

Minnesota Intermediate School Districts **2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**



REPEAL THE CONTINGENT \$250M CUT TO SPECIAL EDUCATION CROSS-SUBSIDY AID

Minnesota must maintain its commitment to fund special education. The contingent \$250 million cut to the special education cross-subsidy would shift costs back to local districts, forcing reductions in staff and services that harm all students. **Repealing this cut protects students with disabilities, supports educators, and upholds Minnesota’s promise of equitable education for every child**—while continuing to support the Blue Ribbon Commission’s efforts to identify sustainable cost efficiencies within the system.

ENHANCE SCHOOL SAFETY MEASURES

Schools have become primary providers of mental health services for children, handling critical incidents and threats during the school day. Adequate funding through the safe schools levy is essential for training, staff support, and specialized mental health personnel to prevent unsafe situations for students and staff.

We request increasing safe schools funding for Intermediates by \$20 per adjusted pupil unit for the member districts and tie further increases to any future funding increases for member school districts. This funding should also extend to cooperative districts not currently receiving it.





MAINTAIN STAFFING & LEARNING CONTINUITY

Extend out-of-field permissions to maintain adequate staffing levels, ensure continuity of student learning, and provide districts with flexibility and protection when teachers serve under valid, PELSB-approved out-of-field permissions (OFP).

EXPANDING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE TO INCLUDE RELATED SERVICE PERSONNEL

A strong and equitable education system relies on more than just classroom teachers. Students thrive when supported by a full team of qualified professionals, including speech-language pathologists, school psychologists, school nurses, and school social workers, who address their academic, behavioral, and health needs.



To meet the growing demand for these essential professionals, we propose expanding grant programs designed to grow the educator workforce to include related service personnel. This expansion will help ensure that every student has access to the comprehensive supports needed for academic success and well-being.



EXTEND THE AGRICULTURAL HOMESTEAD MARKET VALUE CREDIT TO COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Under current law, the Agricultural Homestead Market Value Credit reduces property taxes on qualifying class agricultural homestead land, including adjacent rural vacant land, by applying only to debt levied by traditional school districts. While the credit for a traditional school district is automatically applied for eligible property owners, it does not extend to debt associated with projects in cooperative school districts. To ensure equitable tax treatment for agricultural homesteads, we support extending the Agricultural Homestead Market Value Credit to include eligible debt levied by intermediate school districts and all other cooperative school districts.

MINNESOTA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Intermediate School District 287

Superintendent Marcy Doud
www.district287.org
Plymouth, MN



Intermediate School District 288

Superintendent Dr. Jeff Horton
www.swmetro288.org
Shakopee, MN



Intermediate School District 916

Superintendent Dr. Val Rae Boe
www.916schools.org
White Bear Lake, MN



Intermediate School District 917

Superintendent Dr. Michael Favor
www.isd917.org
Rosemount, MN

