

June 3, 2019

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

Dear Superintendent Jerome,

MREA's constant presence at the Capitol on behalf of Greenbush-Middle River Public Schools is a cornerstone of our educational advocacy for Greater Minnesota students, schools, and districts. This past legislative session we took the lead to advocate for state support for concurrent enrollment credentialing and increasing the state share of facility-bonded debt payments and operating referendum revenue.

Strengthen the Voice for Greater Minnesota Education

As you look forward to next school year, please renew your MREA membership to keep our voice strong for Greater Minnesota education. With your uninterrupted membership we'll continue advocating for policy changes to reduce paperwork, unfunded mandates, and inequities in education financing, just as we led and collaborated to gain legislative approval this past year to:

- Increase the Ag2School bond credit percentage
- Maintain state support for concurrent enrollment credentialing
- Continue funding for rural Career & Technical Education consortia
- Increase state share of operating referendum revenue
- *Read more about our collaborative efforts on the enclosed flyer.*

Renew Your MREA Membership

We're already planning for the 2019-20 school year. Greenbush-Middle River Public Schools' membership in Greater Minnesota's voice of education will be needed more than ever as we renew efforts to prioritize teacher shortage solutions, cooperative facilities for high-need students, and more.

To ensure we continue to be your district's voice in St. Paul, **renew your MREA membership by June 30** using the enclosed invoice. Contact Diane Vosen, MREA Administrative Coordinator, at (320) 762-6574 with questions.

Thank you for the privilege of representing Greenbush-Middle River Public Schools. Together, we are the Voice for Greater Minnesota Education.

Sincerely,



Lee Carlson, Board President
Teacher, Windom Area Schools



Fred Nolan, Executive Director

P.S. Plan now to attend our 2019 Annual Conference: Relating With Students Now Nov. 17-19 at Cragun's Resort. Learn more at mreavoice.org/annualconference.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICE

2019-20 MEMBERSHIP YEAR

BILL TO:

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

Date: June 3, 2019

Invoice #: 2020-1536

Due: **June 30, 2019**

Membership expiration: June 30, 2019

New membership year: July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

2019-20 Membership type: Full ISD Membership

***APU =** 403

****Shared Districts:** Badger and Greenbush-Middle River

Base Fee:\$1100.00

***Legislative Fee:**+\$403.00

Shared Discount:-\$275.00

2019-20 Dues:..... **\$1228.00**

**\$1.00 per Adjusted Pupil Unit (APU) to \$1,400 maximum, based on MDE APU estimates for 2019-20.*

***Districts with Shared Superintendents must EACH join MREA to qualify for discount. Please notify MREA if your Shared District information has changed.*

Verify the information below and correct as needed:

