



**Board Meeting Date:** November 4, 2024

**Title:** Board Legislative Action Committee (LAC) 2025 Legislative Platform Discussion

**Type:** Discussion

**Presenter(s):** Legislative Action Committee: Dan Arom, Chair; and Cheryl Barry, Board Member

**Description:** The School Board approved board goals for the 2024-25 school year that include legislative advocacy as a priority. This work aligns with advocacy priorities outlined in the district's [2020-2030 Strategic Plan, Strategy E: Engage Parents, Schools and Community](#).

**Recommendation:** Review and be prepared with questions and feedback on the 2025 Legislative Platform.

**Desired Outcomes from the Board:** Board reaches consensus through discussion to move LAC 2025 priorities and plan forward for Board approval in January.

**Attachment(s):** 2025 LAC Legislative Platform DRAFT

**For Board Review and Discussion:**

Below please find the 2025 Draft Legislative Platform for initial Board consideration, review and discussion:

**1) 2025 LAC Legislative Platform**

The LAC is proposing the attached 2025 legislative platform for Board consideration. These priorities are in development but are grounded in the Board's legislative priorities that build off of prior year's platforms and potential items to be developed in collaboration with district leadership, Dr. Stacie Stanley, Jody Remsing, Director of Student Services and Special Education, Mert Woodard, Director of Finance & Operations and partner organizations including AMSD, MSBA, MASE and additional aligned organizations as references.

**2) LAC Goals and Action Plan**

The LAC sets goals and builds a calendar of LAC efforts in collaboration with Superintendent, Dr. Stacie Stanley and Director of Student Services and Special Education, Jody Remsing. These goals reflect hopeful outcomes of the LAC work this year. The committee meets on a monthly basis.

➤ **LAC Goals**

- 1) *Advocacy efforts lead to priorities being realized at legislative session;*
- 2) *New and current relationships with all EPS legislative representation are developed and strong;*
- 3) *Community gains better understanding of legislative priorities, the impact on students and engages in LAC advocacy efforts with student voice amplified;*
- 4) *Collaboration with aligned partners proves an effective tactic of advocacy efforts.*
- 5) *Implementation of LAC action plan is effective (committee engagement, capacity, admin support, event success)*

➤ **LAC Action Plan**

Through events, engagement, communication and community outreach, the LAC plans to advocate through a variety of means including, but not limited to, the following:

- Ongoing conversations with current and new local and national legislators in effort to build strong relationships
- Host pre-session legislative event to communicate priorities to legislators and larger community
  - 100% participation from local representative and at least one national representative
  - Attendance includes school board, community members and student representation outside of LAC, district admin and city leadership
- Continue to build communication base for info sharing and outreach
  - Revitalize social media platforms to welcome students and the Edina community to participate in planned LAC efforts
  - Focus on traditional media efforts targeted to students (Zephyrus) and community (Sun Current, Star Tribune), as appropriate
- Track and support legislative bills and their development at local and national level to help identify opportunities for advocacy outreach
- Engage in AMSD and MSBA legislative efforts related to 2024 priorities with participation in meetings and advocacy opportunities; identify additional partnership alignment opportunities for synergy in efforts (MACE, MDE, National PTA, AAP, etc)
- Collaborate with neighboring school districts' LAC efforts and activities for shared practices and synergy opportunities
- School board actively participate in planned LAC activities
- Attend at least 1 MN education related Committee meetings related to 2025 priorities
- Participate in at least 1 day of advocating at state capitol
- Secure at least 1 student testimony during legislature session

## Edina Public Schools | 2025 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM IDEAS FOR DISCUSSION

Below are discussion starting points for potential platform components and will be further refined based on discussion and collaboration.

STABILIZE EDUCATION FUNDING	INCREASE AND DIVERSIFY TEACHER WORKFORCE	MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF
SAFE, SUSTAINABLE, AND MODERN SCHOOL FACILITIES	STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS	LIMIT UNFUNDED MANDATES
LOCAL CONTROL		

References:  
In development