



MN ASSOCIATION OF  
CHARTER SCHOOLS

# The Charter School Advocate

Friday, January 30, 2015

Good Afternoon,

The big political news of the week was the release of the Governor's proposed budget for the next two years. The budget proposes \$374 million in new funding for early childhood – grade 12 education. The Governor's budget provides the starting point for legislative discussions for the budget. Major action on budget items will not really move into high gear until after the next revenue forecast which is scheduled to be announced on Friday, February 27th.

## HEADLINES - WEEK OF JANUARY 26 - 30, 2015

- Governor Dayton's Education Budget Proposals
- Minnesota Charter School Law Ranks # 1 Again
- Bill Introductions on Basic School Finance
- Charter School Day at the Capitol

## GOVERNOR DAYTON'S EDUCATION BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Governor this week proposed **\$374 million in new early childhood – grade 12 funding**. His proposals for how to spend the new funding are outlined in a series of Fact Sheets published by the Governor's office.

### **K-12 Funding**

[http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education\\_overall\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education_overall_fact_sheet.pdf)

### **Achievement Gap**

**Funding** [http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education\\_achievement\\_gap\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education_achievement_gap_fact_sheet.pdf)

### **Pre-K Funding**

[http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education\\_early\\_learning\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education_early_learning_fact_sheet.pdf)

### **Healthy Kids Funding**

[http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education\\_healthy\\_kids\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.mn.gov/governor/images/education_healthy_kids_fact_sheet.pdf)

## MINNESOTA CHARTER SCHOOL LAW RANKS # 1 AGAIN

According to the National Alliance for Public Schools annual report on charter school laws, Minnesota's law has been ranked 1st in the nation for 5 of the last 6 years. To read how Minnesota's Law measures up to the Model Law:

<http://www.publiccharters.org/get-the-facts/law-database/states/MN/>

For the full report on how all states measure up to the Model Law:

[http://www.publiccharters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/model\\_law\\_2015.pdf](http://www.publiccharters.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/model_law_2015.pdf)

**Comment:** *The challenge we have as a charter school community is to live up to the ideals and the expectations outlined in the law ranked first in the nation, especially since Minnesota enacted the nation's first charter school law.*

## **BILL INTRODUCTIONS ON BASIC SCHOOL FINANCE**

Earlier this week legislators in both houses proposed bills to increase the Basic Formula Funding.

<https://mncharterschools.wordpress.com>

## **CHARTER SCHOOL DAY AT THE CAPITOL**

Charter school administrators, board members, and parents are invited to attend the **2015 Charter School Day @ the Capital** being held on **Thursday, March 5.**

In order to maintain the positive momentum of charter schools, it's important that charter school leaders connect with their local legislators. MACS takes care of setting up the meetings and you get to enjoy a day making connections!

To register your participation, click [here](#).