

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 196  
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools  
*Educating our students to reach their full potential*

**Legislative Advisory Council Meeting**

MINUTES

6–7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2017  
District Office

**Present:** Members Craig Angrimson, Derek Appleyard, Todd Cogan, Dan Frankenfeld, Carita Green, Chaz McCready, Jason Nord and Retno Saridewi-Wong; ex-official School Board member Gary Krueger; staff members Khia Brown and Steph Kass, and visitors Nicole Frovik and John Garcia.

**I. Overview of E-12 Funding and Equalization Aid**

Deb Griffiths, director of communications and community outreach with Schools for Equity in Education (SEE), presented information about SEE, an overview of state funding for E-12 education and operating levy referendums, and concluded with information on how citizens can get involved in advocating for adequate funding for education. Griffiths writes a weekly e-newsletter with legislative updates; to receive the e-newsletter, email her at [deb.griffiths@schoolsforequity.org](mailto:deb.griffiths@schoolsforequity.org).

**II. Session Update**

Griffiths gave an overview of Governor Dayton's proposed education budget. Major components of the governor's plan include increases of 2 percent and 2 percent to the general education formula allowance in each of the next two years (\$371 million); \$40 million in additional special education funding to lower the cross-subsidy by 3 percent; \$74.8 million to expand voluntary pre-K to 8,300 children in FY 2018 and 9,300 children in FY 2019; \$68.5 million for pension relief, and \$4 million for additional student support staff (e.g. chemical health, counselors).

Griffiths said she is hearing that legislators will release their spending bills by the end of the month. She is hearing support for the 2 percent/2 percent formula increases from some representatives, while others are predicting a lower formula increase with equalization funding. Griffiths also mentioned that she has heard support for a voucher system to be put into place. She said this will likely be a busy year for operating levy referendums among SEE school districts.

Griffiths encouraged citizens to continue to contact their representatives, both in-person and by e-mail, and encouraged members to follow their representative's efforts.

**III. Review and Follow-Up From Capitol Visit**

Co-chairperson Chas McCready and members Craig Angrimson, Carita Green and Retno Saridewi-Wong shared feedback from the LAC's visit to the Capitol on February 7.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**  
**6-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 12, 2017**  
**District Office**