

March 31, 2025

Senator Mary Kunesh
95 University Ave W
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3209
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Senator Kunesh,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Governor's education budget bill, Senate File 2255, specifically the proposal to eliminate the Alternative Teacher Professional Pay System, often called Q Comp. The Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) and Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT) oppose the elimination of Q Comp and encourage the committee to reject the proposal.

As required under MN Statutes 122A.414, MPS and MFT collectively bargained a plan to use Q Comp revenue to mentor new teachers and provide direct instructional support and continued professional development opportunities for all teachers. Mentorship and support of teacher development is critically important for new teacher retention; they gain the experience and skills to manage their classrooms and meet students' academic needs.

Eliminating this resource will also impact our district's ability to support the effective implementation of the READ Act. Many new teachers have not received the required literacy training as part of their undergraduate education and must juggle both taking the required training and starting a new teaching position. Having a mentor to lean on and provide coaching and support is a huge advantage during these often-challenging times.

We understand the challenge the state budget situation presents but encourage the committee to continue funding this critical lifeline for our teachers and the students they serve.

Dr. Lisa Sayles-Adams
Superintendent
Minneapolis Public Schools

Marcia Howard
Teacher Chapter President
Minneapolis Federation of Teachers