



Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

June 1, 2016

Tom Jerome
Superintendent
Greenbush-Middle River Public Schools
PO Box 70
Greenbush MN 56726-0070

Dear Tom,

MREA thanks you for your ongoing commitment to prepare your students to join the World's Best Workforce. We are pleased to augment your efforts to improve educational opportunities by successfully advocating for K-12 funding increases, reducing inequities in long-term maintenance funding, and proposing changes to address the state's critical teacher shortage. We are also proud of our heritage as the only advocate focused on *Greater Minnesota* students and schools.

Our strength stands in members like you. District memberships have grown 65% in the last five years to 214 member districts. Business and organizational memberships have nearly tripled.

How Your Membership Supports Greater Minnesota Education

Every year, your membership helps us reach every corner of Minnesota to:

- Analyze education issues for the impact on districts
- Meet with legislative leaders to drive change at the Capitol
- Communicate weekly with you and 2,400+ school leaders
- Recognize exemplary educators and programs with our annual awards

We know you'll agree MREA delivers substantial value for your district and Greater Minnesota schools. *See the enclosed flyer to learn more.*

Renew Your Membership Today

It's time to renew your MREA membership for the 2016-17 membership year. Please return the enclosed invoice with your payment and membership listing. We look forward to continuing to advocate on behalf of Greenbush-Middle River Schools.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Kovash, MREA Board President

Fred Nolan, MREA Executive Director

P.S. Mark your calendar to attend MREA's 2016 Annual Conference, "Making Teaching Matter," November 13-15 at Cragun's Resort. Submit a presentation proposal now at mnrea.org, and watch your email for online registration opening in July.



LEADING ADVOCACY FOR GREATER MINNESOTA STUDENTS

In 2015

- Secured Long-Term Maintenance Funding (LTMF) with a 3-year phased in equalized levy
- Reduced agricultural land valuation in equalization for Long-Term Maintenance Funding
- Gained new funding for American Indian students
- Extended one-time Teacher Development and Evaluation funding to service cooperatives, education districts and other cooperatives
- Established new loan forgiveness program to attract teachers to the profession

Closing the Donut Hole

School districts continue to benefit from MREA's leadership and advocacy for a highly equalized \$300 board-approved levy and closing the Donut Hole with up to \$424 additional school board LOR authority for the lowest funded districts.

Success is not achieved alone. MREA partners with a variety of advocates to help put students first. Learn more about what we're achieving together and get a full progress report at MnREA.org/ProgressReport

In 2016

Gained legislative approval and awaiting Governor's signature:

- 40 percent Ag 2SchoolTax Credit for voter-approved school construction bonded debt
- \$2 million increase in loan forgiveness for teachers
- \$385,000 to initiate para-to-teacher program at Southwest State
- \$3 million for ONLINE18: A Northwest Regional Partnership, a pilot program for Higher Learning Commission required content credits for concurrent enrollment teachers
- \$900,000 for Northwest Mobile Manufacturing Lab
- Metro equity "bump" to all districts, driving upwards of \$15 per pupil for many rural schools
- \$35 million for rural broadband expansion grants

“

I want to express my profound gratitude to MREA for promoting this new [LTFM] revenue source. I think your work and the resulting legislation are exemplars of grownup governance. Keep it up!”

Phil Grant, Superintendent, Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley

Ways We Connect with Members

- Weekly insider briefings on key issues and news
- Action Alerts to help you effect change on issues
- Email alerts when key legislation is passed with its impact
- Interactive maps and analysis that illustrate the impact of an issue on district, regional and state level
- Lobbyists focused on key issues impacting schools
- Capitol Insider Blog honing in on key issues facing schools and the impact
- Professional development and networking at Annual Conference in November
- Regional meetings to discuss issues and connect with other school leaders
- Lower ACT prep costs for districts through partnership with John Baylor Test Prep
- Social Media Partnership Project on using social media to connect with parents and the communities

