



Agency Overview

January 10, 2022 | House Education Policy Committee

A grayscale background image showing a group of diverse graduates in caps and gowns, smiling and celebrating. The image is slightly faded to allow the text to stand out.

Ten Minnesota Commitments to Equity

1. Prioritize equity.
2. Start from within.
3. Measure what matters.
4. Go local.
5. Follow the money.
6. Start early.
7. Monitor implementation of standards.
8. Value people.
9. Improve conditions for learning.
10. Give students options.

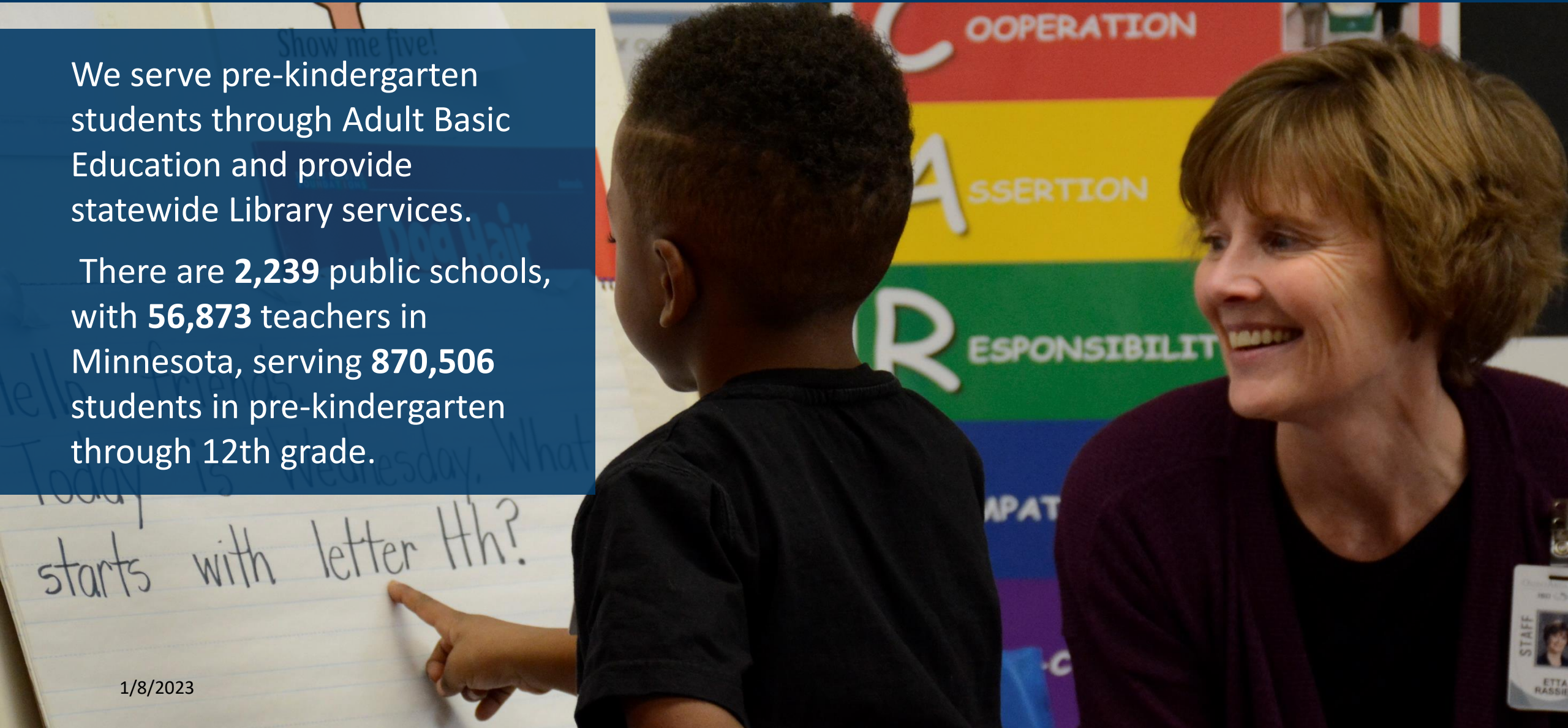


One Minnesota Vision: To make Minnesota the best state in the country for children to grow up in – those of all races, ethnicities, religions, economic statuses, gender identities, sexual orientations, (dis)abilities, and zip codes.

