



April 01, 2025

Senator Kunesch, Chair
Senate Education Finance Committee Members
75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Kunesch and Members:

My name is Matthew Nemitz and I am a mathematics teacher and board member at Kato Public Charter School in Mankato, MN

At this time, we should be investing more in our students, not less. We can't balance the state budget on the backs of **charter school students** and **students with disabilities**. These are public school students, and they deserve to be treated fairly with the same level of funding and support as any other student in our state.

As you consider SF2255, the Governor's proposed budget, please understand that these budget cuts will be deeply problematic to public charter school students.

Kato Public Charter School Demographics:

- KPCS 45% Special Education vs State average of 18%
- KPCS 74% Free & Reduced Lunch vs State average of 43%

As you **consider SF2255**, we respectfully urge you to protect this critical state funding for charter school students during this challenging time. Our students need your support now more than ever.

Sincerely,
Matthew Nemitz
Mathematics Teacher
Kato Public Charter School