

About Duluth Public Schools

Duluth Public Schools serves students in early childhood programs through grade 12. About 22.73% of our students identify as a student of color and 32.57% receive free or reduced lunch. The district provides services to adults of all ages through Duluth Adult Education and Community Education.

Schools and Programs

- Two High Schools
- Two Middle Schools
- Nine Elementary Schools
- One Online High School
- Area Learning Center
- Duluth Adult Education
- Early Childhood
- Community Education
- Five Residential/Day Treatment

Demographics*

- Total Students.....8,487
- Free and reduced price lunch.....2,764
- American Indian Students.....592
- Hispanic Students.....319
- Black Students.....360
- Two or more races.....885
- Special Education.....1,596
- Early Childhood Special Ed.....156

* All numbers from MDE as of 10/1/22

What does fully funding education look like?

The funding our district receives today is not enough to serve our students properly, especially with rising costs.

Fully funding education means every student can achieve at high levels and graduate on time.

It means the needs of all students are met regardless zip code or economic status.

When students' daily desired experiences are met they succeed and successful students means positive growth for our state and city.

Duluth School Board

- Jill Lofald, *Chair*
- Rosie Loeffler-Kemp, *Vice Chair*
- Amber Sadowski, *Clerk*
- Kelly Durick Eder, *Treasurer*
- David Kirby
- Alanna Oswald
- Paul Sandholm
- John Magas, *Superintendent*

Legislative Platform 2023



Duluth Public Schools

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Every Student. Every Day.

Legislative Priorities

Duluth Public Schools 2023 legislative priorities will help our local legislators as they determine the two-year operating budgets for every school district in the state. We believe that critical choices must be made to stabilize and increase public education funding.

Increased State Aid

Support an additional annual increase in the education formula by at least 5% and indexed for inflation. Increased state aid would allow the Duluth Public Schools to invest in:

- Staffing to provide much needed literacy and math interventionists and improved student to teacher ratios.
- Revitalizing significantly outdated technology and curriculum resources.
- Additional mental and emotional health supports and services for students.
- Enhancing safety and behavioral supports.
- Improved family and community engagement.

Special Education

Support the state fully funding the special education cross subsidy for our schools.

1-Time Special Education Funding

Support for Duluth Public Schools' special legislation to recapture one-time special education correction funding for \$2 million.

Construction Sales Tax Exemption

Support legislation exempting Duluth Public Schools from paying sales tax on construction material related to the new district services building and transportation center.

MTSS Framework

Support funding for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework with support from MDE and grants to support district resources to continue to implement.

CTE Support

Support a one-time investment in Career and Technical Education, allowing funds to be used for equipment, supplies, and technology to support the CTE mission.

School Safety

Support a one-time \$500 allocation per pupil for school safety and support allowing local authority for schools to increase safe school levy revenue to address safety concerns.

LTFM Flexibility

Support an increase in the Long-Term Facility Maintenance and expand allowable uses of LTFM funds. Remove the per pupil limit and broaden eligible uses.

Operating Levies

Allow school board renewal of existing and future operating levies.

Solar & Electric Vehicles

Support adding additional funding to the Solar for Schools Grant Program and increase the grant opportunity to 100% of installation costs for a 40-megawatt array and help schools with federal matching dollars for EV charging stations at school properties.

Funding Formula for special student populations

Support the creation of a special funding formula for public schools in urban population areas, designed to address the unique cultural, language, and educationally related academic needs of special student populations ensuring that all students meet academic standards.