

Memorandum

Date: November 21, 2025
To: PELSB Board Members
From: PELSB Legislative Committee
RE: Recommended 2026 Legislative Proposals

Background:

Each year, the Board's Legislative Committee prepares recommendations on legislative priorities to be added to the Board's legislative agenda. The full list of priorities can be found in the [Board's bylaws](#).

Over the past three years, a majority of the Board's proposals have been formally adopted into law, including:

- Eliminating content and pedagogy exams for teachers who have already completed teacher preparation (Meeting the Needs of Minnesota's Students and Schools).
- Creating a heritage language licensure pathway program (Meeting the Needs of Minnesota's Students and Schools).
- Brining Minnesota into compliance with federal law requirements for special education (Meeting the Needs of Minnesota's Students and Schools).
- Securing a \$2.7 million of funding to support IT upgrades (Operational Excellence).
- Moving grants to MDE (operational excellence)

This year, the Legislative Committee met to prepare recommendations for the 2026 legislative session. In preparing recommendations, the Legislative Committee reviewed policy proposals from 2019 through 2025, recommendations from staff, and recommendations from a number of community partners.

Recommended Legislative Priorities:

REMOVING BARRIERS TO LICENSURE:

- Join the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact
- Allow enrollment in a state-approved program with equivalent student teaching for tier 2 license

MEET THE NEEDS OF MN STUDENTS:

- Support the creation of an Education Advisory Group to address AI, High School Redesign, and other future needs
- Update mental health renewal requirement ("mental illness")
- Support efforts to enhance ethics processes that protect students

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE:

- Transfer responsibility to administer the paraprofessional credential to MDE
- IT fund extension
- Revise testing accommodations in 122A.185

Options:

This is a report. Board members will be asked to vote on legislative priorities in December.