

Violence in Saskatchewan Schools

New reporting requirements for 2026–27

What Education Workers and School Divisions Need to Know

EWSC All Presidents Meeting Sept. 28, 2026

Ken Dueck Executive Director Strategic Policy & Planning Branch, Ministry of Education and his team vetted and approved this Power Point to be presented to the CUPE education local presidents and members in the province.

What is changing in 2026–27?

The goal is clearer, more consistent information about workplace violence.

- School divisions will be required to report on violent incidents involving staff.
- The Ministry of Education is taking a phased approach to implementation.
- A standardized violent incident reporting form has been developed.
- The form is intended to create a consistent approach to reporting across the sector.

Phase 1: Individual incident reporting

- A standard violent incident reporting form has been developed by the Policy Table on Violence-Free Classrooms.
- The form was developed collaboratively and vetted by key sector stakeholders.
- The exact form is not mandatory for school divisions to use in 2026–27.
- If a division uses another form, its questions should align with the Ministry template.
- Information collected through individual reports will feed into annual reporting.

Phase 2: Annual reporting

- The Ministry will provide additional direction in October 2026.
- This will include an aggregate reporting template and related guidance.
- School divisions will report summary information, including quantitative data.
- Annual reporting will also include narrative context.
- Information must be included in Board of Education Annual Reports that are submitted to the Ministry yearly.

What does the law already require?

- The Saskatchewan Employment Act was amended in 2023 to strengthen workplace violence prevention.
- Employers must have a written violence policy and prevention plan.
- Employers must investigate workplace violence incidents.
- Employers must identify where violence has occurred or may occur and take steps to eliminate or minimize risks.
- Workers must receive information and training and have procedures for reporting incidents.

What counts as workplace violence?

- The Act defines violence as attempted, threatened or actual conduct that causes, or is likely to cause, injury.
- It also includes threatening statements or behaviour that gives a worker reasonable cause to believe they are at risk of injury.
- Violence can involve physical incidents, threats or other conduct that creates a risk of injury.
- The requirement is about more than counting physical assaults—it includes risks that workers reasonably perceive as threatening.

Why consistent reporting matters

Report it. Investigate it. Understand the risk. Prevent it.

- Consistent reporting can help identify patterns and trends across schools and school divisions.
- It can provide better information about who is affected, where incidents occur and what types of incidents are happening.
- Better information can support prevention, training, workplace controls and follow-up.
- Reporting incidents is an important first step—but collecting numbers alone does not prevent violence.
- The key question is what happens with the information after an incident is reported.

The Policy Table on Violence-Free Classrooms

- Established pursuant to the STF Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement 2023–2026.
 - Members include the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, Saskatchewan School Boards Association and Ministry of Education.
 - The table brings educators, school boards and government together to develop strategies to prevent and address violence.
 - The new reporting process is one part of a broader workplace violence prevention approach that the EWSC has been advocating for.
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- ❖ Executive Director, Ken Dueck, has welcomed input and feedback from the EWSC since early spring of 2026. We have met numerous times to share front line support staff experiences with violence, reporting said violence, what happens once a report is made, how each division handles all OHS reporting differently and that there is no clear standard across the province which results in inequity and potential for further injuries from violence.