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**MACTE December 2025 Newsletter**

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# December 2025 Newsletter

The Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (MACTE) publishes a newsletter monthly during the academic year. MACTE members with information or opportunities of interest to the broader teacher education community are invited to submit items for the newsletter. Please contact [mactecommunication@gmail.com](mailto:mactecommunication@gmail.com) for more information.

## MACTE Updates

### Winter Virtual Conference: Registration and Request for Presentations Now Open

MACTE's [Winter Conference will take place virtually on Friday, February 6, 2026](#). Registration is now open.

Please consider presenting at the conference. Presentation proposals covering all topics related to teacher preparation are welcome. The membership has expressed a special interest in presentations about the use of AI in teacher preparation.

## Submit a Winter Proposal

### Save the Date! Spring Virtual Conference

MACTE's [Spring Conference is scheduled for April 10, 2026](#). We are actively seeking proposals for the [April conference](#). We look forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

### MACTE/ServeMinnesota Reading Methods Teaching Materials Updates

Over the past three years, MACTE has partnered with ServeMinnesota to provide materials to support instruction in reading methods courses to MACTE teacher educators. The materials include classroom videos and sample curriculum featuring [Bridge2Read](#), a free, foundational literacy curriculum created by ServeMinnesota.

Because Bridge2Read has undergone some recent revision, the materials available for our reading methods courses have also been updated. **The links to current materials will become inactive in January.** Be sure to update your syllabi to reflect the new materials before spring semester.

The materials are available on [the MACTE website](#). [Information about obtaining the password](#) for the classroom videos can also be found on the MACTE website.

### Career Events for Educators in 2026!

MNSchoolJobs.org is hosting four educator career events that give new and experienced teachers direct access to Minnesota school districts through three virtual job fairs and one in-person expo. Encourage your current, former, and prospective students to attend. We are also providing complimentary booth space for Units to participate. Reconnect and strengthen support for your former, current, and prospective students.

#### Career Fairs for Teacher Candidates

Teacher candidates can meet with administrators from districts and charter schools at three virtual events, Feb. 26th, Apr. 9th, and May 7th, and the in-person Educator Career Expo on Mar. 31st.

- Teacher Candidates, visit <https://mnschooljobs.org/job-fairs>.
- Download a flyer for students at <https://mnschooljobs.org/MACTEFlyer.pdf>.

### **For TPPs! Recruit Prospective Teacher Candidates**

Institutions can host a custom booth to share about their programs. About 50% of attendees have attained a Bachelor's as their highest degree. Use these events to meet potential students who are curious about graduate programs. You can also receive live referrals from your district partners who will be at the event to recruit candidates.

PELSB-approved units and programs pay no registration fee (\$0). Sponsorship options are available for greater visibility.

- Program Leaders and Administrators visit <https://mnschooljobs.org/job-fairs/higher-ed/>.
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## **Legislative Updates**

### **Looking Ahead to the 2026 Sessions**

Minnesota's budget remains stable for the current biennium with a projected \$2.465 billion surplus, driven by strong revenue collections and a \$3.771 billion reserve. However, due to rising healthcare costs and slower economic growth, the state now forecasts a \$2.960 billion deficit for FY 2028-29 that the legislature will need to address. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

The 2026 Minnesota legislative session is scheduled to begin on February 17, 2026, and must adjourn by May 18, 2026. The DFL holds a narrow one-seat majority in the Senate (34-33), while the House is evenly split (67-67). Because 2026 is an even-numbered year, the session will primarily focus on a capital investment bonding bill for public works projects and adjustments to the existing two-year budget.

Recent state budget reports show that while Minnesota has made teacher recruitment programs permanent in state law, it has also scheduled significant funding cuts to those same programs. These cuts were included in the 2025 education bills to help manage the state's long-term deficit. The Grow Your

Own grant annual budget will drop by \$8 million (down to \$17 million per year) starting in July 2025. The Special Education Teacher Pathway (formerly Pipeline) had \$0 in FY26 funding and a \$10 million base for FY27. The Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship program funding will decrease to \$3.5 million per year (it was \$10 million).

