



EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS

Inspiring each student every day®

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Senator Nick Frentz
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3109
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Frentz,

As the Executive Director of Business Services for Eden Prairie Schools, I want to thank you for your continued advocacy for public education and your efforts to support communities like ours.

I am reaching out today regarding SF 2393 and the proposed changes to Minnesota's Community Solar Garden (CSG) program. While the intent of the legislation is understood, the impact of sunseting the current model has significant financial implications for public institutions — especially school districts.

At Eden Prairie Schools, we have taken a forward-looking approach to managing energy costs through **investments in LED lighting upgrades**, building automation, rooftop solar panels, and other efficiency measures. These improvements, combined with our participation in **Community Solar Gardens (CSGs)**, have helped us reduce our electricity use by nearly **4 million kilowatt-hours over the past three years**. These efforts have led to **annual savings of over \$200,000**, which translates to roughly **3 full-time teaching positions** every year. Programs like CSGs aren't just about sustainability, they are directly tied to our ability to invest in staff and student support. Sunseting this program puts those dollars, and the people they support, at risk.

If SF 2393 leads to the closure of these savings opportunities without a comparable or better model in place, districts like ours lose a critical lever to manage costs without cutting programs. And that's not just about dollars — it's about people. It's about choices between investing in students versus paying increasing energy bills.

Beyond the immediate cost, this change also sends a chilling message to school districts and other public entities considering future clean energy investments. If stable, predictable programs like CSGs can be abruptly altered, it makes it difficult to plan long-term and confidently commit to energy efficiency upgrades or renewable initiatives.

We believe there's a path forward that preserves the strengths of the current CSG model while evolving it to serve more Minnesotans equitably. We urge you to ensure that any legislative changes include a thoughtful transition and protect existing agreements for public sector participants.

Thank you for your leadership and your partnership.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Adams", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew Adams
Executive Director of Business Services
Eden Prairie Schools