



Minneapolis Schools' 2020 Legislative Agenda

I. Special Education Funding and Policy

- Address the mismatch of open enrollment and special education tuition billing statutes so resident district budgets do not take a disproportionate share of the cost burden
- Address the rapidly rising cost of special education tuition billing due to some schools' ability to bill back 100% of their costs
- Reduce the state underfunding of special education by 25% a year to close the funding gap within four years
- Allow districts that are assessed non-member access fees by intermediate and cooperatives to levy for the expenses
- Provide all federal setting 4 programs in the state with access to resources for mental health and professional develop supports
- Allow schools to conduct Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBA) without requiring a comprehensive evaluation if an evaluation has been done within three years

II. Stable funding

- Address impacts of federal immigration policies on the state compensatory aid formula
- Link the general education formula to inflation
- Allow elected school boards to renew existing operating and capital projects levies which have been approved by voters without requiring additional referenda elections
- Increase English Learner funding to close the funding gap
- Make voluntary pre-kindergarten funding permanent

III. Foster Stable, Healthy Engaged Families

- Support increases in state funding for Full Service Community Schools
- Expand funding for school-linked mental health grants
- Augment Stable Homes, Stable Schools with state funding support
- Allow homeless and highly mobile students access to credit recovery and demonstration of mastery services to meet graduation requirements

IV. Ensure Equitable Access to Proven Programs

- Expand state support of teacher residency programs with a focus on teachers of color, special education, career and technical education, math, science and ESL/bilingual education
- Make permanent English Learners access to Early Middle College
- Fund ACT for all students
- Reduce the length of the required state assessments and give districts the authority to replace the high school assessments with college and career readiness assessments
- Ensure residency grant distributions align with program year