

2009 LAC Annual Report

The LAC's work supports Goal 5C of the Strategic Plan



SUMMARY OF 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW OF LAC ACTIVITIES APPRECIATION AND RECOGNITION



Legislative
Action
Coalition

2009 Legislative Session



- **ECONOMIC DOWNTURN**
- **FEDERAL STIMULUS DOLLARS**
- **SESSION ENDS WITH NO CLOSURE**

2009 Legislative Session: Impact



- REDUCTION IN OPPORTUNITIES FOR E-12 STUDENTS IN THE FUTURE
- A NUMBER OF POLICY CHANGES THAT ARE MOSTLY BENEFICIAL
- STRUCTURAL BUDGET ISSUES FOR STATE NOT ADDRESSED

Legislative Priorities: Funding

Recognizing that education is an essential service, we strongly support the framework known as the New Minnesota Miracle



- 0% CHANGE TO GENERAL EDUCATION FORMULA
- SCHOOL PAYMENT SHIFT FROM 90-10 TO 73-27 IS PROBABLE
- NEW MN MIRACLE BILL NOT PASSED
- ONE TIME PER PUPIL UNIT (PPU) GENERAL EDUCATION FUNDING OF \$51 DISCONTINUED
- SCHOOLS ARE ALLOWED TO TRANSFER \$51 PPU FROM OPERATING CAPITAL TO GENERAL EDUCATION

Legislative Priorities: Early Education

Greater investment in early childhood education to increase access, quality and accountability



- NO CHANGE IN FUNDING
- QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS) ESTABLISHED
- CHANGES TO SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAMS WERE ADOPTED THAT DID NOT MANDATE PROGRAMS TO BE 12 HOURS PER WEEK

Legislative Priorities: Mobility

Legislation that addresses the issue of student mobility and its impact on education outcomes



- CONVERSATIONS WERE HELD WITH KEY LEGISLATORS REGARDING MOBILITY AND HOW TO ADDRESS ITS IMPACT ON EDUCATION OUTCOMES
- NO LEGISLATION WAS INTRODUCED THIS SESSION

Legislative Priorities: Infrastructure and Capital

Legislation that enhances the district's capital support services



- AUTHORIZES SCHOOL BOARDS TO DETERMINE THE MINIMUM ACREAGE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE A NEW SCHOOL AND RELATED FACILITIES
- RAISES THE CAP ON A SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT THAT IS SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND COMMENT FROM \$500,000 TO \$1,400,000
- RAISES REVIEW AND COMMENT CONSULT LEVEL FROM \$250,000 TO \$500,000
- SPECIFIES THAT SCHOOL BOARD RETAINS AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO RENOVATE AN EXISTING SCHOOL OR BUILD NEW REGARDLESS OF ACREAGE OR COST OF RENOVATION RELATIVE TO REPLACE

Legislative Priorities: Additional Initiatives

*Legislation that provides for targeted initiatives that benefit the learners of
Robbinsdale Area Schools*



- CHANGES WERE MADE THAT BETTER ALIGN FEDERAL AND STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION LAWS AND RULES
- CODIFIES GROWTH MODEL IMPLEMENTED BY MDE IN DECEMBER 2008
- PROVIDES 5 YEAR ALTERNATIVE FOR MATH GRAD TEST

2009 LAC Overview: Highlights



CO-CHAIRS: JON MINERS AND BRAD SCHEIB

SIX ACTION TEAMS:

- LOCAL PRESENCE AND NETWORKING
- ST. PAUL PRESENCE
- WASHINGTON PRESENCE
- COMMUNICATION AND RAPID RESPONSE
- EDUCATION
- OUTREACH

2009 LAC Overview: Accomplishments



- BI-WEEKLY AND THEN WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE VISITS
- ACTION ALERTS
- THREE EDUCATION FORUMS WERE HOSTED:
 - 1) THE NEW MINNESOTA MIRACLE:
A FUNDING PLAN FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
 - 2) EXPOSING STANDARDIZED TESTING MYTHS
 - 3) EDUCATION FUNDING 101
- ORGANIZED A “MEET AND GREET” EVENT WITH FOUR OTHER LACS
- EMERGING FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Appreciation

For extraordinary service and dedication to Robbinsdale Area Schools



- KAMI AHO
- DEBBIE FITZSIMMONS
- JON MINERS



Thank You!

Recognition



FROM REP. SANDRA PETERSON, IN THE THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009
EDITION OF THE SUN POST COMMENTING ON THE LAC:

“...These well-informed citizens truly helped shape education legislation.”

*“... Because of their dedication to obtaining adequate funding as well as
good education policy, our schools may be able to survive this huge
budget deficit in our state.”*