



Cooperative Facilities & Lease Levy

Sept. 19, 2017

MREA

Welcome

Cooperative Facilities and Lease Levy

The meeting will begin shortly.

- Mute your microphone when not speaking.
- Use a headset for better audio.
- Ask questions using chat feature on the lower right.

What to Expect

- Background on the issue
- Financial and Policy Analysis
- Proposals to Consider
- Feedback and dialogue



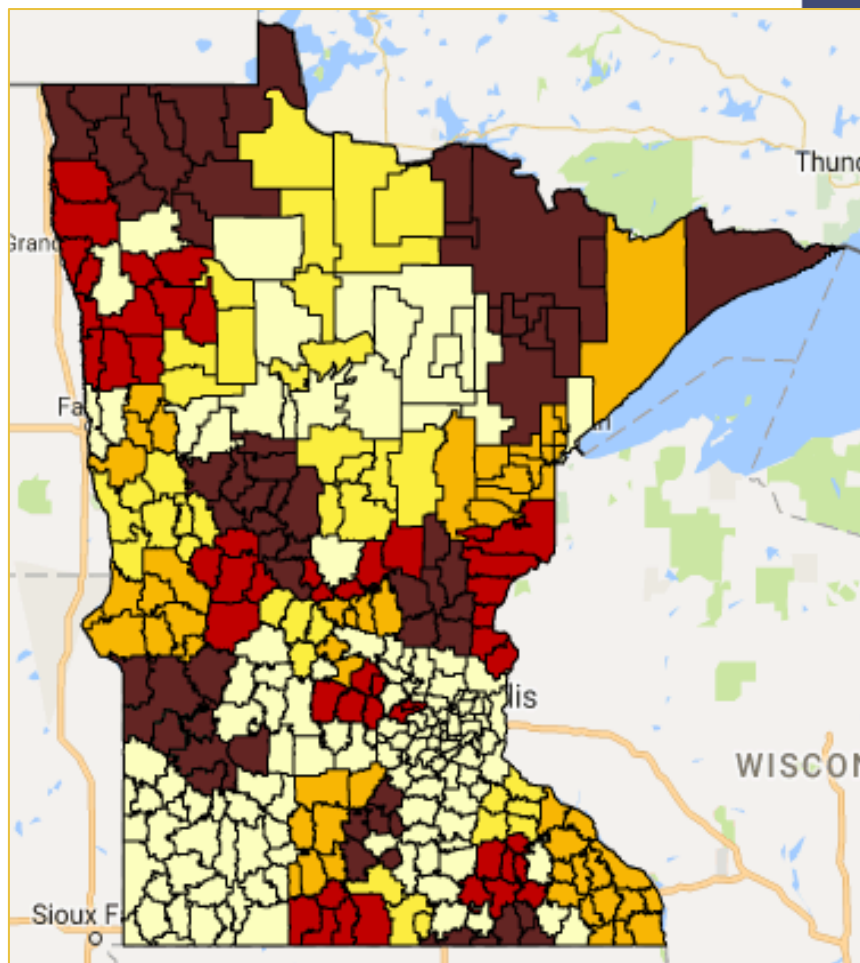


COOPERATIVES 101

Cooperatives are not well understood by legislators.

Cooperatives in Minnesota

- More than 35 Coops in Greater Minnesota
- 9 Service Coops
- Ed Districts, Special Ed Coops, Vocational Coops
- 4 Intermediate Districts in metro defined in statute



Cooperatives of all types are voluntary associations of school districts

Purposes of Cooperatives

For a group of school districts to share staff and resources to provide a wide range of services, such as:

- Itinerant staffing services
- Level 4 special education; 18-21 transition services
- Staff development
- Conference center
- Testing and assessment services
- Student accounting and billing services
- Curriculum support
- Technology support
- Supplemental educational services
- Document imaging services
- Joint purchasing services and fiscal agency services





COOPERATIVE FACILITY NEEDS

Barriers & Current Planning Efforts

Facility Needs

Student service programs – top priority

- Level 4 special education students
- 18-21 transition services

Program support– next priority

- Office space for coop staff
- Conference and meeting space
- Repair and storage for shared equipment



Rural Coop Facility

PLANNING UNDERWAY

- SWWC Service Coop
- Southern Plains Sped Coop
- Lakes Country Service Coop
- Midstate Ed District
- Freshwater Ed District
- Pine City, Hinckley and East Central

Others?

Please use chat window or unmute your mic and identify your coop and facility planning effort



Coop Facilities Funding

- Only dedicated funding mechanism is lease levy for new or extensive remodeling and many districts are maxed out at current limit
- All members of coop must agree
- Lease levy cannot be used for a facility leased to a coop by district owning facility
- LTFM cannot be used for a leased facility
- Intermediate district members can levy an additional \$65 per pupil for coop facilities

Other issues or barriers?





PROPOSALS TO CONSIDER

Your responses will be critical to MREA board in 2018 platform development

Establish a new school facilities improvement revenue program to replace the current building lease levy, providing all school districts with access to a uniform allowance per student for locally defined facility needs.

Recommendation #4

SCHOOL FACILITIES FINANCING WORKING GROUP

FEB. 2014 REPORT

SCHOOL FACILITIES FINANCING WORKING GROUP

Report and Recommendations February 1, 2014

Recommendation 4:

Establish a new school facilities improvement revenue program to replace the current building lease levy, providing all school districts with access to a uniform allowance per student for locally defined facility needs.

The allowance per adjusted pupil unit (APU) would be set at \$180 for FY 2017 (an \$18 increase over current lease levy maximum), plus \$46 for districts that are members of an intermediate district, special education cooperative, secondary vocational cooperative, or education district (current intermediate lease levy maximum) for intermediate / coop costs, and indexed for inflation in later years.

(Note: \$'s are in student accounting weights effective in 13/14.)



COOPERATIVE FACILITIES

2018 Potential MREA Proposals

- Expand the purposes of the current \$212 per pupil lease levy as School Facilities Workgroup recommended
- Provide school district cooperative members in Greater Minnesota authority to levy up to \$65 per pupil for cooperative facilities
- Cleanup current statutory barriers to building, remodeling and maintaining cooperative facilities



COOPERATIVE FACILITIES

Your Turn

KEY QUESTION

What are the cooperative facility and building improvement needs in Greater Minnesota?

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- What needs would this repurposed proposed levy authority meet for your students?
- How critical is the equalization of this levy authority to your ability to use this tool?



Q&A

Please use chat
window
or unmute your
microphone.





Thank you
for joining us.

Email questions and progress:

Fred@mreavoice.org

Sam@capitolhillassoc.com

Stay Connected



GreaterMNstudents

Education news

Resources

School successes



@MREAVoice

Insider updates

Latest legislative news

Latest legislative action



MREAVoice.org

News on issues that
matter to Greater
Minnesota schools
by date and topic



MREA