

THE COMPETITIVE EDGE /

What do we need to win?

Minnesotans recognize that their quality of life and the quality of life of future generations are highly dependent upon public schools to prepare children to be the breadwinners, taxpayers, and parents of the future. It is clear that schools are a priority to Minnesotans. What is less clear is how much Minnesotans know about what makes schools successful. The following components have been cited as common denominators among successful schools.

- ✘ Parents who are involved in their children's lives and schools
- ✘ Public support and respect for teaching and learning
- ✘ Rigorous curriculum and high academic expectations
- ✘ Communities that take ownership of their schools and value education
- ✘ Top quality educators and educational leaders with competitive salaries, community support, advanced education, and permission to try new things
- ✘ Businesses that provide meaningful input and participate in school partnerships
- ✘ Adequate research and resources to implement best practices

The question isn't whether or not Minnesotans want quality schools but rather if they are willing to commit to them.

“This has always been the virtue of Minnesota – its commitment to tomorrow. The budget is central to this commitment and should be seen as a financial expression of our vision... Currently, Minnesota is at the crossroads. We can either take charge of our future and create a vision of a successful tomorrow or continue to satisfy the short-term in order to survive.” – former Governor Arne Carlson



These materials are provided by:
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