


June 1, 2012

Superintendent Scott Thielman
Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Public Schools
214 NE 1st Avenue
Buffalo, MN 55313

Scott: 

Enclosed with this letter is the dues statement for the 2012-2013 program year.

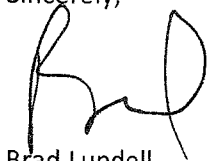
The challenges facing public education have never been greater. For school districts with low property wealth, these challenges are even more intense. Per pupil funding has lagged behind inflation for more than a decade and this funding has not been distributed equitably. This has caused an increasing number of school districts to turn to voter-approved referendum levies, a funding tool that has never worked well for low property wealth school districts and is even less helpful with the erosion of the equalization formulas established over two decades ago to bring greater fairness to property taxpayers in low property wealth school districts.

To remedy the current situation, an aggressive effort must be made to bring the twin issues of funding adequacy and funding equity to the forefront of legislative discussions. As a SEE member, you are the key to this effort. SEE is the sole education organization whose focus is on funding equity and making certain that, in the words of its mission statement: "All public school children must have equal access to a high quality education regardless of where they live in Minnesota." I invite you to join once again in the effort to make this mission central to legislative discussions and to make Minnesota's constitutional guarantee a true, and lasting, reality for the state's public school students.

I look forward to serving you again in the coming year as Executive Director of the organization. During my tenure, I've stressed that the organization must add value for members and the organization's staff has joined me in the on-going effort to provide you—the member—with the services you need in terms of policy development and lobbying.

Thank you so much for your past membership and continued support as a SEE member.

Sincerely,



Brad Lundell

Executive Director, Schools for Equity in Education

Thanks for all your help!