



Hastings School District 2026 Legislative Priorities

To continue our ability to provide high quality learning environments that maximize every student's potential, the Hastings School District has established the following priorities for the 2026 legislative session.

Non-Revenue Priorities:

- Reduce Mandates and Restore Local Control
- New mandates that increase costs to districts or budget reductions that impact districts must have a fiscal note and must be enacted by March 1 of the current legislative year or delay enactment until July 1 of the following school fiscal year to allow district staffing and program adjustments.
- Preserve the standards for restrictive procedures outlined in 125A.0942, and permit limited removal time within non-exclusionary discipline to support effective reentry planning and maintain safe classrooms.
- Repeal requirements that school boards negotiate e-learning days, student testing, and student-to-staff ratios.
- Allow school boards, by Board resolution, to transfer balance surpluses of non-federal funds between district operating accounts, to meet financial needs without the need for additional aid or levy authority.

Funding Priorities

- Repeal summer-term Unemployment Insurance and Paid Leave, or fully fund both programs to cover employer premiums and substitute staff costs associated with the benefits.
- Repeal the contingent \$250 million cut to special education cross-subsidy reduction aid scheduled for the 2028–29 biennium.
- Strengthen the College & Career Readiness program to ensure financial stability, academic rigor, student support, and preparation for success after high school by allocating targeted funds to fully implement Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.70 Minnesota P-20 Education Partnership, subdivision 2a.