



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



SPECIAL EDUCATION CROSS-SUBSIDY BUY-DOWN

MREA joined many public education lobbying and parent advocacy groups to make a major push for buying down the special education cross-subsidy. Our collective work was effective, leading the Education Conference Committee to consider implementing a formula to pay each district for 40% of their local special education cross-subsidies.



AG2SCHOOL TAX CREDIT

School districts across Greater MN are seeing the benefits of the MREA-led Ag2School agriculture credit for school facility bonds. The 2022 'agreed-to' Tax bill would have increased the 70% bond credit to 85% by 2025.

In 2022

During a non-budget session, with a record state budget surplus available, MREA helped position and prioritize rural education for:

- Paying off the Special Education cross-subsidy
- Enhancing equalization for Local Optional Revenue
- Increasing funding for student mental health needs
- Improving the Ag2School Bond Credit
- Cooperative Facilities levy authority
- Additional funding for Concurrent Enrollment Teacher Credentialing
- Flexibility for short-call substitute teachers
- A fairer pension for teachers, retirees, and schools
- Continued funding for Voluntary Pre-K slots
- Continuing to defend against ever-present Unfunded Mandates

IN 2021

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

- 2.45 & 2% increases on the General Education Formula
- Pandemic Enrollment Aid
- Compensatory Aid Hold Harmless
- Opposing unfunded mandates
- ESSER funds more evenly distributed to rural school districts
- Continued Special Education cross-subsidy support
- Continued funding for voluntary Pre-K slots
- Cooperative Facilities levy authority
- 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

How MREA serves YOU



ADVOCATE

- Lobbyists at the Capitol every day advocating for you
- 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 the 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

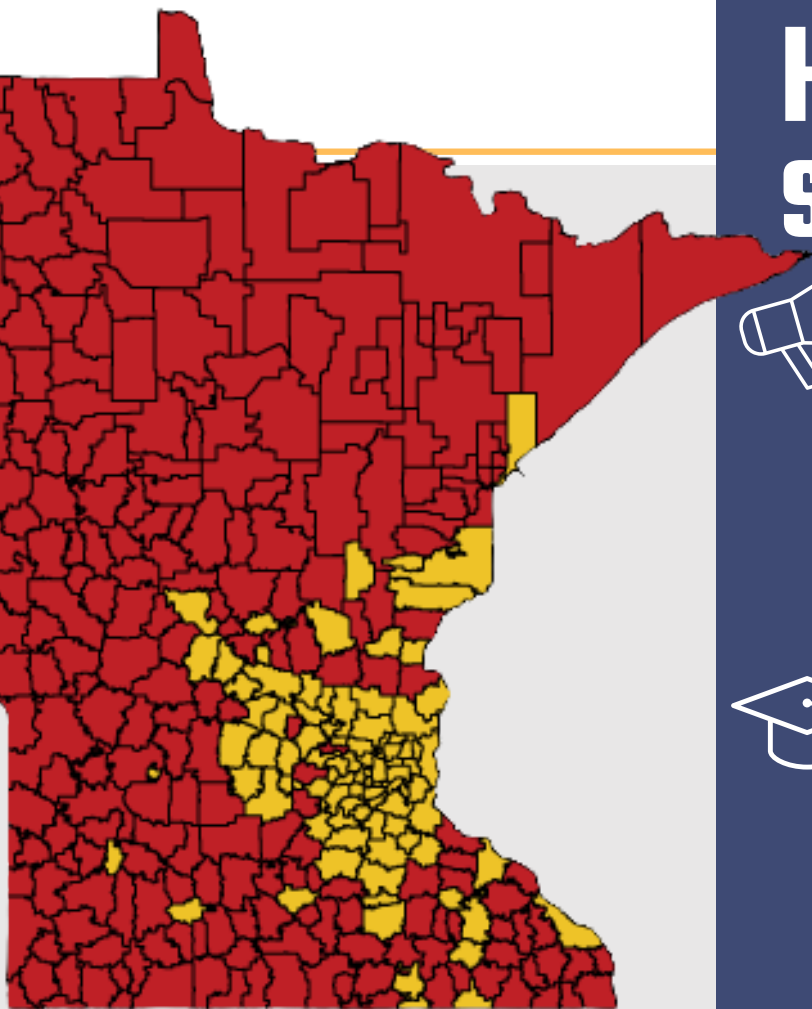


MREA does a great job of cutting through the legislative clutter, identifying what applies to greater MN schools and letting us know what needs our attention. Their updates allow me to better articulate the impact of the bills and our next steps.

DR. REGGIE ENGBRITSON
Superintendent, St. Louis County Schools



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 MREA Member School District



MREA

Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

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