



PRIOR LAKE-SAVAGE AREA SCHOOLS

2025 Legislative Platform

ENHANCE LOCAL CONTROL & FLEXIBILITY

Increase Education Funding to Address Inflation and Mandates

- We support the creation of a Task Force to re-evaluate the basic funding formula and ensure it reflects current demographic trends.
- To help stabilize school budgets and mitigate significant staff layoffs, the Governor and Legislature should increase the formula allowance by 3% over current law for FY26 and FY27.
- Increase the Local Optional Revenue Levy Adjustment (LOR) school board levy authority from \$724 per student to \$974 per student to adjust for inflation beginning with its inception. The additional \$250 per pupil would significantly reduce financial burdens for districts.
- Reduce the cross-subsidies in the special education and English learner programs.

*Minnesota's education funding formula **has not changed since 1971.** Despite rising costs and increasing mandates, schools are still funded under a system designed over 50 years ago.*

Pause New Mandates and Fully Fund Existing Requirements

- Refrain from introducing additional unfunded mandates that strain district resources.
- Fully fund existing state-mandated programs to prevent further budget shortfalls and ensure compliance without diverting resources from core educational priorities, specifically:
 - Unemployment: \$1.2M potential annual risk to PLSAS
 - Earned Safe and Sick Time (ESST): \$342,000 potential annual risk to PLSAS
 - Paid Medical Family Leave: \$425,000 potential annual risk to PLSAS
 - READ ACT: \$1.7M potential one-time risk to PLSAS

Repeal the Non-Exclusionary Discipline Policy for K-3 Students

Current state policy prohibits suspensions for K-3 students, limiting schools' ability to address severe behavioral issues that disrupt classrooms and impact learning. We urge the Legislature to repeal this mandate and restore local decision-making authority to ensure safe and effective learning environments.

Establish a K-12 Assessment Review Task Force

We highly encourage the creation of a K-12 Assessment Review Task Force to evaluate current testing requirements that better supports student learning, achievement and outcomes.