

## **DREAM** Technical Academy

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To Members of the Minnesota Senate Education Policy Committee,

Service learning in schools is a powerful approach that builds on young people's optimism, energy, and insights, allowing them to apply their knowledge in meaningful, real-world contexts. Extensive research supports this method, showing that it not only enhances student achievement by deepening engagement and critical thinking but also strengthens communities through active participation and problem-solving. Our students and staff have participated in Global Youth Service Day for the past 10 years. Over the years, we have partnered with many business and organizational members to complete projects for our community. Imagine the incredible impact we could make if we had the resources to do this multiple times a year! Supporting bill SF 2019 would provide Minnesota schools like ours with the necessary funding to implement and expand service-learning programs, ensuring students have the resources and opportunities to make a lasting impact. By integrating service with learning, schools can create a dynamic, mutually beneficial experience that empowers students while addressing real societal needs. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 320-262-5641 or email me at tknick@technicalacademies.org

Sincerely,

Tammie Knick, MSW, LICSW School Social Worker