



2023 MAPS Legislative Platform

January 17, 2023



Mission Statement

Mankato Area Public Schools
is committed to working together
equitably, with families and communities,
so that each learner has the knowledge
and skills to be a successful and
contributing citizen in a diverse global
society.

Commitment and Values

Visibly Inclusive
Intentionally Equitable
Actively Anti-racist
Committed to Excellence
Accountable for Results



MAPS Legislative Priorities

Fully Funded Public Education

The 2023 MAPS Legislative Committee was comprised of interested parties from across the school district

- School Board members
- District leaders and teachers
- Parents and student
- Community members

When fully funded, Mankato Area Public Schools will be positioned to raise the achievement of all student groups by empowering staff with the resources required to support students in realizing their full potential.



Full Funding of Public Education

- Full funding of all state mandates.
- Increase funding for special education and non-special education staff; intervention staff in the areas of reading and mathematics; classroom staff to lower class sizes; social workers.
- Address the underfunding of special education mandates by eliminating the cross-subsidy.
- Increase special education funding to allow for lower student:teacher ratios and improved wages for support staff.



School Funding

- School-based early childhood programming, including fully funded preschool screening.
- Long-term facilities maintenance funding and its eligible uses to address local facility needs.
- Expand reimbursement of third party billing to include social workers providing mental health services for students with special needs.



Mental Health Support

- Staffing to support student social-emotional learning needs.
- Screeners tools to identify student needs and interventions.



Teacher Recruitment & Retention

- Restore funding for “Grow Your Own” concurrent enrollment courses and expand funding for community-wide opportunities focused on developing the Minnesota teacher workforce.
- Accessible mental health supports for educators to ensure a healthy and sustainable workforce.
- Expand student loan forgiveness to encourage retention in local school districts.



Innovation

- Flexibility for school districts to conduct action research on innovative teaching and learning ideas.
 - Higher education collaboration
 - School–Business career pathways
 - Classroom–childcare–community partnerships
- Support flexibility to expand teacher licensure pathways.



Legislative Update

- The 2023 session has begun.
 - MSBA, MASA, Education Minnesota, MASBO, MCEA
 - Director of Nutrition Services Darcy Stueber testimony
- Education has been prioritized by Governor Walz and legislative leaders in both the MN House and MN Senate.



Thank you