



Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

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.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



RESPONDING TO COVID-19

MREA served as a resource for schools in their continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic with training for school leaders, planning guides, news updates, legislative highlights and other key tools.



AG2SCHOOL TAX CREDIT

School districts across Greater Minnesota are seeing the benefits of the MREA-led Ag2School agriculture credit for school facility bonds, currently at 55% and scheduled to increase to 70% by 2023.

In 2021

MREA helped position and prioritize rural education for the June budget-setting Legislative Special Session including:

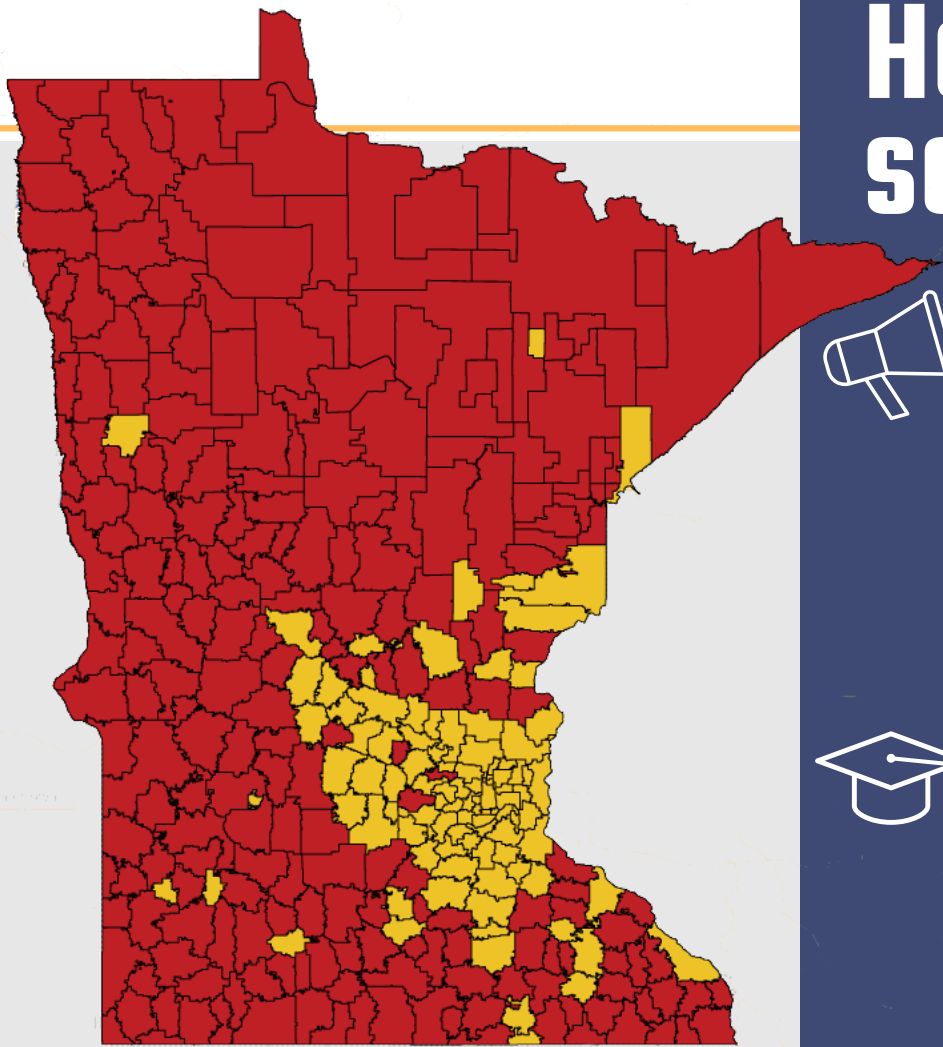
- 2&2% increases on the general education formula
- Pandemic Enrollment Aid
- Compensatory Aid Hold Harmless
- Oppose unfunded mandates
- ESSER funds more evenly distributed to rural school districts
- Continued Special Education cross-subsidy support
- Continued funding for voluntary Pre-K slots
- Financial tools to address cooperative facility needs for specialized services for high-need students
- Additional funding for concurrent enrollment credentialing
- Increased funding for Rural Career and Technical Education Consortia
- Enhanced debt service equalization for newly consolidating districts
- Allowing school boards to renew existing operating referendums

IN 2020

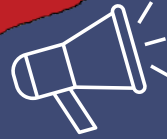
Some of the outcomes from MREA's advocacy include:

- Preserved funding for special education and other categorical programs despite service interruptions due to distance learning
- Extended renewal deadlines for teacher licenses
- Fund transfer authority to school boards for fiscal years 2020-21
- Promoted local flexibility and improved clarity in COVID-19 guidelines

How MREA serves YOU



 MREA Member School District



ADVOCATE

- Weekly insider briefings on key issues
- Lobbyists at the Capitol every day
- Interactive maps and analysis showing impacts of major changes
- Action alerts to help encourage engagement



EDUCATE

- Professional development and networking at the Annual Conference
- Regional meetings and trainings to provide input and stay informed
- Discounts on partner programs



SUPPORT AND RECOGNIZE

- Awards for teachers and innovative school programs
- Promotions that elevate rural schools and teachers
- Collaborative visioning with key education partners



MREA does a great job of cutting through the legislative clutter, identifying what applies to greater MN schools and letting us know what needs our attention. Their updates allow me to better articulate the impact of the bills and our next steps."

DR. REGGIE ENGBRITSON
Superintendent, St. Louis County Schools



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MREA

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