



Leading Advocacy for Greater Minnesota Students Led by school board members, administrators, teachers and other education-focused partners, MREA elevates Greater Minnesota schools through advocacy, education and recognition.

2024 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BUILDING FOR 2025 AND RESOLVING ISSUES FROM 2023

MREA Successfully Advocated for Greater Minnesota Students Through:

- READ Act Improvements
 - \$40/pupil for District costs related to Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act
 - \$36/pupil for Teacher Stipends for READ Act training and extended deadline
 - Cooperative educational programs included in READ Act funding
- Other Policy Improvements from 2023 Session
 - District budget reserve established for Student Support Personnel Aid
 - Expanded Medical Assistance (MA) billing for School Social Workers
 - 5,200 additional Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) slots
 - Cooperatives included in Alternative Learning Center (ALC) Transportation Aid
- Addressing Staffing Needs
 - Student Teacher Stipend pilot program funded at \$6.5M
 - Para Flexibility for federal highly qualified requirements to be met next school year
- Special Education
 - Expanding special education pipeline grant program to Tier 1 and Tier 2 teachers
- Addressing Student Issues
 - Absenteeism - Student Attendance Pilot project sites funded at \$4.7M
- Elections Bill
 - School Board Vacancy flexibility when less than 2 years remaining in term

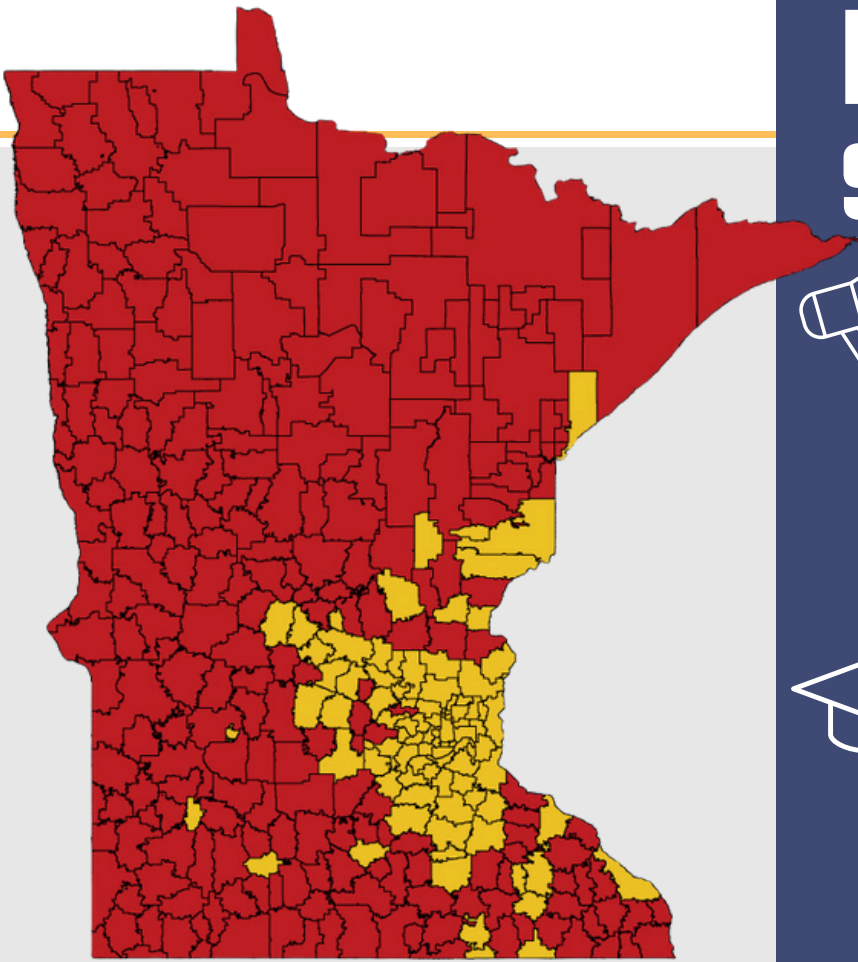
MREA PRIORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT FOR 2025 BUDGET SESSION: CLOSING GAPS

ADVANCING ROOF REPAIR & REPLACEMENT AS PART OF LONG-TERM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE: HF 3558/SF 4305

Allowing school boards to levy "above the line" costs for roof repair and replacement as part of the LTFM program.

ADVANCING SEASONAL TAX BASE REPLACEMENT AID: HF 4986/SF 4995

Creating state funding to reduce the local taxpayer cost of an operating referendum by having the State recognize the local loss of Seasonal & Recreational tax base value.



 MREA Member School District



How MREA serves YOU



ADVOCATE

- Lobbyists at the Capitol every day advocating for students
- Weekly Advocacy Briefings during legislative session
- Interactive maps and analysis showing impacts of major changes
- Action alerts to help encourage engagement



EDUCATE

- Professional development and networking at Annual Conference
- Regional meetings and trainings to provide input and stay informed
- Member benefits providing learning opportunities
- Discounts on partner programs



COMMUNICATE & CELEBRATE

- Weekly Insider Briefs with education updates relevant to rural districts
- Website with resources, news, and updates
- Celebration and sharing of accomplishments and best practices
- Awards for teachers and innovative school programs
- In-person visits to keep a pulse on district accomplishments & needs



"MREA is a strong force for advocating for rural students and schools. MREA's communications are effective and timely, the staff is incredible, the website is a valuable resource, and their advocacy at the State Capitol is exemplary."

KARLA BECK, DIRECTOR OF TEACHING & LEARNING
REDWOOD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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MREA

Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

LEARN MORE AT MREAVOICE.ORG

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