somewhat reduced."* Brenda Vickers, Director of Education

*"Students continue to be our priority. We want to ensure that every budget focuses on the Strategic Plan and our students' achievement and success."* Ronna Pethick, Board Chair

The Division's Strategic Plan focuses on Successful Students with a concentration on increasing readiness to learn exiting Kindergarten; increasing literacy, numeracy and technological skills; increasing graduation rates; reducing graduation disparity between FNMI and Non-FNMI students; and enhancing support for all learners. Through the budget process, we were able to align our resources to advance student learning.

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*Living Sky School Division is situated in Northwest Central Saskatchewan. It encompasses a wide geographic area including the Battlefords, many communities, villages, First Nation communities and Hutterite colonies. Currently, twenty-nine schools are located in eighteen communities. Our schools include PreK-12, elementary, high schools and alternate schools with a student population of approximately 5,700 students.*

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**Growth Without Limits, Learning For All**