Organization: Greenbush-Middle River Public Schools

Primary Contact: 1536

Position Title: Superintendent

Email Address: tjerome@greenbush.k12.mn.us

Address: PO Box 70

City, State, Zip: Greenbush, MN 56726-0070

Phone: 218 - 782-2231

Website: www.middleriver.k12.mn.us

County: Marshall

Service Coop: NWSC

MASA Region: 8

State House District: 01A

State Senate District: 001

Federal District: 07

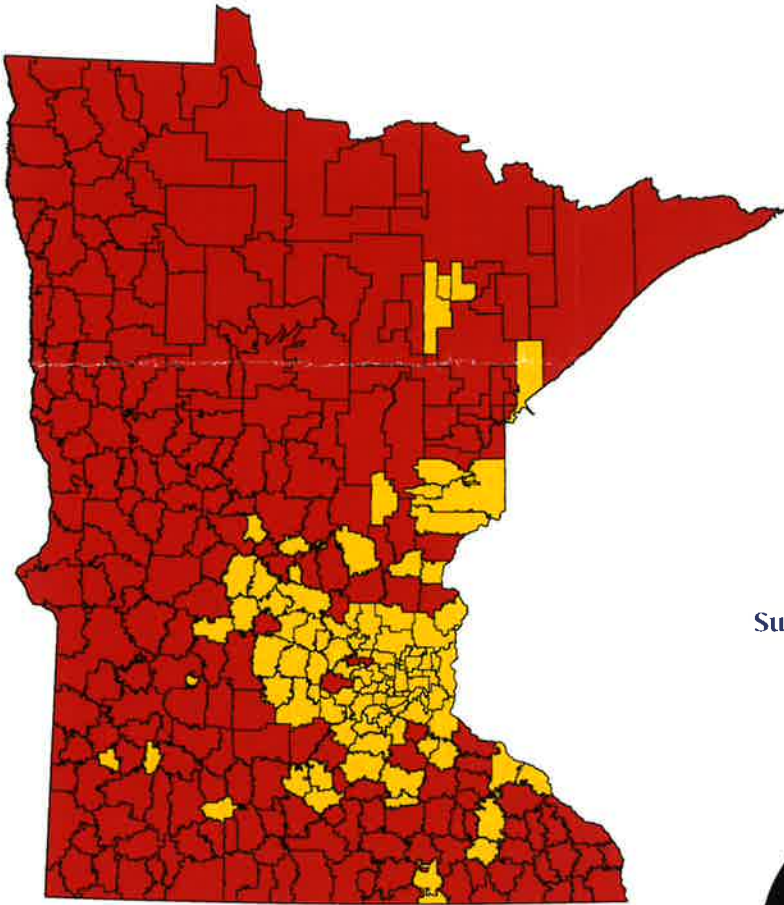
Update and return this form with membership dues payment.

MREA is a nonprofit 501(c)(4) membership association and dues are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. We estimate 46% of FY20 dues will be attributable to nondeductible lobbying activity and are NOT deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 162 as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Provide a copy of this notice to your accountant and/or tax preparer.

Questions? Contact Diane Vosen, Administrative Coordinator



“You are passionate and a supportive advocate for all of us in rural Minnesota schools.”



 MREA Member School Districts

MREA SERVES...

231 SCHOOL DISTRICTS

245,000 STUDENTS

30 COOPERATIVES

57 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

KEY WAYS WE SERVE SCHOOLS

- Weekly insider briefings on key issues
- Lobbyists at the Capitol every day
- Interactive maps and analysis showing the impact of a change on your district
- Action alerts to help you effect change
- Professional development and networking at Annual Conference
- Regional and virtual meetings
- Discounts on partner programs such as STMath and Schoolguard
- Awards and recognition for teachers and innovative school programs

Subscribe to our E Updates: mreavoice.org/subscribe

CONNECT WITH US...



FRED NOLAN

Executive Director
320-333-8890
fred@mreavoice.org



DIANE VOSEN

Administrative Coordinator
320-762-6574
diane@mreavoice.org





ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IN 2017-18

MREA's advocacy helped to:

- Establish tiered teacher licensure
- Expand statewide support for concurrent enrollment teacher credentialing with \$375,000 annually for four years
- Stabilize TRA defined-benefit retirement plan with shared responsibility of state and teachers
- Stop proposed constitutional amendment to take estimated \$362 million from state's general fund permanently for road projects



AG2SCHOOL TAX CREDIT INCREASES FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES

School districts across Greater Minnesota started seeing the benefits of a new Ag2School 40% agriculture credit for school facility bonds in 2018 and now will benefit from increases to the credit percentage.

IN 2019

MREA led and collaborated to gain legislative approval to:

- Increase the Ag2School bond credit percentage
- Maintain state support for concurrent enrollment credentialing
- Continue funding for rural Career & Technical Education consortia
- Increase state share of operating referendum revenue

MREA participated in collaborations to gain legislative approval to:

- Provide 2% on the Gen Ed Formula each of the next two years
- Continue School Readiness Plus (SR+) funding
- Freeze and reduce Special Education cross subsidies
- Reduce number and scope of numerous new proposed mandates
- Secure \$40 million in Border-to-Border Broadband grants
- Provide up to \$30 million in school safety grants
- Reduce Special Education paperwork

MREA led and collaborated to urge the legislature to:

- Provide school districts with financial tools to address cooperative facility needs for specialized services for high need students
- Extend safe schools funding to students in educational cooperatives
- Provide annual forecasted increases of 3% on the Gen Ed Formula

“I am very impressed with MREA's ability to provide constant legislative updates in a timely manner. I also appreciate MREA providing talking points to address our legislators. This practice has increased the frequency of my legislative interactions.”