Cory McIntyre, Superintendent



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Senate Education Finance Committee 95 University Ave W. Saint Paul MN 55155

Dear Chair Kunesh and Members of the Committee:

The Anoka-Hennepin School District is Minnesota's largest, serving approximately 38,000 students and 253,000 residents. Spread out across 172 square miles, the district is made of 13 suburban communities. Anoka-Hennepin has 25 elementary schools, six middle schools (grades six through eight), and five traditional high schools, plus alternative middle and high school sites.

We strongly oppose the Governor's proposal to eliminate the compensatory pilot district funding put into place to direct additional compensatory revenue to correct inequities in the compensatory revenue formula compared to other similar sized school districts. The compensatory formula funds students of poverty concentrated at a school site. Anoka-Hennepin is penalized by nearly half of the funding of similar sized districts for large school building efficiencies with larger student populations resulting in lower concentrations of the 11,567 qualifying students (and more than 3000 previously identified through paper applications).

We encourage you to hold the district harmless from this proposed \$4.73 million per year cut until the compensatory revenue formula is examined by a working group to identify options for a more equitable distribution of compensatory revenue funds.

In addition, we also strongly oppose the elimination of the Alternative Teacher Compensation Revenue (Q-Comp). This revenue provides opportunities for robust professional growth in supporting student learning, while also meeting TDE statutes for teacher evaluation. The loss of this revenue will negatively impact our ability to provide meaningful growth opportunities for our educators, and further, add a disproportionate financial burden to support the annual peer review of over 1800 teachers as required by state statute.

Thank you for your leadership and please do not hesitate to contact me for further assistance on these critical issues for our district.

Sincerely,

Cory McIntyre Superintendent

Anoka-Hennepin Schools