



MDE Review & Comment

October 2, 2023





Requirement to Submit

- **Review and Comment**
 - **Capital improvement projects exceeding \$2,000,000**
 - **School districts are required to submit a proposal with specific project information**
 - **The Minnesota Department of Education reads and provides its “review and comments”.**





Authorization to Submit

- **Prior to submitting:**
 - **School districts study and consider needs and solutions**
 - **School boards authorize the district to work with consultants to develop a project proposal with parameters and budget**





Proposal Format

MDE has several 'look fors' in the project proposal:

- **What is the need (or needs) and what is driving it?**
- **What are the proposed solution(s), and how were they determined among competing options?**
- **What benefits do the solutions bring to students, staff, learning outcomes, operations, and the broader community?**
- **What is the method of financing, and what is the tax impact on the community members?**

Other areas included:

- **Enrollment**
- **Facility inventory**





MDE Review & Approval

- MDE issues a letter indicating either a positive or negative review.
 - MAPS received a [positive review](#) from the Commissioner of Education on August 29.
- Publication in the official newspaper is required at least 48 days prior to the vote date.
 - The [MAPS Review and Comment](#) was in the *Mankato Free Press* on September 18.
- The school district is required to hold a public school board discussion of the Review & Comment and Commissioner's letter at some point before the vote.
 - This is being met right now.





Thank you

Question/Answer and Discussion Time