



# **2022 School Leadership Conference**



# Housekeeping and other stuff

- Conference resource page – the place to find it all
  - Shared google doc – thoughts, questions, ideas
- Board members and staff
- Wifi – Rutgers Wireless
  - Password -
- Restrooms
- Sponsors
- Meet someone new
- Enjoy being away from the fray



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## Bag Sponsor



**CARE**  
COUNSELING

# Who's here?

- Name
- Position – School/Org. – Location
- One word to describe the first month of school (it's ok to repeat)



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# *In Memory of Jim Field*

**Minnesota Independent School Forum**  
*President and President Emeritus (1989 to 2015)*



Jim's guiding mantra was always **"It's About Kids."** That inspired his fierce determination to ensure the needs of students, families, educators and leaders in private and independent schools were known, heard and respected. **A champion for private and independent education**

*We stand on the shoulders of your legacy!*





# 2022 LEADERSHIP AWARD



**Carrie Hackman**  
**St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School**



# 2022 LEADERSHIP AWARD



**Kelby Woodard**  
**Saint Thomas Academy**



# By the Numbers

- Nearly 70,000 students attend a private or independent school (+6.5% since 19/20)
- One school in six is a private or independent school
- One student in thirteen attends a private or independent school
- Average size = 155 students
- Median size = 105 students
- Growth in all grades in 21/22– largest in K-3



# By the Numbers - membership

- 170 member schools – enrolling nearly 40,000 students
  - Retention 98% last year – still in process this year
  - 12.5% growth since June 2020
- 60% metro/40% outside metro
- Caledonia – Edgerton – Thief River Falls - Virginia
- Enrollment 15 to 1200 students



# It can get confusing...

- Southwest Christian...Southwest Minnesota Christian
- Holy...Family, Spirit, Name, Trinity
- Legacy Christian...Heritage Christian...Christian Heritage
- St. Peter...St. Paul...Sts. Peter and Paul
- Joseph x 4...Mary x 5...John's x 12



# Issues

- Legislative dysfunction
  - One of two divided in the nation
  - LOTS of \$\$\$\$ floating around
- Nursing, counseling, busing...oh my
- Advocate for...defend against
- Serve as a “check”
- New \$\$ - Title IIA funding for statewide activities
- Bank of advocates and supporters



# Issues – Part 2

- ESSER...EANS I...EANS II...EANS III
  - Deadlines
    - EANS I – 9/30/23
    - EANS II – 9/30/24 – small group, high FRL, no PPP
    - EANS III – 9/30/24 – rest of schools, total enrollment, no PPP restrictions, avg. \$300/student – deadline to apply 9/30/22
  - Categories
    - Mental health services to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic
    - Professional development assist staff in addressing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic
    - Partnership with college education departments to develop educator training programs
    - Counseling of K-6 grades to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic
    - Resources to help nonpublic schools further research test/assessment data in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on students' learning loss





**Questions? Comments?  
Thoughts?**



# What's in the inbox today?



# Can they do that?!

Q: Good Morning! I am not sure who to go to with this question. At all the Catholic schools I have been a part of, the public schools have allowed our students to participate in their Middle School athletics. Especially if it is a sport that we do not offer at our school. I was just told by the ... District that our students are NOT allowed to play on their Middle School/High School sports teams. That only public, charter and homeschooled students are allowed.

Do you know if this is a choice a public district can make or if they are required to allow our students to participate? I ask because I know I will lose students next year if this is the case. They have allowed our students to participate up to and through the winter season this school year, but now won't for the spring season and going forward. This is for students who reside in the ... District but attend St. ... School. Any direction you can give me would be greatly appreciated.



# Give them the tools

A: Dawn – thanks for the time. Sorry this got dropped on you. As we discussed, in summary.

There is nothing in MN statute that states your students are “not allowed” to participate. The district is “choosing” to not allow your students to participate. It appears the only exclusion they have indicated are your kids.

The district is required to allow homeschool students by MN statute  
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/123B.49> - the reference is below:

Extracurricular Activities and Home Schools (Minnesota Statutes, Section 123B.49, subd. 4). Public school boards must allow resident pupils receiving instruction in a home school to be eligible to fully participate in extracurricular activities on the same basis as public school students.

I think your plan to reach out to the superintendent is good. You could also request to speak at the school board meeting on the decision. Your kids are their kids – and the majority end up in the HS. Let me know what else is helpful – good luck!



