



MAKING MEANINGFUL INVESTMENTS IN OUR STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND SCHOOLS

All Minnesota students deserve a world-class education, no matter where they live, what they look like, or their learning ability. That's why House Democrats are fighting to meet the academic and mental health needs of our students after an extremely challenging couple of years.

Delivering Mental Health Support

The bill's mental health package, totaling \$475 million, will address shortages of school support personnel to benefit students' social, emotional, and physical health, and fund wrap-around services for students. Our proposal will expand supports for the youngest learners and allow schools to hire 1,100 additional counselors, social workers, school psychologists, school nurses, and chemical dependency specialists.

Filling English Language Learning & Special Education Funding Gaps

Statewide, the difference between what it costs to provide special education services and what the state pays for those services is more than \$700 million. The deficit in English Language (EL) Learner services is nearly \$150 million. The House DFL's education bill provides more than \$500 million annually over the next three years to reduce the amount school districts pay to make up for these shortfalls. The investment in the special education cross-subsidy would reduce the shortfall by over 55% of its current level, and the investment in the EL cross-subsidy would eliminate that cross-subsidy by 2026.

Creating a More Equitable Public Education System

Democrats' bill expands opportunities for Minnesotans who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color to pursue a career in teaching by expanding Grow Your Own Teacher Training Programs, which benefits all Minnesota students. It also improves literacy and makes important changes to address Minnesota's unacceptable racial disparities in school discipline by increasing the use of non-exclusionary discipline. It replaces Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day in schools and requires ethnic studies standards to be embedded in the state's academic standards.

Investing in our Youngest Learners

House DFLers' plan will expand Early Head Start and award early learning scholarships to more than 20,000 low-income and vulnerable children. Once these children turn four, our budget will give them access to a statewide, voluntary pre-K program through schools, Head Starts, and licensed child care providers.

