



Minnesota Association of School Administrators 2025 Legislative Priorities

Ensuring Ongoing Support for Public Education

In 2023, the legislature made strides in addressing the financial challenges faced by school districts. However, school districts continue to struggle due to years of underfunding, persistent staff shortages, and the introduction of new mandates.

For the 2025 legislative session, MASA urges the legislature to build on that progress by continuing to close the remaining funding gaps, fully funding the new mandates passed over the past two years, and granting schools the flexibility they need to effectively support students and expand the educator workforce.

Local Control and Flexibility

- **Renew capital levies locally**
- **Promote effective discipline policies**
- **Allow for flexible learning environments**

Adequate Funding

- **Increase the basic formula**
- **Fund unemployment insurance**
- **Eliminate cross-subsidies**
- **Fix compensatory funding**

Expand Educator Workforce

- **Broaden licensure & alternative pathways**
- **Improve educator pension benefits**
- **Require teacher preparation programs to train teacher candidates in the science of reading**

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2025 Legislative Priorities

✓ Adequate Funding

- Provide a 3% basic formula increase over current law.
- Permanently fund summer term unemployment insurance.
- Establish a district-level hold harmless for compensatory funding and direct a study group to recommend a long-term solution.
- Eliminate the cross-subsidies for English learner programming and special education.
- Increase local optional revenue to \$974 per pupil.
- Increase long-term facilities maintenance revenue and provide additional flexibility in its uses.
- Expand access to voluntary pre-kindergarten.
- Provide funding for staff training for non-exclusionary discipline and restorative practices.
- Increase Safe Schools funding to provide resources for addressing cybersecurity concerns.

✓ Educator Workforce

- Improve pension benefits including establishing a career 60 and 30 rule, reducing the early retirement penalty from 7% to 5%, and removing the TIER II retiree cost of living adjustment delay.
- Increase funding for programs that expand the educator workforce and broaden pathways for hard-to-fill subject areas such as science, special education, and career and technical education.
- Expand alternative pathways to teacher licensure, including movement between tiers and paraprofessional-to-teacher training programs.
- Remove caps on out-of-field permissions and remove posting deadlines.
- Support restorative practices and student discipline through locally determined policies.
- Require teacher preparation programs to train teacher candidates in the science of reading.

✓ Local Control and Flexibility

- Allow districts to design school calendars aligned with community needs.
- Focus on learning outcomes instead of seat time.
- Permit school boards to renew existing capital project levies after a public hearing.
- Enable school districts to recover expenses for staffing and legal fees tied to data requests.
- Refine earned safe and sick time (ESST) and Paid Leave (PL) to ensure alignment with locally negotiated contracts.
- Support non-exclusionary discipline and restorative practices through locally determined policies.
- Establish a study group to review and recommend updates to state laws concerning homeschooling and the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program.

About MASA

As advocates of a world-class education for Minnesota's learners, MASA's members serve as the leading voice for public education, shape and influence the state and national education agenda, and empower leaders through high-quality professional learning, services, and support. MASA members include more than 600 superintendents, directors of special education, curriculum and technology leaders, other central office administrators, service providers, business partners, and retirees.