



Board Meeting Date: November 10, 2025

Title: Board Legislative Action Committee (LAC) Update

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Dan Arom, Chair, Legislative Action Committee; and Michael Birdman, Board Member

Description: The Edina Public Schools Legislative Action Committee (LAC) — composed of students, staff, community members, School Board members, and district administration—continues its commitment to advocating for legislation that supports and enhances public education. During this session, Committee Chair Dan Arom and member Michael Birdman will present an overview of the committee's current priorities and legislative focus areas. They will also facilitate a discussion to gather input from the Board, helping to shape the district's ongoing and future legislative advocacy efforts. This collaborative dialogue will inform the development of a comprehensive platform that reflects the values and needs of the Edina Public Schools community.

Recommendation: Review and be prepared with questions and feedback on the LAC Goals and Action Plan. Be prepared to discuss potential 2026 legislative priorities.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Board discusses and provides feedback on the LAC's Goals and Action Plan. The Board offers preliminary input on potential legislative priorities for a legislative platform proposal that will be presented by the LAC at the Board's December meeting and be brought forward for Board approval in January.

Attachment(s): N/A

For Board Review and Discussion:

The 2026 Draft Legislative Platform topics for initial Board consideration, review and discussion.

1) 2026 LAC Legislative Platform

The LAC will propose various legislative platform topics for Board consideration. These priorities are in development but will be 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. Bittman, 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 the superintendent, Dr. Dan Bittman, and district leadership. 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; and
- 5) Implementation of the 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 levels to help identify opportunities for advocacy outreach
- Engage in AMSD and MSBA legislative efforts related to 2026 priorities with participation in meetings and advocacy opportunities, and 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 one Minnesota education-related committee meeting related to 2026 priorities
- Participate in at least one day of advocating at the state capitol
- Secure at least one student testimony opportunity during legislature session