During the 2021 legislative session we ask the Governor and the Legislature to support the following:

**Education Funding**

• Allow school districts to use the greater of their 2019 or 2020 per pupil and compensatory counts to address impacts brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Increase the general education basic formula by 2% for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years and index future increases to the general education funding formula, local optional revenue, and long-term facilities maintenance revenue by at least the rate of inflation.

• Support a single special education formula that is stable and equitable, and consistent. MASA also seeks increases to hold the state total cross subsidy constant with the goal to fully eliminate it.

• Make the 2019 supplemental safe schools aid ongoing and extend the funding to all education cooperatives and intermediate districts.

• Allow school board renewal of all existing and future operating levies.

• Allow flexible use of 2% set aside for Staff Development funds.

**Education Policy**

• Cease from enacting new underfunded or unfunded legislative mandates.

• Provide school districts the flexibility to adapt learning environments for positive student outcomes and the ability to make decisions based on local needs, including:
  • school calendars;
  • assessments;
  • local graduation requirements; and
  • seat time and Carnegie Units.

• Allow school districts the opportunity to attract, develop and retain teachers, particularly teachers of color and teachers in shortage areas. Remove existing barriers and provide the funding to create incentives and alternatives to the teaching profession.

• Modify state special education requirements to achieve maximum efficiencies and reduce costs.

• Reduce or eliminate the requirements for public schools to subsidize the transportation to and from the non-public schools within their school district boundaries.

**School Finance Working Group**

In 2020, the School Finance Working group brought forward recommendations to address funding pressures school districts face. The working group’s set of recommendations include proposals to provide adequacy and stability to our education finance system; target revenue to close opportunity gaps; improve staff recruitment, retention, and development; and provide equity for taxpayers. MASA recognizes the state's difficult budget situation and encourages the state legislature looking at ways to implement these recommendations over time.

**Broadband For All**

MASA recognizes the role broadband access plays in meeting the educational, economic, social, and medical needs in communities. MASA also urges the passage of the Governor’s Task Force on Broadband recommendations to increase funding and policies to ensure broadband access for all Minnesotans.
The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) believes a fully funded, equitable education system is key to providing a quality education that supports our economic prosperity. Educational funding and policy issues impact every district’s ability to provide a high-quality education system, develop the world’s best workforce, ensure all students acquire 21st century skills.

As advocates of a world-class education for Minnesota’s learners, MASA’s members serve as the leading voice for public education, shape and influence the State and National education agenda, and empower leaders through high quality professional learning, services, and support.

MASA members include more than 900 public education and non-public superintendents, directors of special education, curriculum and technology leaders, other central office administrators, service providers, business partners, and retirees.

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