Sustaining Promise Neighborhoods through Policy and Systems Change

Minnesota’s Story
Result 7: SPPN Parents and Partners have the power to influence public decisionmaking that impact our lives.
Principles of Engagement & Community Building

Threaded throughout every aspect of SPPN:

- Children first
- Parent power
- Value all voices
- Build community
- Invest for results
- Transparency
- Cultural responsiveness
2013-2014 Legislative Session

State House
134
73 D
61 R

State Senate
39 D
28 R

Governor Dayton

$825 million budget surplus
SPPN Partners at the Capitol last year
*Finalist for the Anti-Racism Award from the Minnesota Council on Nonprofits for “changing the face of public policy at the Capitol”
Outcome:
2013-2014 Legislative Session

$350k for FY2015
$200k in the base (on-going)

Representative Mullery
Senator Champion

$350k for FY2015
$200k in the base (on-going)

Representative Moran
Senator Pappas
2015 Promise Agenda

**Education**

1) **Education Partnership Fund**: Establish Cradle-to-Career initiatives statewide, secure state appropriation

2) **Early Access to All**: Increase access to early learning scholarships

**Family/Community Wraparound**

3) **Homes for All**: Secure and increase funding for continuation of pilot rental assistance program
Legislative Context:
2014 MN State House Elections

2013-2014:
- 73 D
- 61 R

2014-2015:
- 62 D
- 72 R
$1+ billion budget surplus
New realities, new partners

Political considerations

- Geography
  - Urban/rural divide
- Party affiliation
- Party leadership

Coalition considerations

- Congruent with Cradle-to-Career model legislation
- Some proof points or results-stories
- Willingness to put “all hands on deck”
Promise Neighborhoods

- Northside Achievement Zone, Minneapolis
- Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood

Strive

- Every Hand Joins, Red Wing
- Northfield Promise
- Partner for Student Success, Saint Cloud

Supporting Partners

*Growth & Justice  
*Wilder Foundation
Getting the Education Partnerships Fund Coalition Organized
Bill authors

HOUSE

Representative Kelly (R)
Minority Leader Thissen (D)
Representative Mariani (D)
Representative Moran (D)

SENATE

Senator Pappas (D)
Senator Dahle (D)
Senator Schhmit (D)
Senator Peterson (R)
Working our Case
HF1676, SF1276 - Educational Partnerships Fund

Local partnerships
Support local partnerships and infrastructure needed to sustain and scale up proven and effective solutions.

Holistic approach
Integrate programming and remove barriers across sectors and agencies to maximize efficiency.

Continuous support
Build a continuum of effective educational, family and community supports for all youth, with great schools at the center.

Results-driven
Track key indicators, based on community needs, measure and monitor and evaluate outcomes.

Establishing a statewide network of comprehensive educational partnerships that emphasizes local solutions and results-based accountability to close the opportunity gap.

A smart state Investment, supporting local communities.

Local partnerships are eligible to receive funding based on three stages of development:

Tier 1: Community planning
For initial planning and early stage development.

Tier 2: Capacity-building
For partnerships ready to implement, improve, and grow their impact.

Tier 3: Sustaining
For ongoing operation, stability, and expansion of mature educational partnership program locations.

Collective Goals:
Develop Human Capital and Workforce Talent
All children are ready for school.
All third-graders can read at grade level.
All racial & economic achievement gaps between students are closed.
All students are ready for career and college.
All students graduate from high school.
Passing through Committees
Win or Lose, A Team Spirit
## What does losing look like?

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VETO!!!
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Onward!
The mission of the Educational Partnerships Coalition is to drive change and deliver results for the children of Minnesota so that they will be prepared for academic and lifelong success.

In order to deliver on this promise, the Coalition will also focus on the expansion of State funding in order to continue its work by:

- working toward a unified policy approach,
- building a statewide political base,
- sharing best practices in our work, and
- working effectively with state funding partners.
Results: 2015 Promise Agenda

Education

1) **Education Partnership Fund**: Establish Cradle-to-Career initiatives statewide, secure state appropriation. $5.8m statewide, no policy

2) **Early Access to All**: Increase access to early learning scholarships. $48m statewide increase

Family/Community Wraparound

3) **Homes for All**: Secure and increase funding for continuation of pilot rental assistance program. $2m statewide increase
A House resolution

honoring the parents of the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood

WHEREAS, during the 2015 legislative session, parents representing the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood came into the Capitol for the first time, venturing into the unknown with curiosity and possibility; and

WHEREAS, they met with Representative Rena Moran, talked with her, and said yes to learning the political process at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, they attended committee hearings, followed bills, testified in committee, and shadowed their representative for a day; and

WHEREAS, they came together as a group to report back and discuss what they learned, and they took time to reflect on how the Capitol intersects with their lives in the community; and

WHEREAS, they worked on several Promise Neighborhood bills, becoming the voice that is so needed by communities of color in order to make government work; and

WHEREAS, they took steps necessary to learn and navigate the state system at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, they used the 2015 legislative session to reclaim parent power in public decision making and to advance the belief that parents are the first teachers and greatest assets in their children's lives; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration of the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota that it congratulates the parents of the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood for beginning their journey in understanding their power as parents and constituents in state-level decision-making, developing legislative advocacy skills, and helping to change the state of Minnesota for the better.
By the numbers

- Over 85 visits in house, senate, governor office, MN Department of Education
- 9 testimonies in the House and Senate
- 43 partners engaged in legislative process
- 82 parents engaged in legislative process