# MREA Member School District



# MREA

Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

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# How MREA serves YOU



# **ADVOCATE**

- Lobbyists at the Capitol every day advocating for you
- Weekly Advocacy Briefings during legislative session
- Interactive maps and analysis showing impacts of major changes
- Action alerts to help encourage engagement



# **EDUCATE**

- Professional development and networking at the Annual Conference
- Regional meetings and trainings to provide input and stay informed
- Member benefits providing learning opportunities
- Discounts on partner programs



# COMMUNICATE & CELEBRATE

- Weekly Insider Briefs with education updates relevant to rural districts
- Website with resources, news, and updates
- Celebration and sharing of accomplishments and best practices
- Awards for teachers and innovative school programs
- In-person visits to keep a pulse on district accomplishments & needs



MREA does a great job of cutting through the legislative clutter, identifying what applies to greater MN schools and letting us know what needs our attention. Their updates allow me to better articulate the impact of the bills and our next steps.

DR. REGGIE ENGEBRITSON
Superintendent, St. Louis County Schools





**Leading Advocacy for Greater Minnesota Students** Led by school board members, administrators, teachers and other education-focused partners, MREA elevates Greater Minnesota schools through advocacy, education and recognition.

# 2023 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# RESTORING THE ECONOMICS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

# MREA Successfully Advocated for Greater Minnesota Students by:

- Increasing and Indexing the Basic Formula Allowance
- Reducing District Special Education cross-subsidies
- Securing Cooperative Facilities levy authority
- Creating Minimum Revenue Guarantees for Smaller Schools including:
  - o Student Personnel Aid
  - School Library Aid
- Attaining permanent funding for Voluntary Pre-K slots
- Increasing funding for CTE Consortia Programs
- Creating Board Authority to Renew Operating Referendum
- Expanding Safe Schools Revenue to include Cyber Security measures
- Securing funding for Cooperative Setting 4 Programs
- Expanding 3rd Party Billing for School Social Workers
- Increasing funding for American Indian Education Programs
- Continuing Type III Vehicle usage
- Holding Compensatory Aid Harmless amidst Universal Meals implementation
- Securing dedicated aid for the Unemployment Insurance Mandate
- Continuing to defend against ever-present Unfunded Mandates

# THESE FUNDING CHANGES WILL HAVE A GENERATIONAL IMPACT FOR MINNESOTA EDUCATION

## INDEXING THE BASIC EDUCATION FORMULA

Basic formula dollars are the foundation of educational support for schools. Indexing the formula will change the local budget planning proess and state advocacy for the better.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION CROSS-SUBSIDY BUY-DOWN

MREA, and many education advocates, successfully led a multi-year effort to secure a significant increase in state aid, permanently buying down local school district special education cross-subsidies.