



The only advocate exclusively for Greater Minnesota schools. Under the leadership of school board members, administrators, teachers and community members, MREA focuses on what puts first the education, growth and development of learners to bring about our best possible future.



Leading Advocacy For Greater Minnesota Students

IN 2016

- \$3 million for 18ONLINE: A Northwest Regional Partnership, a pilot program for Higher Learning Commission required content credits for concurrent enrollment teachers
- \$2 million increase in loan forgiveness for teachers
- \$900,000 for Northwest Mobile Manufacturing Lab
- \$385,000 to initiate para-to-teacher program at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU)
- \$35 million for rural broadband expansion grants

LONG-TERM FACILITY MAINTENANCE FUNDING

School districts continue to benefit from MREA's leadership and advocacy to establish and preserve Long-Term Maintenance Funding (LTMF) with a 3-year phased-in equalized levy.

IN 2017

Led and collaborated to gain legislative approval to:

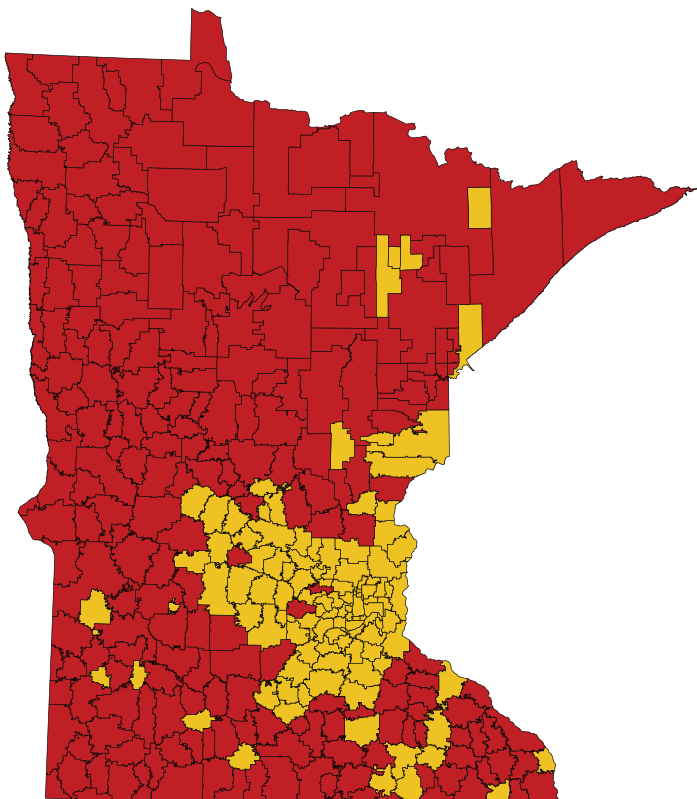
- Create Ag2School 40% Ag credit for school facility debt taxes
- Expand state-wide support for concurrent enrollment teacher credentialing with \$375,000 annually for four years
- Expand participation eligibility for para-to-teacher program at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU)
- Secure \$500,000 one-time funding for teacher loan forgiveness in FY 2018
- Restore some districts' eligibility for Debt Service Equalization
- Gain an additional \$15 million in broadband expansion grants

Participated in collaborative efforts to urge the legislature to:

- Add 2% and 2% to the education formula
- Fund a fix to TRA with a balanced proposal
- Establish tiered teacher licensure
- Expand Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) funding with advocacy of the Governor's proposal to add \$175 million with \$111 million for 200 rural school districts
- Provide new Teacher Development and Evaluation (TDE) funding for non-Q-Comp participating school districts
- Support young people of color to enter the teaching profession

“Thank you for your watchful eye at the Capitol and your diligence watching for legislation that largely affects rural Minnesota schools. Without your voice at the capitol, we would not have anywhere close to the support that is needed for rural schools throughout the state of Minnesota.”

David Fjeldheim, Superintendent, Sebeka School District



■ MREA Member School Districts

98%

of members rate MREA's communications as effective.

Ways We Connect with Members

- Weekly insider briefings on key issues and news
- Action alerts to help you effect change on issues
- Email alerts detailing impact when key legislation is passed
- Interactive maps and analysis that illustrate the impact of a change on district, regional and state levels
- Lobbyists focused on key issues impacting schools
- Website sharing news on what's happening in our schools and at the Capitol
- Professional development and networking at Annual Conference
- Regional meetings to discuss issues and connect with other school leaders
- Reduced ACT prep costs for districts through partnership with John Baylor Test Prep
- Social Media Partnership Project on using social media to connect with parents and the communities

In addition to Greater Minnesota school districts, MREA members include:

- Service Cooperatives
- Minnesota Education Districts Association
- Special Education Cooperatives
- Colleges & Universities
- Businesses & Nonprofits
- Individuals

"I am very happy that we became a member of MREA. It is apparent we have a great lobbyist. I appreciate your responsiveness to concerns that I have had."

Bob Indihar, Superintendent, Moose Lake Schools