Who do we serve?

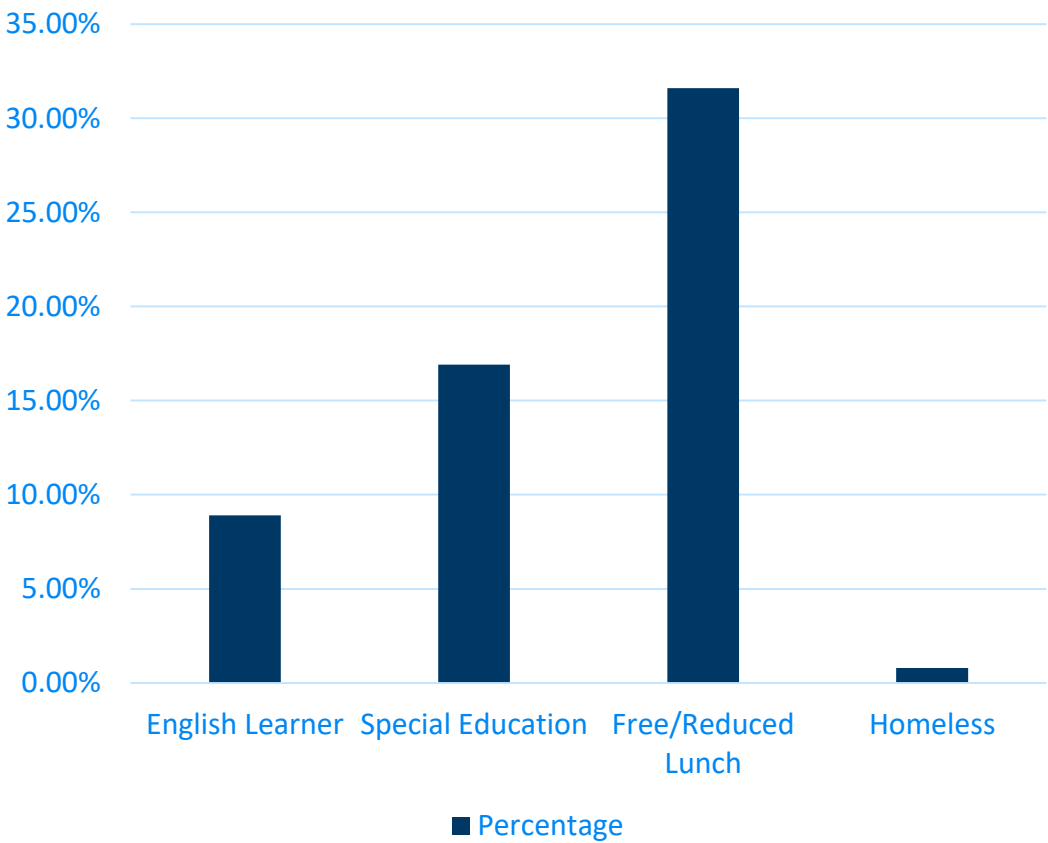
We serve pre-kindergarten students through Adult Basic Education and provide statewide Library services.

There are **2,239** public schools, with **56,873** teachers in Minnesota, serving **870,506** students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

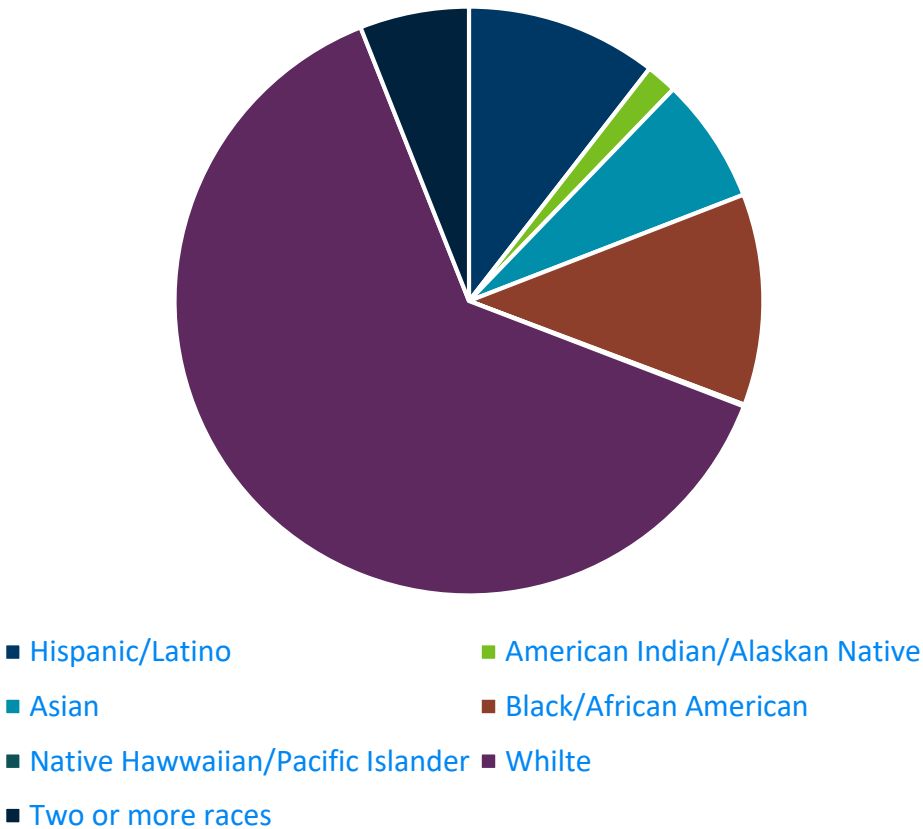


Students we serve

Student Enrollment



Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

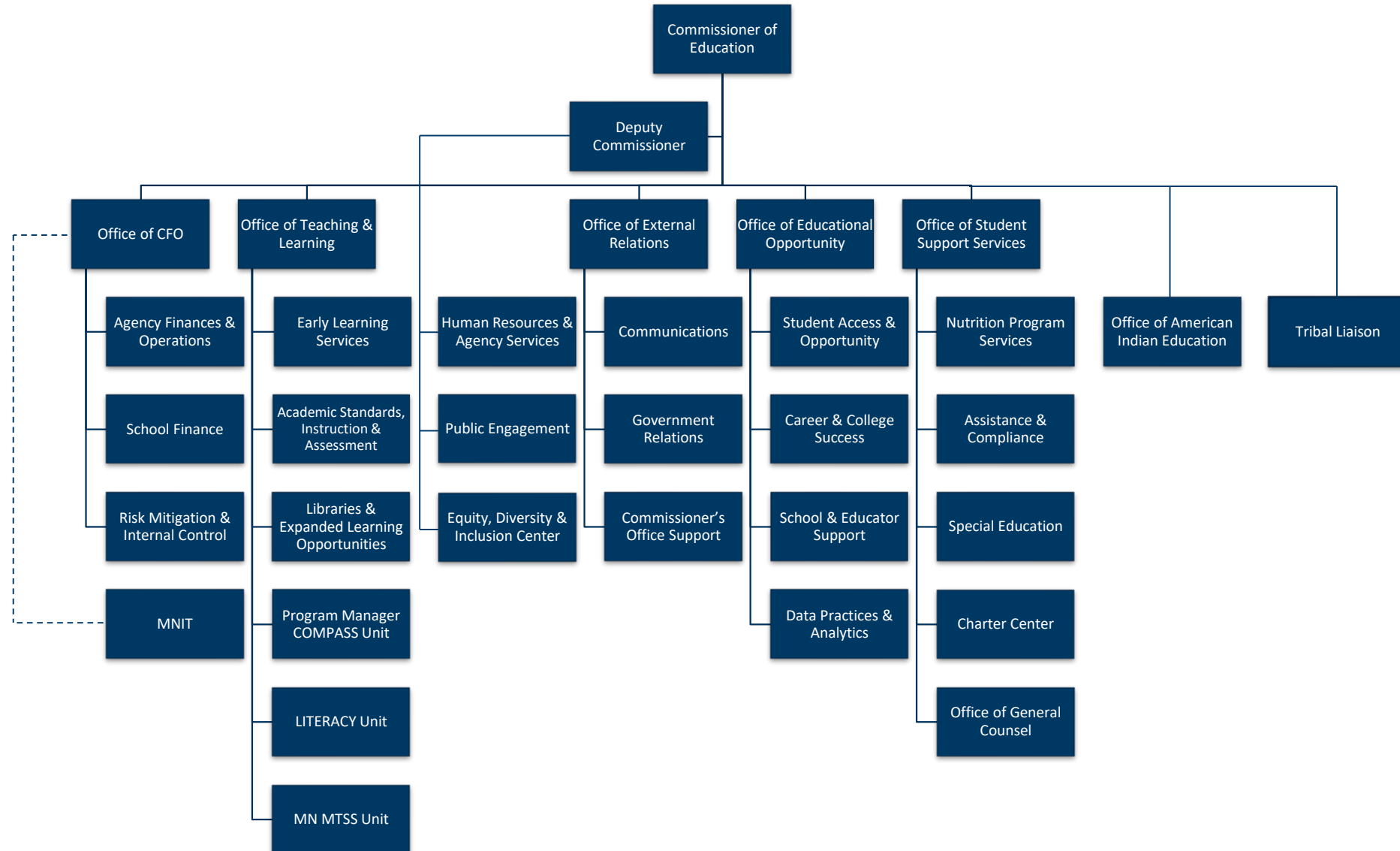


MDE's Support and Services

- Provide support and leadership for, and partnership with, local education agencies and organizations
- Develop and provide tools and resources for students, educators, and families.
- Provide professional development and technical assistance to teachers and school leaders.
- Provide support and assistance to families.
- Distribute State and federal school aid and grants.
- Collect and analyze data.
- Oversee state and federal accountability.
- Provide state and federal compliance and regulatory responsibility.
- Implement laws, programs and guidance to educators.



Minnesota Department of Education





Who are we and
what do we do?

- Office of American Indian Education
- Office of Deputy Commissioner
- Office of External Relations
- Office of Teaching and Learning
- Office of Educational Opportunity
- Office of Student Support Services
- Office of Chief Financial Officer

Office of American Indian Education

- The Office of American Indian Education has six staff who serve the 26,974 American Indian students in the state, as well as their families, teachers, administrators and superintendents.
- The Office provides resources, guidance and assistance to districts, charter and tribal schools, American Indian parent Advisory Committees, American Indian Education constituents, tribal nations, and the Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC), and the Minnesota Department of Education as a whole.
- Under the Indian Education Act of 1988, the Office directly serves 229 districts in the state with more than 10 American Indian students, but provides support to any district as requested.

Office of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Stephanie Burrage

- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Center
- Public Engagement Division
- Human Resources

Mission and Work

Our mission is to advance the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion to create the conditions for building authentic cross-cultural communities where harm is eliminated and every person's humanity is acknowledged and valued.

Our work is to provide EDI professional learning to agency staff and leadership and to schools and community groups; lead and manage Affirmative Action responsibilities; partner with Human Resources on diversity and inclusion; provide implementation strategies of EDI principles and programs; and offer technical support and equity reviews to external partners.

School Climate Center

The Center oversees work in social-emotional learning, school mental health services, discipline policy, restorative practices, bullying prevention, School Climate Transformation Grant, and the Project AWARE grant.

Achievement and Integration

The purpose of the Achievement and Integration (A&I) for Minnesota program is to pursue racial and economic integration, increase student achievement, create equitable educational opportunities, and reduce academic disparities based on students' diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds in Minnesota public schools.

Public Engagement is the division responsible for facilitating direct outreach and engagement with students, families, and their broader communities to achieve the following goals:

- Improving access to important information about public education policies, programs, and services
- Facilitating community-driven communication processes and practices that emphasize community voice, inclusion, and well-being
- Supporting public engagement initiatives across the agency to build shared understanding and partnership.

Office of External Relations

- Communications
- Government Relations
- Commissioner's Office Support

Office of Teaching and Learning

Assistant Commissioner Bobbie Burnham

- Early Learning Services
- Academic Standards, Assessments, and Instruction Division
- State Library Services and Out-of-School Opportunities
- COMPASS/MnMTSS Unit
- MDE Literacy Unit

- **Early Childhood Indicators of Progress** – Minnesota's Early Learning Standards
- **Early learning programs** supported by MDE and their funding
 - Early Childhood Screening
 - School Readiness
 - Early Childhood and Family Education (ECFE)
 - Head Start and Early Head start
 - Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)
 - School Readiness Plus (SRP)
 - Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)
 - Early Learning Scholarships
 - Preschool Development Grant

Academic Standards, Assessments and Instruction Division

Office of Teaching and Learning

Academic Standards: review, revise, and implement K-12 Academic Standards in arts, science, English language arts, social studies, math, physical education. Provide implementation training, professional guidance, and assistance to support teachers.

Instruction: provide guidance and tools for Gifted and Talented and Enrichment, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), Computer Science, Environmental and Outdoor Learning, and Turnaround Arts. Also implement Federal Grants to improve instruction programs in gifted and talented and student support and academic enrichment. Staff runs reward or recognition programs for schools and students.

Student Assessments: lead a collaborative process with Minnesota educators to develop standardized Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) and Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS). Send Minnesota educators to national consortium to weigh in on development of English learner assessments: the Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State (ACCESS) and Alternate ACCESS for English Language Learners

State Library Services and Out-of-School Opportunities Division

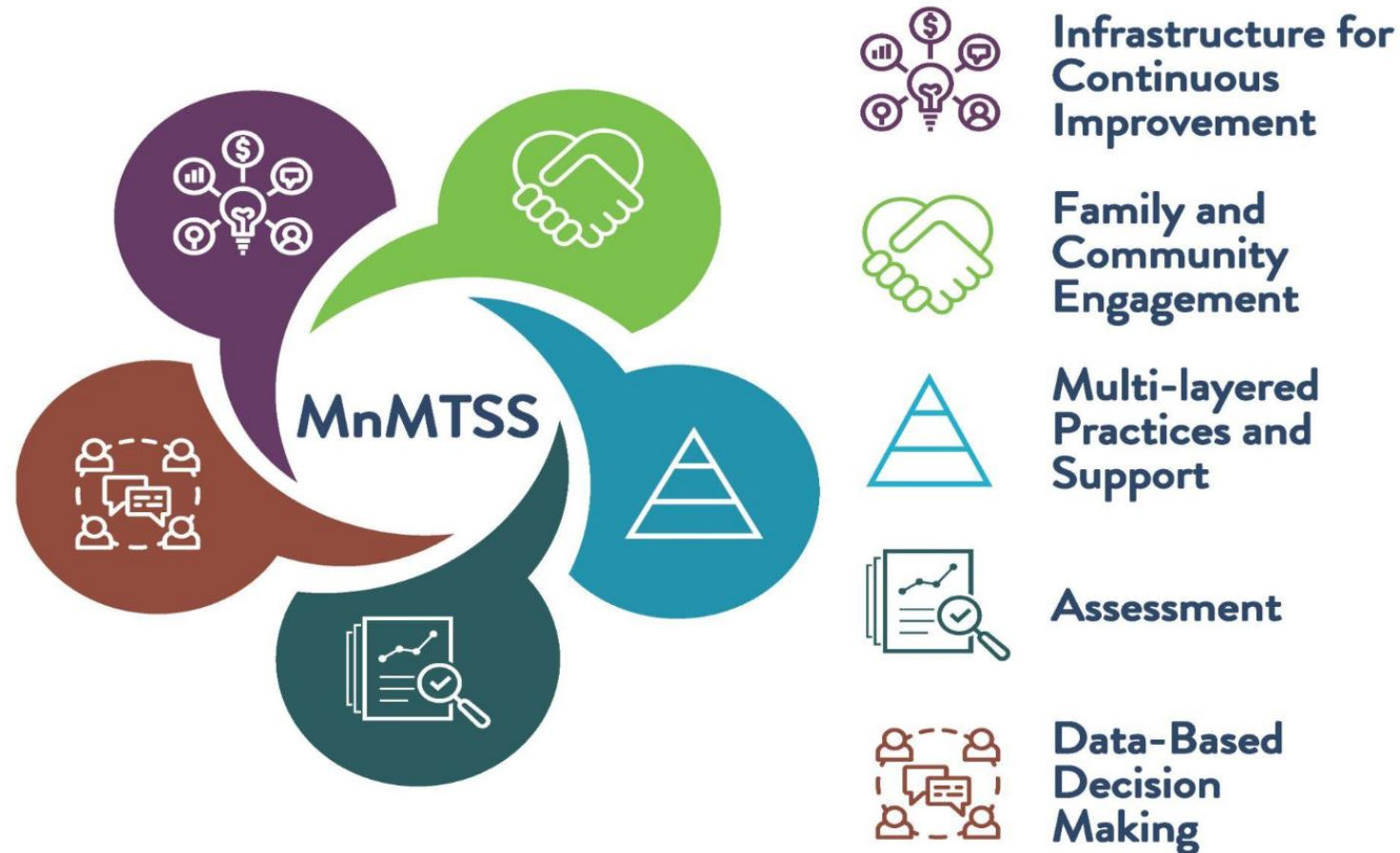
Office of Teaching and Learning

State Library Programs: oversight and management of Regional Library Basic System Support; Regional Library Telecommunications Aid; Multi-County Multi-Type Aid; Library Construction Grant Program; Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Libraries; Electronic Library for Minnesota; and Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library.

Federal Library Programs: distribute and support federal grant opportunities for services like interlibrary loan and Braille and Talking Book Library; innovative library programs at school, public, and academic local libraries; and initiatives to increase equity, diversity and inclusion in libraries and library services

Out-of-School Opportunities: oversees distribution and implementation of 21st Century Learning Center Federal Grants; At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program; and ARPA federal after-school and summer programming and grants.

Minnesota Multi-tiered System of Supports



- Minnesota BOLD: A Birth – Grade 12 Action Plan for Literacy Achievement
 - A Roadmap for Minnesota to Improve Literacy Outcomes by 2027
- MnMTSS supports based in the science of reading (SOR) and COMPASS Literacy Pathway
- Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board partnership
- Federal grants: Striving Reader Comprehensive Literacy & Comprehensive Literacy State Development
- LETRS teacher training
- Dyslexia support: screening, Read Well by Third Grade, and local literacy plans

Office of Educational Opportunity

Assistant Commissioner Stephanie Graff

- Student Access and Opportunity Division
- Career and College Success Division
- School and Educator Support Division
- Data Practices and Analytics Division

Student Access and Opportunity Division

Office of Educational Opportunity

State Programs include World's Best Workforce and Multilingual Learner Education (Learning English for Academic Proficiency and Success (LEAPS), World Language Education, State English Learner (EL) Program, and Community Engagement on Implementation of LEAPS Act)

Federal Programs include oversight implementation assistance for eight federal programs in Title I, II, III, IV, V, and IV; Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability and Reporting; and Federal COVID Stimulus Education Funding for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER).

Career and College Success Division

Office of Educational Opportunity

Career Development and Technical Education

- Career and college readiness
- Career and technical education
- Work-based learning

High School to Post-secondary Initiatives

- Alternative learning programs
- Dual credit programs
- Online learning programs
- Minnesota Career Information Systems (MCIS)

Adult Basic Education

- Adult literacy instruction
- Adult secondary credential options
- Adult career pathway programming

School and Educator Support Division

Office of Educational Opportunity

School Improvement Unit

- Supports for schools identified for improvement in Minneapolis Public Schools and St. Paul Public Schools
- Full-service community schools
- Family engagement supports
- English learner programming supports
- Minnesota Early Indicator and Response System 2.0

Regional Centers of Excellence

- Direct supports for schools identified for improvement under the Every Student Succeeds Act
- Principal leadership specialists
- School climate specialists

Educator Effectiveness Unit

- Alternative Teacher Professional Pay System (Q Comp)
- Teacher and Principal Development and Evaluation
- Equitable access to diverse and effective educators
- School leader coaching and support

Data Practices and Analytics Division

Office of Educational Opportunity

Data Collections and Systems: Disciplinary Incident Reporting System (DIRS), Minnesota Common Course Catalogue (MCCC), Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDs), Minnesota Student Survey (MSS)

Data Reporting and Analysis: Provide data analysis to answer key questions and drive decisions, respond to internal and external data requests, and support the public reporting of data to meet state and federal requirements.

Data Practices and Governance: Oversee the agency wide structures and processes for data governance to ensure data are consistent, trustworthy, and used as intended, including adherence to state and federal data protection requirements.

Technology modernization project with MN.IT (Ed-Fi): Changing the way most student-level data are collected, managed and reported

Office of Student Support Services

Assistant Commissioner Daron Korte, J.D.

- Assistance and Compliance Division
- Nutrition Program Services
- Special Education Division
- Charter Center
- Office of the General Counsel

Assistance and Compliance Division

Office of Student Support Services

Special Education Program Monitoring: Ensures general compliance and continuous improvement in the implementation of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and state special education statutes. Offers online training opportunities, including navigating individualized education program (IEP) goals and objectives, progress reporting, and prior written notices.

Special Education Fiscal Monitoring: Provides oversight of special education formula grants to ensure compliance. Risk analysis, desk reviews, on-site reviews, and the Minnesota Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process (MnCIMP).

Special Education Due Process and Dispute Resolution: Administers the special education alternative dispute resolution, complaint, and hearing systems to provide support to parents, districts, and charter schools when special education conflicts arise. Facilitates the State Restrictive Procedures Workgroup.

Student Maltreatment Program: Assesses and investigates reports of alleged physical abuse, neglect or sexual abuse of students that occurs in Minnesota public schools and charter schools.

Nutrition Program Services

Office of Student Support Services

School Nutrition Programs: National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and After School Care Program.

Community Nutrition Programs:

- Provides payments for meals and snacks served at Adult Care Centers, Child Care Centers, Day Care Homes, At-Risk Afterschool Care Centers and Emergency Shelters
- Provides cash reimbursement to sponsoring schools and non-profit organizations that serve nutritious meals and snacks at sites for meals served to children, age 18 and under, when school is not in session

Food Distribution Program: Distributes U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Commodity Foods to Minnesota schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Milk Programs: Special Milk Program (SMK) and The Minnesota Kindergarten Milk Program

Team Nutrition: Provides training and technical assistance to food service staff, nutrition education for children and their caregivers, and school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity

- Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS)
- Assistive Technology
- Care and Treatment Education Programs
- Categorical Disabilities
- Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS)
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Recruitment and Retention of Special Educators
- Secondary Transition
- Third Party Reimbursement

- Provides leadership, support, training, technical assistance, resources, and oversight to promote high-quality charter schools and authorizer excellence under Minnesota's charter school law
- Conducts evaluation and approval processes; provides consultation, training and technical assistance to charter schools and authorizers; and develops resources to foster a strong state chartering environment.
- Manages the federal Charter School Program grant, currently funded at \$38.5 million over five years, to increase the number of high-quality charter schools in the state
- Promotes opportunities for charter schools to implement high-quality early learning instructional programs

- Provides in-house legal advice to the MDE Commissioner, Cabinet, and staff
- Primary liaison with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office who represents the agency in litigation
- Data Practices
- Rulemaking

Office of Chief Financial Officer

Chief Financial Officer Denise Anderson

- School Finance Division
- Agency Finance Division
- Risk Mitigation and Internal Control
- MN.IT @ MDE

School Finance Division

Office of Chief Financial Officer

- Administer the state's E-12 school finance system
 - State and Federal school aid payments
 - Support State Policymakers
 - Fiscal Analysis and Budget Forecasts
 - Property Tax levy limitations
- Data/Education Funding
 - Student and School Data Collection
 - Aid entitlements and levies
- Financial Management to local education agencies
 - Audits
 - Uniform Financial Accounting and Report Standards (UFARS)
 - Technical Assistance
- School Facilities
- Pupil Transportation

Agency Finance Division

Office of Chief Financial Officer

- Budget Coordination and Development
 - Biennial, Supplemental, Annual and Capital Budget
- Financial Accounting and Reporting
 - State and Federal
- Grant Management and Administration
- Federal Funds Management
- Accounting Operations
 - Procurement and Contracts
 - Accounts Payable and Receivable
 - Payroll
- Risk Mitigation and Internal Controls

Business Priority Projects (FY23)

- P-EBT 4.0
- Crystal Server Reporting Replacement
- SERVS Financial Payment Process and Grant Management Rewrite
- American Indian State Definition
- Direct Certification FDPIR

Technical Strategy Activities (FY23)

- Azure Cloud Migration
- Data Governance/Business Intelligence
- Project to Product Early Adopters
- Infrastructure Improvements

Thank you!

Questions?