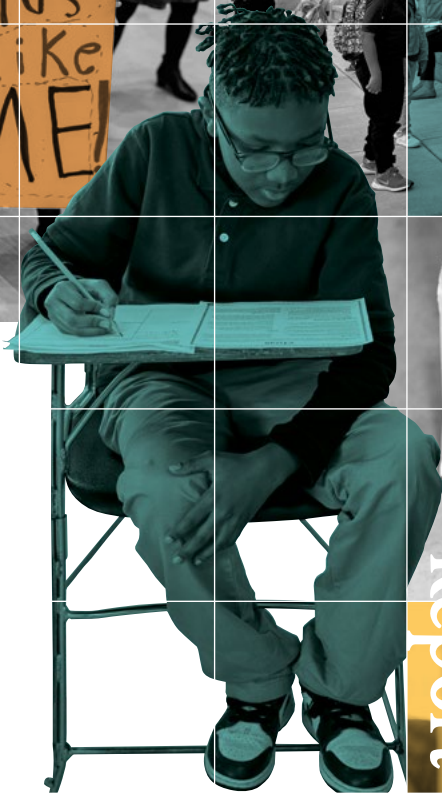


Partnering for Progress



Great schools for all kids.

great
MN
SCHOOLS



TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING AN IMPACT.

Alongside schools, families, and community members,
we are creating great schools.

OUR MISSION

Ensure that every child attends a great school that prepares them to thrive in their lives, careers, and community.

OUR VISION

By 2030, we will triple the number of students attending excellent and equitable schools in Minneapolis.



DEAR MINNEAPOLIS,

Every child deserves a great school that meets their academic and developmental needs.



TODAY, ONLY 22 PERCENT OF BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND STUDENTS OF COLOR in Minneapolis read at grade level, and too many children struggle with trauma and mental health challenges.

Our progress at **Great MN Schools** starts with recognizing the limitless potential of each student and the power of schools to realize this potential. At **Great MN Schools**, our team provides strategic support directly and through best-in-class service providers to help schools ensure all students receive the education they deserve. We are encouraged by the



increasing number of schools committed to partnering with **Great MN Schools** to travel down the hard-fought path toward better outcomes for all students.

We know schools cannot do this alone, and families are powerful partners in ensuring student learning. We know parents and caregivers want to do everything they can to ensure their children get what they need from the school environment, and that they are eager for support to navigate our complex education systems.



“

Great MN Schools has an amazing team. We truly appreciate the partnership and the resources and tools that Great MN Schools provides to help support the work we are doing with families. We strive to help empower parents to be advocates for their children, and we are able to do this work with the support of Great MN Schools.

~ Valerie Stevenson,
Phyllis Wheatly
Community Center

Sincerely,

Jennifer Stern
Chief Executive Officer

Alberto Moserrate
Board Chair

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS.

We work alongside schools to ensure every child receives an excellent and equitable education.



PORTFOLIO SCHOOL NETWORKS.

- Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
- Friendship Academy of the Arts
- Global Academy
- Hennepin Schools
- Hope Academy
- New City School
- New Millennium Academy
- Northeast College Prep
- Prodeo Academy
- Wildflower Montessori

PARTNER SCHOOLS.

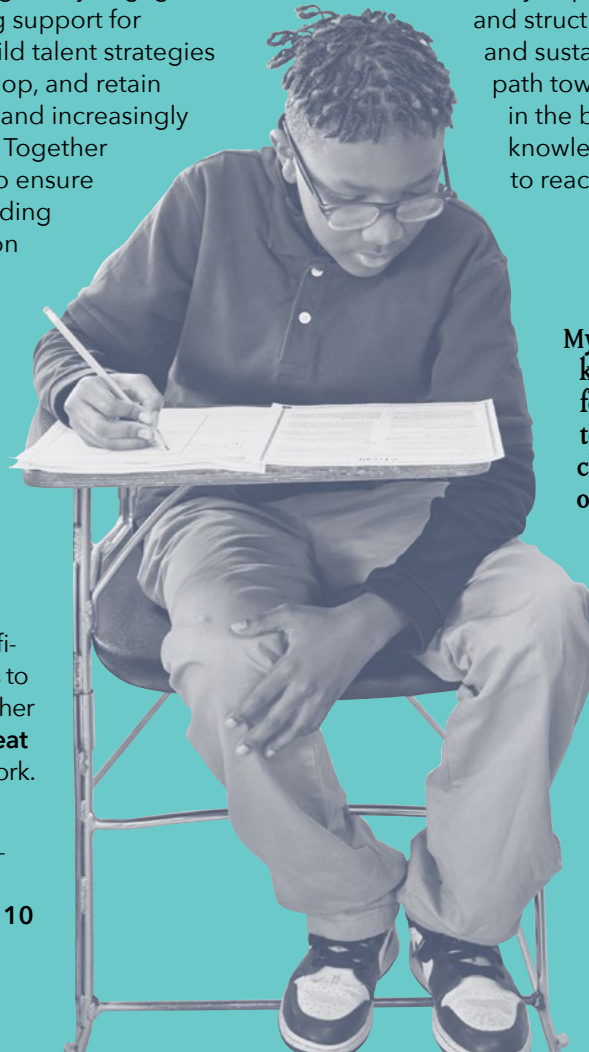
- Agamim Academy
- Ascension Academy
- Aurora Charter School
- Hiawatha Academies
- KIPP Minnesota
- Partnership Academy
- Risen Christ
- St. John Paul II
- Sojourner Truth Academy
- Venture Academy

OUR PORTFOLIO DIRECTORS ARE TRUE PARTNERS WITH SCHOOL LEADERS, supporting the creation and implementation of a school's customized Good-to-Great strategic plan. These plans include how to incorporate high-quality curricula and literacy programs; establish positive school culture and strong family engagement; deepen coaching support for teachers; and build talent strategies that attract, develop, and retain high-performing and increasingly diverse teachers. Together we are working to ensure schools are providing the best education possible for students.

Schools working with **Great MN Schools** have access to best-in-class strategic support, a ready thought partner in their portfolio director, and significant opportunities to learn alongside other schools in the **Great MN Schools** network.

Today, the **Great MN Schools** portfolio and partner schools **serve 9,110**

students, representing 23% of Minneapolis' low-income student population and 42% of all charter school students. Three-quarters of students enrolled in the portfolio school networks come from a low-income background, and 93% are Black, Indigenous, or students of color. These schools are working tirelessly to put in place the systems and structures needed to achieve and sustain quality. They are on a path toward ensuring every student in the building is acquiring the knowledge and skills needed to reach their full potential.



“My portfolio director is the best kind of cheerleader I could ask for. They go out of their way to know us and learn about our challenges. They're respectful of our perspective but also willing to challenge our thinking. They bring so many outstanding resources to our attention, but they don't push them on us.

I wish every school leader had a Great MN Schools Portfolio Director in their corner!

~ Russ Gregg, Hope Academy

NEW CITY SCHOOL

TEACHERS GIVE LEADERSHIP TRANSITION STRONG MARKS.

New City School is a diverse K-8 public charter school in Northeast Minneapolis focused on building a supportive environment that integrates social and academic learning.

NEW CITY HAS BEEN PARTNERED WITH GREAT MN SCHOOLS SINCE 2019 on strategic planning and foundational improvement work, and in 2021-22 received multi-year funding support to accelerate the implementation of their Good-to-Great Plan.

Shortly into implementation, Executive Director (ED) Todd Bartholomay learned he needed to leave his role after nearly 10 years for personal health reasons. During summer 2022, **Great MN Schools** and their Good-to-Great planning partner worked with Todd and incoming interim ED Jane Ojile to create a comprehensive transition plan. The plan articulated how to prioritize, as well as, engage the leadership team, teachers, and families during transition planning. It focused on role clarity and goal setting to ensure every leadership team member felt confident and clear as they started the new school year.

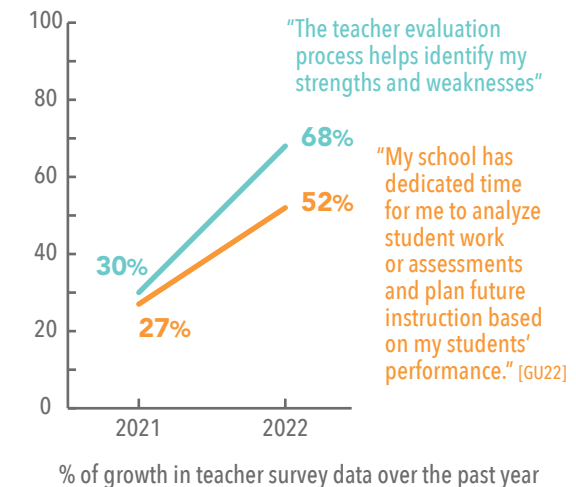
In October 2022, Jane Ojile assumed her new interim role and then was hired to fill the ED position by **New City's** Board in spring 2023. Throughout last year, Portfolio Director Morgan Brown oversaw the school's Good-to-Great work through monthly check ins with Jane. He also communicated regularly with **New City's** board chair to offer resources for conducting the hiring of a new ED and monitor the board's progress.

Effective leaders create higher teacher job satisfaction, which boosts student learning. At **New City School**, the Insight Survey's measure of teacher satisfaction with professional development rose from 4.3 in fall 2021 to 6.6 in fall 2022, well above the national average.

Jane and her team also examined teacher experiences and perspectives that aligned with the Good-to-Great Plan priorities. After one year, teacher responses improved dramatically.

Despite the challenges of leading through a leadership transition, **New City** was able to make strong progress on their improvement plan. For example, the school was focused on building out a Comprehensive Teacher Development strategy, including more intentional support for teachers.

In the past year, they saw significant growth in their teacher survey data in this area:



Great MN Schools

celebrates the successful leadership transitions at **New City** and is proud to provide evidence-based leadership support that makes a difference for teachers and students.



NEW CITY SCHOOL YEAR 1 GOOD-TO-GREAT PRIORITIES

- 1 Develop a coordinated and consistent leadership team
- 2 Launch a comprehensive teacher development strategy
- 3 Create a multi-tiered system of support for students

“Great MN Schools has been an excellent partner as I transitioned into this critical leadership role over the year. I am grateful for Morgan Brown; he is my sounding board and guide. He reassures me in times of doubt and gently pushes me when needed. I am confident (with Great MN Schools in our corner) New City School is poised for the best year yet!

~Jane Ojile

GREAT MN SCHOOLS PROVIDES SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT SO SCHOOLS CAN BE GREAT.

Great MN Schools listens to school leaders and provides responsive resources and development aligned with their needs.



“

Relay was hands down the most impactful professional development I have ever had and really helped set our school up for success. It pushed me to shift my thinking and notice different areas of growth.

- Liz Ferguson, Principal, Prodeo St. Paul Primary Academy

PRODEO ST. PAUL PRIMARY ACADEMY: BEST IN THE COUNTRY FOR STUDENT GROWTH

KNOWING THAT PRINCIPALS OFTEN NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT around instructional leadership, **Great MN Schools** connects schools with learning opportunities and ongoing professional development. For example this past year, eight leaders and teacher coaches from three schools attended the **Relay Graduate School of Education**. At this premier training and development program, dozens of school leaders work together to hone their vision and skills in instruction, culture, and strategy to benefit all students.

One practice that came out of **Relay** was the shift to weekly data meetings at **Prodeo St. Paul Primary Academy**. Teachers receive weekly data reports on how their students are doing so that they can provide customized, real-time support ensuring kids don't fall behind.

To guide their instruction, teachers use the weekly student results alongside a comprehensive standards map, which outlines

a yearlong strategy for student success. Everyone on staff engages in consistent planning support, which also includes instructional modeling and practice time.

This intentional and focused strategy, planning, and review practice led to teachers feeling more supported and prepared, and students seeing more progress in meeting their academic goals.

In fact, based on results of the NWEA MAP Growth Assessment, students at **Prodeo St. Paul Primary Academy** are mastering important foundational skills faster than similar students in their grade level nationwide.¹ This year, 97% of students at **Prodeo St. Paul Primary** outperformed national peers in math and 90% outperformed them in reading. Fueled by their standards-based strategy, dedicated leaders and teachers at the school are delivering an excellent education, preparing their students for a lifetime of success.

¹ Prodeo Academy. (2023). St. Paul Primary Academy, Best in the Country for Student Growth. Prodeo Academy. <https://www.prodeoacademy.org/apps/news/article/1786620>



THE NETWORK.

We have built and are activating an ever-expanding network of leaders committed to changing the system for kids.



“

We look at the big picture, taking what we know about educational standards to build a scaffolding that will take our students from Kindergarten to 1st grade with grade-level mastery.

~ Gina Julian, Instructional Coach

THE PROGRESS.

Every kid in Minneapolis deserves a great school. Together, we are making it happen.

Schools

We partner with Minneapolis schools to support their improvement.

372 TEACHERS received support to improve their instruction



86% OF PORTFOLIO SCHOOLS outperform MPLS for low-income students

71% OF PORTFOLIO SCHOOLS outperform MPLS for BIPOC students

17 SCHOOL LEADERS participated in the Talent Cohort

Families We help families partner with schools and advocate for change.

95% OF FAMILIES SURVEYED take action to engage more deeply in their child's education

473 FAMILIES PROVIDED FEEDBACK on K-12 Family Resources

18,631 UNIQUE VISITORS to K-12 Family Resources online

22,239 K-12 FAMILY RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED

Students

We make student-centered decisions focused on creating equitable educational outcomes in Minneapolis.



One of Great MN Schools' greatest attributes is that it spots the educational zeitgeist and brings high-quality solutions to all the schools in its portfolio.

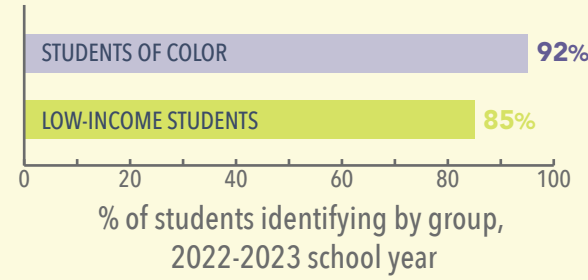
~ Dr. Julie Henderson, Executive Director, Hennepin School



During the 2022-23 school year,

6,237 STUDENTS attended

11 PORTFOLIO SCHOOLS



1,495 STUDENTS were enrolled at partner schools



Community

We build community partnerships to help reach all families.

8 COMMUNITY PARTNERS supported the improvement and distribution of our family tools

366 LOCATIONS distributed Minneapolis School Finder and MN Standards Family Guides

Great MN Schools staff attended

18 COMMUNITY EVENTS to distribute our tools and resources



Advancing Proven Solutions

We identify the conditions schools need to thrive and adapt promising solutions to Minneapolis.

LAUNCHED a community-informed, holistic MEASURE OF SCHOOL QUALITY



Awarded policy grants to

9 ORGANIZATIONS working to advance educational campaigns and crucial policy initiatives

School Board Voter Guide reached: **4,920** UNIQUE USERS

2ND COHORT OF GET ON BOARD

in partnership with Voices for Racial Justice, NAZ, and Ayada Leads: **8** participants and **2** ready to run in '24



MINNESOTA LITERACY COALITION LAUNCHED

in partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools and National Parents Union MN

60+ ORGANIZATIONS JOINED the coalition to date

Worked together to help ensure

THE READ ACT PASSED leading to over

\$70M INVESTED IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS to train their teachers, update curriculum, and hire literacy specialists to implement the science of reading

INTRODUCING THE SCHOOL FINDER FAIR.

Every year thousands of Minneapolis families search for a best-fit school for their student.



FINDING THE RIGHT SCHOOL FOR THEIR CHILD is one of the first and most critical decisions families can make during their K-12 education journey. **Great MN Schools** has long sought to make the school choice process more informed through our Minneapolis School Finder guide. This year we enhanced the process further by hosting the first, in-person, Minneapolis School Finder Fair.

At the event, district, charter, and independent schools from across the city came together to support families. Attendees had the chance to meet representatives from each school, ask necessary questions, and get a feel for the school.

WHAT A GREAT SCHOOL LOOKS LIKE TO PARENTS, STUDENTS, SCHOOL LEADERS, AND TEACHERS:

“It has been a challenge, especially as a Black father, finding a school where my kids are safe, where my kids are treated fairly, and where my kids will get the academic success that they deserve. So the best thing to do was come here and meet with the schools directly.”

I am excited to be here with my daughter to explore the options that Minneapolis Public Schools and the general school community has to offer.

~ Minneapolis Parent

culturally responsive
inclusive
ENGAGING
WELCOMING
SAFETY
HAVE A VOICE
PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE
building the leaders of tomorrow
putting the students first
opportunities to explore
every child has what they need
impactful instruction
school & community come together
sense of belonging

From the 2023 MSF Fair.

In total, 800 attendees explored more than 90 school options. Families were able to connect with staff from local community organizations to secure the support they needed to make this important decision. The event included interpreters in Spanish, Somali, Oromo, and Hmong, as well as free transportation and childcare.

“Minneapolis Public Schools was so proud to participate in the Minneapolis School Finder Fair. We talked to amazing families, and I know that they are going to find the right fit for their student”

~ Rochelle Cox,
 Interim Superintendent
 at Minneapolis Public Schools



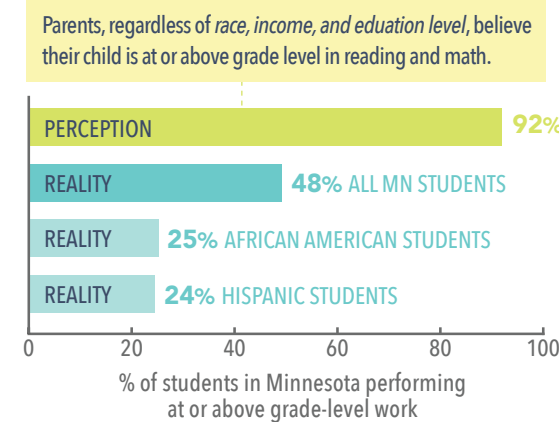
PARENTS AS PARTNERS. BUILDING A BRIDGE FOR FAMILIES.

Our *MN Standards Family Guides* lay out the state learning standards for each grade and share how parents can partner with schools.

ACCORDING TO A STUDY DONE BY OUR PARTNERS at Learning Heroes, 92% of parents – regardless of race, income, and education level – believe their child is at or above grade level in reading and math.

The reality is **only 48% of students** in Minnesota are currently on grade-level.

Our education system is serving students of color even more poorly: only 24% of Hispanic students and 25% of African American students are on grade level. Cultural barriers, lack of understanding, and a general sense of intimidation often prevent caregivers from speaking up for their child in an educational setting.



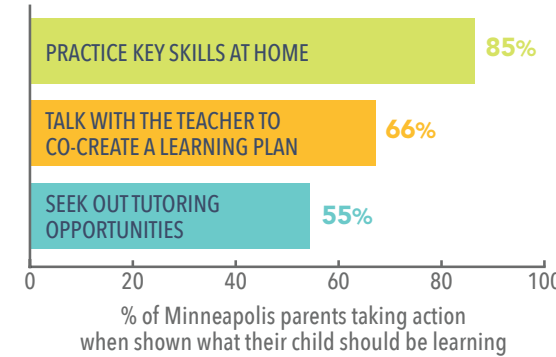
Learning Heroes, 2016-2021 and 2022: MCA Proficiency for the State of MN, Grades 5-8

When parents have reliable information, however, they shift their mindsets and take action.

AFTER RECEIVING THE MINNESOTA FAMILY GUIDE, Bianca noticed how difficult it was for her daughter, who is on the autism spectrum, to complete the tasks. Understanding the grade-level expectations gave Bianca the confidence she needed to meet with her daughter’s teacher and seek support. Together, they created an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) for the student to receive the specialized instruction she needs.



Since releasing the guides in spring 2022, we have polled more than 600 families through our community organization partners to see what actions they took after reviewing the guides and understanding what their child should be learning each year. According to the survey, **95% of families who reviewed the guides took at least one action** to support their student’s education, including talking to their student’s teacher, seeking out additional learning opportunities, and practicing key skills at home.



Our *MN Standards Family Guides* provide information and our community organization partners provide guidance to caregivers like Bianca feel confident and knowledgeable in advocating for their child within schools.



“Thanks to the guide, I was able to get more involved in the decisions for my child’s study plan at school and support her at home.”

~ Bianca S.



The *MN Standards Family Guides* have been distributed through more than 350 locations across the city.

REACHING FAMILIES THROUGH TRUSTED PARTNERS.

Our work would not be possible without the network of community organizations working directly with families in Minneapolis.

IN ORDER TO SHARE OUR RESOURCES with as many Minneapolis families as possible, **Great MN Schools** has built a network of community partners. We work closely with community organizations who hold trusted relationships with many Minneapolis families to distribute the K-12 family resources, provide guidance on their use, and relay family feedback to us on how to make them better.

One of these partners is **Urban Ventures**. We work closely with their Siempre Padres Program, which provides support to members of the Hispanic community in navigating the U.S. K-12 education system.

Siempre Padres partnered with **Great MN Schools** to co-develop a four-class curriculum where participants learn how to support their child's learning at home and advocate for their child's needs in schools. Parents discuss how to communicate with their child's teacher, develop a better understanding of their role at the school, and how to strengthen academic foundations at home.

"Due to differences in the Minnesota and Latin American education systems, new immigrants trust the schools to help their students achieve academically without knowing that, as parents, they play a very important role in interacting with teachers and helping their children at home," Program Director Franklin Briceño explains. "Our role as community allies is to provide information and resources to parents so that they can take the correct steps to assist and advocate for their child."



“**Family Academy provides more awareness and information to the parents to voice their opinion and needs, so they can be more involved and feel they are partnering with schools.**”

~ Franklin Briceño, Director, Siempre Padres, Urban Ventures

MEET OUR PARTNERS.

These community organizations work closely with the **Great MN Schools** team. They share tools and resources with Minneapolis families and work with families to provide feedback on them to ensure they are accessible, meaningful, and impactful.

- Centro Tyrone Guzman
- Lead the Way
- Little Earth Residents Association
- Phyllis Wheatley Community Center
- Pillsbury United Communities
- Urban Ventures
- Way to Grow
- Northside Achievement Zone

MORE HOLISTICALLY EVALUATING SCHOOLS.

To increase the number of great schools in Minneapolis, we need to first know what makes a great school – and how schools fare against this standard.

FOR YEARS FAMILIES HAVE SHARED that while our *Minneapolis School Finder* academic rating is helpful, the measurement tool needed to go beyond academic outcomes to include information that more holistically assessed school quality.

To respond to this request, we formed a working group in 2021 with members who represented schools, community-serving organizations, and policy and advocacy organizations. This working group hosted focus groups and conducted surveys and guided the redesign of the school measurement tool

in the *Minneapolis School Finder*. Thanks to this collaborative effort, the *Minneapolis School Finder* now has a more comprehensive School Performance Rating (SPR) that includes academics, climate, and equity measures.

We piloted the comprehensive rating in 2022 and hosted focus groups and virtual events in Hmong, English, Spanish, and Somali that drew more than 230 community members. After an 18-month iterative design process, we introduced the updated school data in winter 2023 in the seventh edition of the *Minneapolis School Finder*.

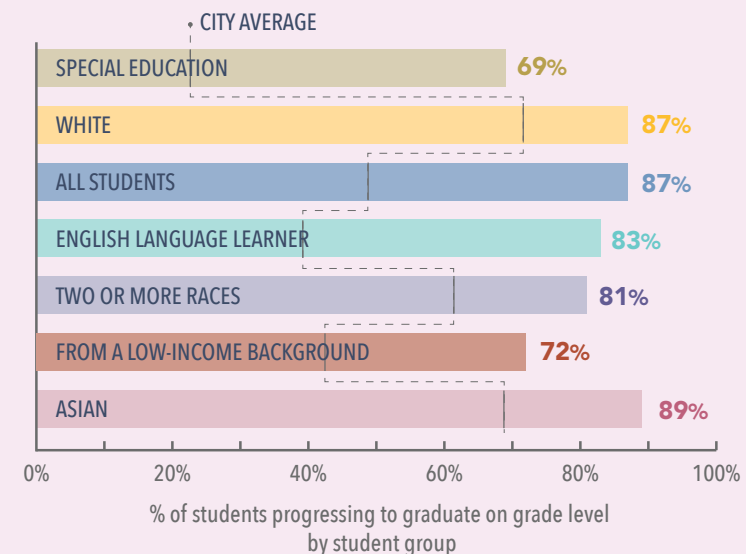
85% of over 200 survey respondents found the comprehensive rating system influential in their school selection.

SAMPLE OF SCHOOL-LEVEL DATA.

In order to ensure equitable outcomes for all students, families need to see beyond academics to uncover a full picture of how a school will best serve their child. Our updated data in climate and equity

augments the academic data and dives deeper into areas such as teacher retention, student progress, and attendance, broken down by student group, race/ethnicity.

PROGRESS

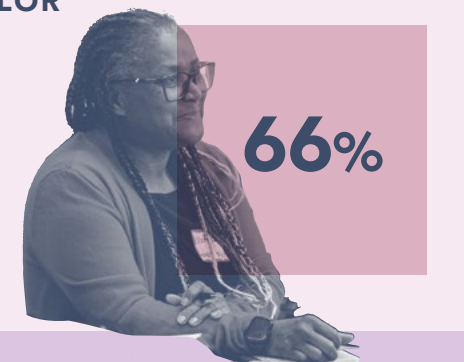


STUDENTS OF COLOR



53%

TEACHERS OF COLOR



66%

THE POWER OF LEADERSHIP.

School boards play an essential role in creating excellent and equitable schools for all students.

BUT A LACK OF REFLECTIVE LEADERSHIP can pose barriers to change that communities want to see in their schools.

Get On Board is designed to help parent and community leaders understand the role of a district school board and explore whether they would like to run for a school board position. **Great MN Schools** works with community partners to identify individuals from across the city with a passion for education, a desire to impact education systems, and a curiosity around what it takes to be an effective school board member. Participants learn invaluable information from current school board members, such as campaign management, understanding data, fundraising, and more.

100% OF PARTICIPANTS said they would recommend this program to other community members.

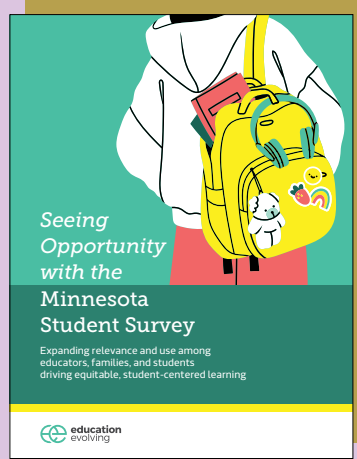
Great MN Schools also partners with **Charter-Source** to provide board development related to governance, leadership, and operations across charter schools. Together, we sourced nine candidates to the Board Bank, and seven individuals were recommended and appointed to charter school boards. In these seats, they are responsible for the school oversight and ensuring our city has more high-quality options for children.



“

Get on Board is essential not only to support candidates who wish to run for school board, but necessary to the proliferation of good governance that works with its citizens.

~ Jim Vue,
St. Paul Public Schools
Board Chair



EDUCATION EVOLVING.

EDUCATION EVOLVING AND GREAT MN SCHOOLS SHARE THE BELIEF that we need more information at a state and regional level that informs a holistic picture of how students and schools are doing.

This year we worked with **Education Evolving** to conduct a national and local landscape scan and in-depth interviews with educators, administrators, and policymakers to understand how states use their student survey. The research led to a detailed report with recommendations for how the *Minnesota Student Survey (MSS)* could give more timely, consistent, relevant, and actionable data.

The significance of this report resonates deeply within the context of our work to foster a culture of data transparency and family agency. **In a landscape where data and information serve as a catalyst for upward mobility, accessibility becomes a pivotal factor.** The *MSS* is readily available for those who know what to look for, but for many families that is not the case. Our existing metrics for understanding school climate are limited and lack uniformity. Similar to our work to develop a consistent School Performance Rating, improving the *MSS* will give families crucial information to understand how their students will feel safe, heard, represented, appreciated, and loved at school.

<https://bit.ly/MNStudentSurveyReport>

LITERACY FOR ALL.

Reading is one of the most crucial academic skills; it is the foundation for all learning.

IN MINNEAPOLIS, ONLY 22% of Black, Indigenous and students of color read at grade level, compared to 72% of white students. There is no excuse for this disparity. Research clearly shows that all students can learn to read when explicitly taught with the right instructional methods.

Building on momentum from last year's Literacy Needs Assessment (our detailed review of literacy practices in Twin Cities schools) and an increasing body of research on the science of reading, we launched the **Minnesota Literacy Coalition** alongside leaders from the **National**



Parents Union and Minneapolis Public Schools. As the convening organization for the **MN Literacy Coalition**, we rallied individuals and organizations to develop a shared vision for literacy in the Twin Cities, grounded in the science of reading.

More than 60 organizations (and counting) are participating in the coalition. Together with these passionate leaders, parents, and educators we have formed three dedicated action teams working toward a future where every Minnesota child achieves literacy success:

Strong Instruction

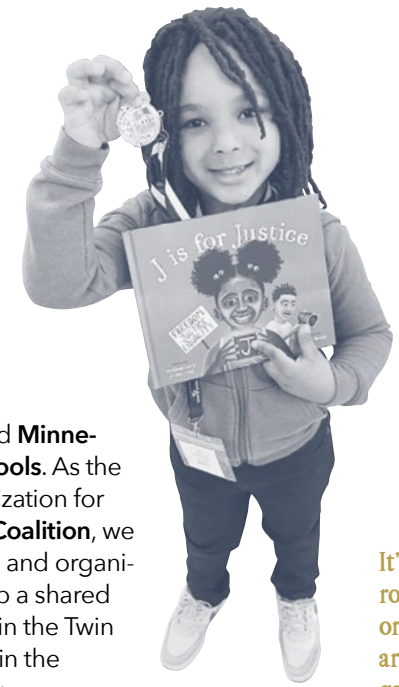
Ensuring strong curriculum, teacher training, and support for school leaders.

Family Partnerships & Extended Learning

Increasing access to community supports for families inside and outside of school.

Robust Ecosystem

Building the conditions needed through public awareness, state, and local policy.



“

It's great to see a full room of folks and organizations rallying around the shared goal of stronger literacy instruction and supports that are aligned for students. I think the message of alignment is spot on - that we can't keep working in silos and expecting the outcomes to change; that message was clear and hit home.

~ Brooke Rivers,
Executive Director
of Reading Partners

MN LITERACY DAY & THE READ ACT.

THANKS TO THE REACH OF OUR COALITION we were able to deliver almost 500 postcards to legislators. We worked together to ensure the Read Act passed this year, resulting in accountability and funding support for schools to adopt the science of reading. This bill provides \$35 million for districts to train their teachers, as well as another \$35 million for materials that meet the state's criteria. This investment in our schools and teachers provides the necessary high-quality, aligned curriculum and the teacher training and dedicated literacy specialists to support implementation.



OUR STAFF.

- Jennifer Stern**
Chief Executive Officer
- Camila Barcenas**
Dougherty Family College Intern
- Morgan Brown**
Portfolio Director
- Erick Castellanos**
Community Outreach Coordinator
- Karn Engelsjerd**
Senior Director of External Affairs
- Bailey Johnson**
Senior Manager of Communications
- Sheilah Kavaney**
Senior Director of Operations & School Support
- Rosie Lais**
Director of Community Resources
- La Lee Lo**
Data Analyst & Project Manager
- Melissa Long**
Director of Literacy
- Kyle Parsons**
Vice President of Community Engagement
- Michelle Staack**
Senior Manager of Finance & Operations



OUR FUNDERS.

Our funders are unparalleled in their commitment and support of our mission to ensure every child in Minneapolis attends a great school that prepares them to thrive in their lives, career, & community.

- Anonymous
Albright Family Foundation
Susan and Richard Anderson Family Fund
Julie and Doug Baker, Jr. Foundation
David Winton Bell Foundation
John and Joan Brooks Fund
Carolyn Foundation
Ciresi Walburn Foundation for Children
Michael & Susan Dell Foundation
Mary Dolan | The Longview Foundation
Douglass Brandenburg Family Foundation
Dryer Family Foundation
Beth and David Finch
Frey Foundation
General Mills Foundation
Margot and Paul Grangaard
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Aimee and Bill Guidera
Rex Heineman
JAB Foundation
LRE Foundation
Kathleen F. and David W. MacLennan Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Manitou Fund
Charles and Tara Maxwell

- Bob and Polly McCrea
Bill and Martha McLaughlin
Lucy C. Mitchell | The Longview Foundation
David and Leni Moore Family Foundation
Alberto Monserrate
Dana and Mathias Mortenson
Mortenson Family Foundation
Nazarian Family Trust
Oak Grove Foundation
Margaret A. O'Connor
Marcia Page
Ann and Pat Ryan
Piper Family Fund II of the Minneapolis Foundation
Tad and Cindy Piper Fund
of the Minneapolis Foundation
Prospect Creek Foundation
Phyllis Saltzman
Sauer Family Foundation
Joseph and Tamara Schwartz
Karen Stern and Steve Schneider
Smikis Foundation
Soran Foundation
Ed and Valerie Spencer
SPS Commerce
Sue Talley
Turner Family Foundation
US Bank
Sandy Vargas | Vargas Consulting & Coaching
WEM Foundation
Ben and Mary Whitney Fund
Eleanor and Fred Winston | The Longview Foundation
Wollan and Fan Family Fund

The generous funders listed have made investments greater than \$1,000 from 7/1/22 through 6/30/23.

OUR BOARD.

- Alberto Monserrate** Chair | *NewPublica*
- Stan Alleyne** Vice Chair | *CEO/Co-founder of Alleyne, Matlock & Associates*
- Al Fan** Treasurer | *Founding ED, MN Comeback and Charter School Partners*
- Tad Piper** Investment Committee Chair | *Piper Sandler (retired); Piper Family Fund*
- Ben Whitney** | *St. Catherine University School of Business*
- Habon Abdulle** | *Ayada Leads*
- Rob Albright** | *Albright Family Foundation; Alternative Strategy Advisers*
- Julie Baker** | *Community Volunteer*
- Rosita Balch** | *Hennepin County*
- Sarah Clyne** | *EquaSpace*
- leesha McKinzie Collins*** | *ConnexMSP*
- Becky Erdahl** | *Carolyn Foundation*
- Bernadeia Johnson** | *Mankato State University*
- Michael O'Connell*** | *Church of the Ascension and The Basilica of Saint Mary (retired)*
- Pat Ryan*** | *Ryan Companies*
- Sondra Samuels** | *Northside Achievement Zone*
- Phil Soran** | *Compellent Technologies (retired); Xiotech (retired); Soran Foundation*
- Ed Spencer*** | *Affinity Capital Management*

* Investment Committee only

OUR ADVISORY COUNCIL.

- Laura Bohlander**
- Christine Empanger**
- Beth Finch**
- Flor Trevino Frey**
- Aretha Green-Rupert**
- Jim Hield**
- Kathleen MacLennan**
- Jane McDonald Black**
- Amy Walstien**

ONCE IN A LIFETIME.

A vision for literacy manifested by Betty and Whitney MacMillan and the WEM Foundation.

WE ARE GRATEFUL to the **WEM Foundation** and Betty MacMillan's vision for effective literacy instruction in our community. Several years ago, Betty hosted a community meeting to highlight the strong work around literacy happening in other cities and to build a shared commitment in our community to improving literacy rates.

Over time, the **WEM Foundation**, under the leadership of Jim Hield, has encouraged **Great MN Schools** to bring together those in the community committed to improving literacy rates in Minneapolis. They introduced us to

leaders in Florida who have taken significant steps forward in literacy for their community. They provided financial support to enable us to launch

The Minnesota Literacy Coalition, a group of 60 community organizations working together to ensure every child in Minneapolis is literate. This group is a manifestation of Betty and Whitney's vision, and would not be happening without the support of the **WEM Foundation**, both in supporting the launch of the **Literacy Coalition**, and ensuring its ongoing viability. Their legacy in our city will be improved literacy practices and, ultimately, a more literate and vital citizenship.

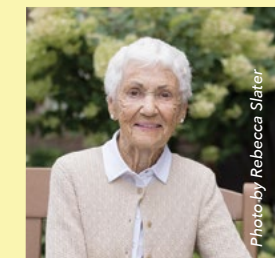


Photo by Rebecca Slater

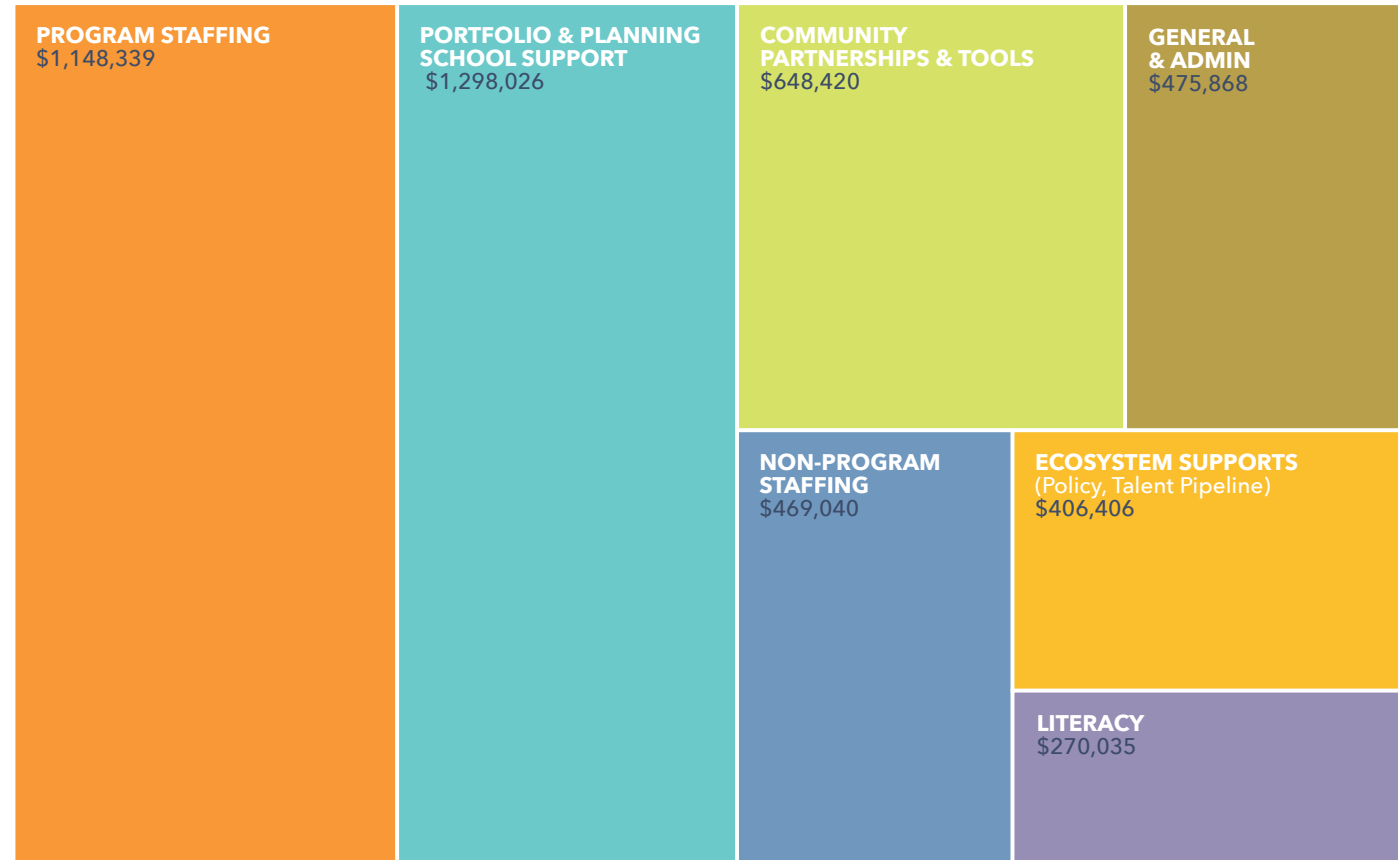
“Betty's commitment to and belief in all students' ability to read and write sparked something in us and our community.”

~ Melissa Long, Director of Literacy

TOTAL EXPENSES:

\$4,716,134

85% OF OUR BUDGET went directly to helping schools improve and community organizations deepen their work with families as academic partners in their children's learning.



4MATIV • ADVANCING EQUITY COALITION • AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP FORUM • AGAMIM ACADEMY • AIMEE AND BILL GUIDERA • ALBERTO MONSERRATE • ALBRIGHT FAMILY FOUNDATION • AMPACT • AMPLIFY • ANET • ANN AND PAT RYAN • ASCENSION ACADEMY • AYADA LEADS • BANYAN COMMUNITY • BELLWETHER • BEN AND MARY WHITNEY FUND • BETH AND DAVID FINCH • BILL AND MARTHA MCLAUGHLIN • BLACK MEN TEACH • BLOOMWELL GROUP • BOB AND POLLY MCCREA • CAROLYN FOUNDATION • CENTRO TYRONE GUZMAN • CHARLES AND TARA MAXWELL • CHARTER SOURCE • CIRESI WALBURN FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN • CRISTO REY JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL • DANA AND MATHIAS MORTENSON • DAVID AND LENI MOORE FAMILY FOUNDATION • DAVID WINTON BEL FOUNDATION • DECODING DYSLEXIA MN • DOUGLASS BRANDENBORG FAMILY FOUNDATION • DRYER FAMILY FOUNDATION • ED AND VALERIE SPENCER • ED FUEL • EDALLIES • EDOPS • EDUCATION EVOLVING • EDUCATORS FOR EXCELLENCE • ELEANOR AND FRED WINSTON - THE LONGVIEW FOUNDATION • FREY FOUNDATION • FRIENDSHIP ACADEMY OF THE ARTS • GENERAL MILLS FOUNDATION • GENERATION NEXT • GLOBAL ACADEMY • GRAVES FOUNDATION • GROVES LEARNING ORGANIZATION • HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARIES • HENNEPIN SCHOOLS • HIAWATHA ACADEMY • HOPE ACADEMY • INSTRUCTION PARTNERS • INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION • JAB BROOKS FUND • JOSEPH AND PRESCHOOL • JULIE AND DOUG KAREN STERN AND STEVE DAVID W. MACLENNAN FUND DATION • KIPP MINNESOTA • MN • LEARNING HEROES TION • LUCY C. MITCHELL - THE MACSA • MANITOU FUND • O'CONNOR • MARGOT AND PAUL LONGVIEW FOUNDATION • MICHAEL MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS • TION • MN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP • MN MN ZEJ ZOG • MORTENSON FAMILY FOUNDATION • MPS ACADEMIC ADVOCACY GROUP • NATIONAL PARENT UNION MN • NAZARIAN FAMILY TRUST • NEW CITY SCHOOL • NEW MILLENNIUM ACADEMY • NORTHEAST COLLEGE PREP • NORTHSIDE ACHIEVEMENT ZONE • OAK GROVE FOUNDATION • PARTNERSHIP ACADEMY • PHYLLIS SALTZMAN • PHYLLIS WHEATLEY COMMUNITY CENTER • PICA/HEAD START • PIE NETWORK • PILLSBURY UNITED COMMUNITIES • PINK! • PIPER FAMILY FUND II OF THE MINNEAPOLIS FOUNDATION • PRODEO ACADEMY • PROSERVA • PROSPECT CREEK FOUNDATION • READING PARTNERS • RELAY • REX HEINEMAN • RISEN CHRIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL • SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS • SANDY VARGAS • SAUER FAMILY FOUNDATION • SERVEMN • SMIKIS FOUNDATION • SOJOURNER TRUTH • SORAN FOUNDATION • SPS COMMERCE • ST. JOHN PAUL II • SUE TALLEY • SUSAN AND RICHARD ANDERSON FAMILY FUND • TAD AND CINDY PIPER FUND OF THE MINNEAPOLIS FOUNDATION • TEACH FOR AMERICA TWIN CITIES • TEACH MN • TEN SQUARE • THE READING INSTITUTE • THINK SMALL • TNTP • TURNER FAMILY FOUNDATION • UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA • UPLIFT MN • URBAN VENTURES • US BANK • VENTURE ACADEMY • VOICES FOR RACIAL JUSTICE • WAY TO GROW • WEM FOUNDATION • WILDFLOWER MONTESSORI • WITHINSIGHT • WOLLAN AND FAN FAMILY FUND • YOUR VOTE, OUR FUTURE

Individually,
we are one drop,
but together
we are an ocean.
~ Ryunosuke Satoro



MINNEAPOLIS STUDENTS ARE OUR FUTURE LEADERS.

THEY DESERVE GREAT SCHOOLS. PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR WORK TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF GREAT SCHOOLS IN OUR CITY AND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ATTENDING THESE SCHOOLS.

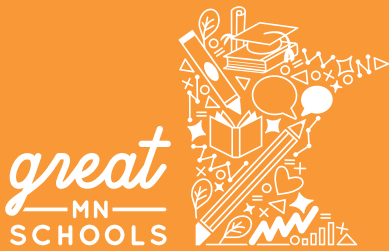
MINNEAPOLIS CAN BE A CITY WITH A THRIVING AND EQUITABLE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

While the current and long-standing racial and economic disparities in Minneapolis schools require years long systems change, your support helps us push forward the change already underway.

Sustainable change will take all of us. **Great MN Schools** is working in partnership with more than 1,000 people, schools, and organizations to **build a better education system for all children.**

PLEASE JOIN US.

Learn how by contacting:
Karn Engelsgjerd
646-652-9745
kengelsgjerd@greatmnschools.org.



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*Thank you to This Is Folly for design
and Kevin Sullivan Films for photos.*