

**Sejong Academy**

Korean Immersion School

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Testimony for SF 2255

March 31, 2025:

This testimony is being submitted on behalf of Sejong Academy, a Korean immersion charter school located in Maplewood, Minnesota, which is in our 11th year of operation and currently serves 331 students in PreK-12. We serve a high-needs population, with over 81% of our students designated as low income and 62% receiving English Learner support. A majority of our students are recent refugees and immigrants originally from Myanmar.

The charter school serves a disproportionately higher percentage of at-risk students than the state average. The Governor's education finance proposal will make it even more difficult to provide the systems of support that these students need to be successful. Please do not balance the budget at the expense of at-risk students most in need of support.

The elimination of the \$132 adjusted pupil LTFM revenue, which currently may be spent on any purpose related to the general operations of the school, and the elimination of the 10% unreimbursed special education cost that is covered by the state, beginning in FY2026, will balance the budget at the expense of at-risk students most in need of support.

Thank you for receiving this testimony.

Sincerely,

Brad Tipka, Ed. D.  
Executive Director

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