



Minnesota Internship Center

2507 Fremont Avenue North

Minneapolis, MN 55411

Date: 2/12/2023

Attention: Whom it may concern

From: Reginal Womack, Executive Director

Tracy Eberlein , Board Chair

Subject: Letter of Support for SF620

It is with pleasure that MNIC is writing this letter of support for SF620. What we have found is that the intentionality of this bill to involve students, staff, parents and community voices, has allowed the Charter schools in the PUC portfolio to have all voices heard and have brought forth their thoughts on reforming our students' education and the measures for accountability reporting. We are in agreement that SF620 will help guide our new approach to understanding and serving our student population better.

We believe that SF620 is a reciprocal accountability effort, which is working to ensure our students, families, and communities are part of driving outcomes and holding schools accountable.

- Current compliance-based accountability entails narrow, time-based metrics of student achievement, examining age-based cohorts of students with groups and sub-groups, after-the-fact use of data, and a one-size-fits-all approach. Our students bring incredible wisdom and assets to their educational experience, and this framework allows us to focus on the tools they need to enhance these assets and continue to develop. Moreover, the current structures of accountability have perpetuated a harmful narrative that our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities are failures, without the onus being placed on the institutions that have perpetuated such harm.
- Community has been a part of this rigorous process every step of the way and it is understood that the first set of applicable schools will be held accountable by our authorizer to report on our efforts to improve outcomes for all of our students.
- Ultimately, this work bill and framework would allow for interested schools to be held accountable to a meaningful system that is relevant and responsive to who our students are and how to support their preparation for life upon graduation. Additionally, the wisdom and assets of our students, families, and communities are embedded into the foundation of the accountability measures.

The passing of SF620 would allow schools to have accountability measures in place that would allow us to respond to the needs of our students and community in a relevant way. MNIC fully supports SF620 and we are excited for the outcomes that will be achieved by implementing SF620.