Learn more at MnREA.org

98%

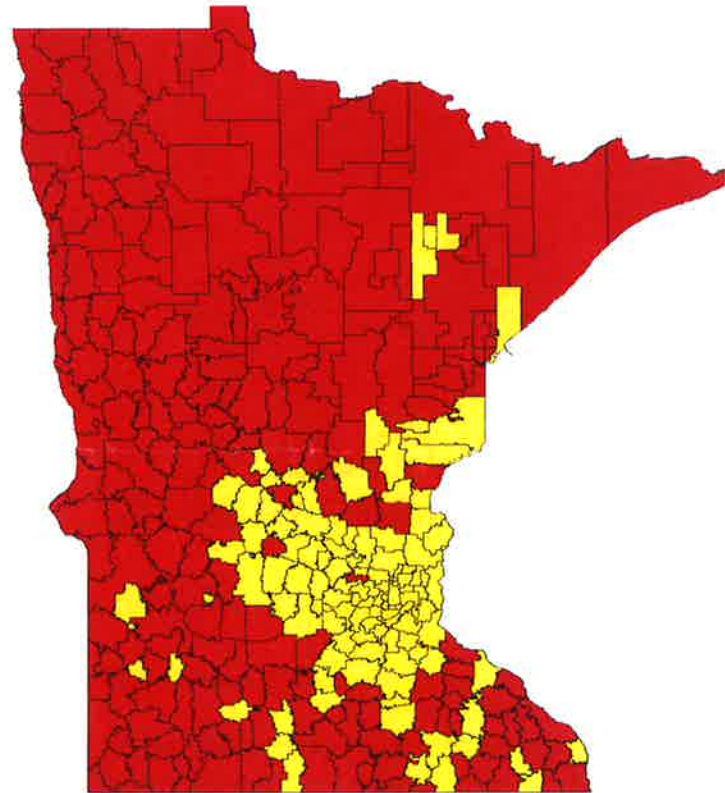
OF MEMBERS RATE MREA'S
COMMUNICATIONS AS EFFECTIVE

Where education policy affects rural education, MREA identifies, analyzes, tracks and advocates for it on behalf of rural education.

“

I am very happy that we became a member of MREA. I am impressed, in particular, with the webinars that update us on what is happening at the capitol. It is apparent we have a great lobbyist in Sam. I appreciate your responsiveness to concerns that I have had in the short time I have been with MREA.”

Bob Indihar, Superintendent, Moose Lake Schools



■ MREA Member School Districts

In addition to Greater Minnesota School Districts, MREA members include:

- Service Cooperatives
- Minnesota Education Districts Association
- Special Education Cooperatives
- Colleges & Universities
- Businesses & Nonprofits
- Individuals

MREA
Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

P.O. Box 187
St. Cloud, MN 56302
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Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

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Membership # 2683

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Invoice date: June 1, 2016
Due Date: July 15, 2016
(Membership year 7/01/16-6/30/17)

***** MREA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICE *****
FY 2016-17

MREA Membership Type: SHAREISD	Base Fee:	\$825.00
APU = 420	*APU Legislative Fee: +	\$420.00
**SHARED DISTRICT (if applicable): Badger	Total 2016-17 MREA Dues =	\$1,245.00

*\$1.00 per Adjusted Pupil Unit (APU) to \$1,400 maximum. APU based on MDE estimates for 2016-17.
**Districts with SHARED Membership Type must BOTH join MREA to qualify for the discounted Base Fee of \$825.

Please send your membership dues payment, payable to MREA, with a copy of this invoice.
Update the enclosed membership listing as needed and return with your payment.

MREA dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for U.S. federal income tax purposes, but may be deductible as a business expense. MREA estimates that 42.4% of your dues are not deductible because of MREA lobbying activities on behalf of our members.

"I want to express my profound gratitude to MREA for promoting this new revenue source. I think your work and the resulting legislation are exemplars of grownup governance. Please keep it up!

*Phil Grant, Superintendent
Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley*