

Local Public Schools Need Your Help!

Changes to the state special education funding formula have left school districts around the state out in the cold. If the formula isn't fixed, school districts like Monticello could see long-term ramifications further down the road. Monticello is currently working with other districts around the state to persuade government to change the formula, which includes a growth cap limit that disproportionately impacts districts with strong special education programs. We ask the public to help us effect change to find a funding formula that works for all school districts in Minnesota.

It is our belief that **the public will be the catalyst to make the change happen.** We implore residents from Monticello School District and surrounding areas to contact their legislators to explain that a funding formula that punishes schools for strong special education programs is not fair. Change is possible, but it must start with the people. Phone calls, emails and letters can get the ball rolling. Make your voice heard. Join the Monticello School District and local unions. Stand up for our students. Stand up for our staff. Stand up for special education. And stand up for our future.

When you leave here tonight, between now and Monday, we ask that you invest in this effort with us by invoking the "Power of Five." Whether by phone, by email, or mail, we ask that you reach out to two legislators. In addition, please share this message with three family members, friends, or neighbors. A video recording of tonight's forum will be available on the Monticello School District website. Share the video, share the message, encourage others to do the same.

Together, we can create change. Together, we can do better by school districts around the state. Together, we can make a better future.

