



2023 Plan for

# MINNESOTA STUDENT SUCCESS

Our community has a rare opportunity this year to take action so that young people across Minnesota, and especially students in Minneapolis Public Schools, get everything they need from the state in order to be successful. In 2023, state lawmakers have promised to prioritize students and make a historic investment in public education.

## READY TO TAKE ACTION?

Call or email your state representatives to voice your support for these measures.

[FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS →](#)

*Tell your legislators to...*

## Pay Off the Debt Owed to Our Students

- Fully fund special education, and tie that funding to improved outcomes
- Fully fund English Language Learner services
- Connect the education funding formula to inflation

### WHY?

As schools across Minnesota have struggled to keep up with the rate of inflation and mandatory student services have gone underfunded, our state government has been able to invest elsewhere and slowly build up a surplus of over \$17 billion. The state of Minnesota owes our students, our teachers, and our communities the necessary resources they have been starved of for decades.

### IN MINNEAPOLIS...

In the 2024-2025 school year, MPS projects a **\$108.2 million budget gap**. In that budget, the state is projected to underfund mandatory Special Education and English Language Learner services by more than \$70 million. MPS students and staff need these resources in order for students to get the high-quality education they deserve.

### BILLS TO WATCH

House: [HF18](#), [HF22](#), [HF439](#)

Senate: [SF28](#), [SF21](#), [SF448](#)

Tell your legislators to...

## Invest in a Diverse Teaching Force

- Increase pathways and remove barriers to recruit and retain teachers of color and Indigenous teachers
- Expand and support Tier 1 and 2 licensure

### WHY?

The data is clear. All students, but especially students of color and Indigenous students, benefit from having a diverse group of teachers. It is time for the state to invest in and expand opportunities to ensure that students across Minnesota see themselves in their teachers.

### IN MINNEAPOLIS...

As of the 2021-2022 school year, **less than 20%** of MPS teachers identified as being of color or Indigenous, compared to 2 out of 3 students.

### BILLS TO WATCH

House: [HF320](#), [HF1224](#), [HF381](#)

Senate: [SF619](#), [SF267](#), [SF1477](#)

## Disrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline

- Ban suspensions for grades K-3
- Ban withholding recess as punishment
- Make student statements to school staff inadmissible in legal proceedings

### WHY?

We need schools to be places where students feel welcomed, safe, and free to be kids. We need the state to affirm the right of all students to be seen as children and not as threats.

### IN MINNEAPOLIS...

As of the 2021-2022 school year, students of color and Indigenous students were **3.8 times more likely** to have disciplinary action taken against them (suspension, expulsion, consultation with law enforcement, etc.) than their white peers. These actions result in students losing valuable instruction time and increase the likelihood of future interaction with the criminal legal system.

### BILLS TO WATCH

House: [HF58](#), [HF271](#)

Senate: [SF69](#), [SF183](#)

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**Questions?** Reach out to Patrice Relerford, Senior Director of Impact and Collective Giving, or Maggie McCracken, Philanthropic Advisor.