



MN ASSOCIATION OF
CHARTER SCHOOLS

Unleashing education from convention

Monday, April 5, 2021

TO: Senator Roger Chamberlain & Education Committee Members

RE: SF 960 Omnibus Education Bill

On behalf of the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools Board and members I want to express our support regarding five provisions of particular interest in SF 960.

Article 2 – Section 4 – we support redefining E-Learning days, and expanding Distance Learning Days to include health emergencies and natural disasters, and allowing school districts and charter schools the authority to define the number of days given their specific situation.

Article 2 – Sections 16 -21 – we support expanding the ability of 10th grade students to take addition PSEO classes, and the ability to take leadership roles and participate in national organizations sponsored by the student’s high school, as well as having their PSEO credits count the same as concurrent credits. All of these provisions will enhance opportunities for students.

Article 2 -Section 30 – we support redesigning the charter school authorizers corrective action process so that the authorizer, not the charter school is penalized when the authorizer does not take action to improve its procedures based on the MN Authorizer Performance Evaluation System.

Article 4 – Section 3 – we support doing everything that can be done to streamline access and reimbursement for behavioral health services for children with an IEP as the third-party billing of special education services can provide needed financial resources to cover special education costs.

Article 5 – Section 3. Subd.7 - we support the provision to provide \$37 per pupil in Safe School Aid for charter school students in FY 22 and 23 and \$46 in FY 24 and beyond, as this revenue will help provide needed services for our students.

Again, we support and appreciate these provisions being included in the Senate Omnibus Education Bill. We hope that these provisions will be in the final Education Omnibus bill when the legislative process is completed in May.

Sincerely,

Eugene Piccolo
Executive Director