

Hope
Bagosendam

Happiness
Minwaanigozi

Success
Gashkitoon



101 NE 1st NE 1st Ave., Deer River, MN 56636

March 3, 2025

To: Chair Kunesh and members of the Senate Education Finance Committee

From: Deanna Hron, Deer River Schools Community School Coordinator

Chair Kunesh and Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of to express our strong support for SF 2007. This bill makes several critical policy changes that the Minnesota Full-Service Community Schools Network has identified as necessary to realize the spirit of the original bill passed by the Minnesota Legislature in 2023. Approximately 55 schools submitted applications for the most recent state-funded FSCS grant in early 2024 and 25 were awarded. Given that districts were limited to applying for only three schools, we believe there is a stronger level of interest across the state in this evidence-based student success strategy. This current bill proposes additional funding to support and sustain approximately 60 new and existing FSCS across Minnesota with the potential to support approximately 24,000 youth and their families.

Full-Service Community Schools combine evidence driven strategies that are designed to support both student and family success. FSCS sites offer community service partnerships, family and community engagement, enriched and extended learning, and foster collaborative and community-based leadership. Effective sites serve rural, suburban, and metro areas schools across Minnesota.

Deer River is a small rural school in northern Minnesota. The district has been a full service community school for 7 years. Deer River students and families have access to many more resources. The greatest impacts have been on access to dental and vision services. Deer River Schools have built partnerships with many organizations that have increased our students' access to resources. Additional funding is needed to continue to impact students and families in Deer River.

Thank you for your consideration and support for Full-Service Community Schools, we urge you to pass SF 2007.

Sincerely,

Deanna Hron

Community School Coordinator

ISD #317

Deer River Full Service Community Schools Contact: <https://www.isd317.org/full-service-community-schools>

King: Deanna Hron dhron@isd317.org

DRHS: Kole Schultz koleschultz@isd317.org,