Links for more information:

- [K12 Bill Summary for H.F. 5](#)
- [Higher Education Bill Summary \(HF 4027/SF 4034\)](#)
- [FY26-27 Governor's Budget Recommendations](#)

We will continue to advocate for sustained investment in our teacher workforce. [MACTE's ongoing priorities include](#) protecting funding for teacher preparation, maintaining high-quality and clear standards, and enhancing reading instruction across all preparation programs.

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## AACTE Updates

### **Freeman A. Hrabowski III Announced as Opening Keynote Speaker for AACTE 2026**

AACTE announces Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, Ph.D., president emeritus of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) and one of the nation's most influential voices in education, will deliver the [Opening Keynote Address](#) on Friday, February 20, at AACTE 2026, in New Orleans.

A national leader in advancing student achievement, Hrabowski has spent decades transforming access to science and math education, with a special emphasis on minority participation and performance. He chaired the National Academies' committee responsible for the landmark 2011 report, *Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads*. In 2012, President Barack Obama appointed him chair of the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans. His widely viewed 2013 TED talk highlights the "Four Pillars of College Success in Science."

## **Department of Education Dismantling Harms Students, Families, and Public Education**

The announcement that the Administration will transfer the management and oversight of billions of dollars in federal K-12 and higher education grants to the Department of Labor and other agencies was made with no consideration for what is in the best interest of students, families, schools, or communities.

This shift will have serious consequences, including:

- Destabilizing essential funding for low-income schools, educator preparation, services to English language learners, supports for low-income college students, and much more.
- Creating more bureaucracy, not less. Front-line program staff will be scattered across multiple federal agencies, while political appointees will remain at the Department of Education to preserve a façade of legal compliance with the law.
- Eliminating vital education expertise. Agencies such as the Department of Labor lack the deep, field-based knowledge required to administer education programs. This move will inevitably diminish the experienced federal workforce that schools, colleges, and grantees rely on daily.

This brazen move, made with no input from Congress, does not “return education to the states” since the programs the Department of Education administers cannot be eliminated without Congressional action. The programs will remain, but with weakened support, more red tape, and reduced effectiveness for schools, colleges, and ultimately, American taxpayers. Most importantly, America’s students will be harmed as vital services will be delayed, interrupted, or diminished — a fact that seemed to have been disregarded in this decision. [Read more](#).

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## **PELSB Updates**

### **PELSB Board Approves Two New Resolutions**

At the November PELSB Board Meeting, the Board adopted two new resolutions aimed at strengthening Minnesota’s educator workforce. The first

resolution [expands Tier 2 eligibility requirements for Career and Technical Education \(CTE\) teacher candidates](#) enrolled in teacher preparation programs. The second [waives clock hour limits for cooperating teachers who host teacher candidates](#), further supporting meaningful clinical experiences.

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## Resources & Opportunities

### **Join MNEEP on January 23rd: Push Back/Push Forward for Racial Equity in Education**

You're invited to join Minnesota Education Equity Partnership (MnEEP) and their partners across K-12, higher education, nonprofit, parent, student, and racial justice communities for [Push Back / Push Forward for Racial Equity in Education](#)—a virtual event to celebrate the collective work and deepen the shared power, meaningful relationships, and solidarity we need to push back against injustice in education and push forward toward the racially just public education system every student deserves.

### **Upcoming RTAP Seminar for Teacher Preparation Providers**

The Minnesota Dept. of Labor and Industry (DLI), Minnesota Dept. of Education (MDE), and the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) are excited to host a Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program (RTAP) Seminar designed for teacher preparation providers who are currently offering, planning to offer, or exploring related technical instruction (RTI). This half-day session will feature expert guidance, practical insights, and opportunities to connect with colleagues across Minnesota.

Topics include:

- Best practices for delivering RTI from DLI, MDE, and PELSB
- Lessons learned from TPPs starting and sustaining RTAPs
- Strategies for collaborating effectively with apprenticeship sponsors
- Tips for maximizing the Proserva platform
- Networking with RTAP partners statewide

**Event Details:**

Date: February 4, 2026

Time: 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Location: Minnesota Department of Education, 400 Stinson Blvd NE,  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Format: In-person and virtual options available (in-person encouraged)

RSVP: [Please register](#) by January 28, 2026

Please reach out to Emily Busta ([emily.busta@state.mn.us](mailto:emily.busta@state.mn.us)) with any questions about the event.

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