# Resolution!

Tim,

I am happy to report that the District decided to allow our students to participate in both Middle School and High School athletics that we do not offer. Apparently getting the Superintendent involved made the difference. Thank you again for your help, guidance and support!



# Take it or leave it?

Good evening Tim.

I spoke with ... this evening and he suggested I reach out to you. I am kind of under the gun in timing on this question as I am to return signed papers regarding Title monies tomorrow to our LEA so this is kind of pressing. ... and I are both curious as we are not sure about the process of shifting funds or LEA's deciding how those will be spent. The question we have is around shifting fund to Title I and then only offering a Title teacher to us to increase our time leaving us no option to use the funds in a different way. We met to consult a few weeks ago and I prepared the forms for Title I, II and IV as at the time that was the plan. Our F/R numbers are extremely low so funding was down. Today our LEA said they will be shifting funds directly to Title I and it will increase our time from 14 minutes a day to 90 minutes a day. We were not offered Title II or IV. Is this something our LEA can do, which I assume they can, and if so, does all the money need to go towards providing a title I teacher?

We will be in staff formation tomorrow but I will stop down to see if we can connect early on so that I can return papers if all is on the up and up with our LEA. I am learning Title and just want to make sure this is what is in our best interest as we had planned to use it in very different ways.



# Lighten the load



Make a call to our friend Alicia @ MDE



Connect Alicia and the leader





# Resolution

Good evening,

I first want to thank you for the fast response and action on your part in connecting me with Alicia. It sounds like as of today, we will be receiving our funding back as originally decided for Title I, II, and IV. I haven't spoken with her but received an email this evening.

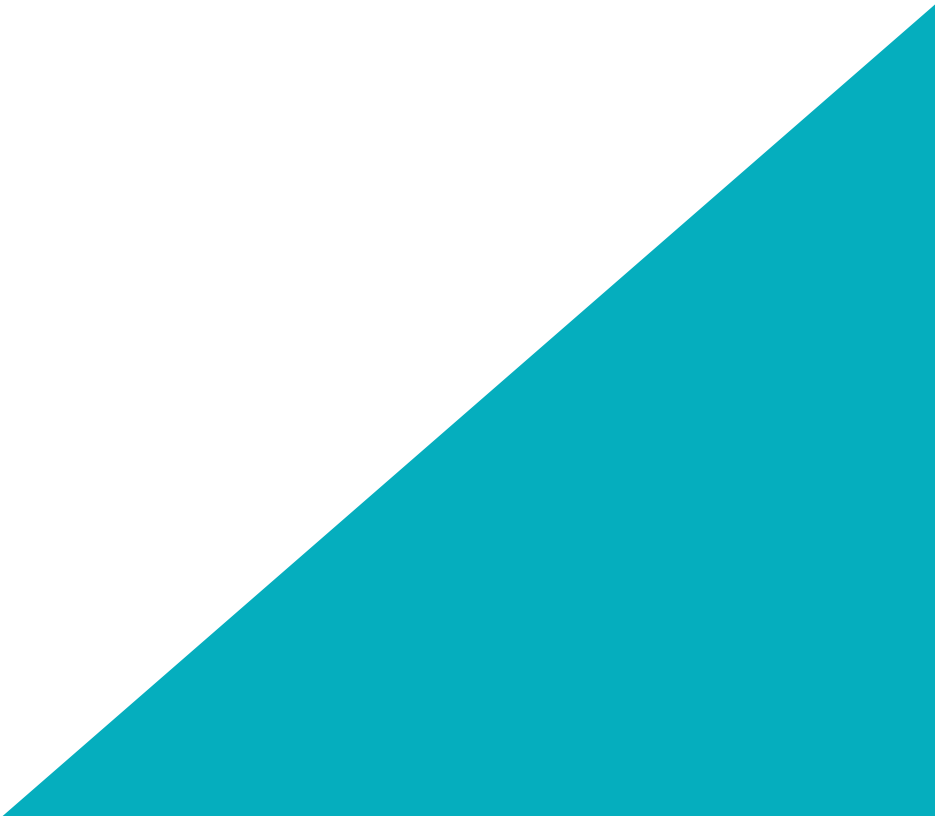
I greatly appreciate your support!



**Questions? Comments?  
Thoughts?**



**We asked...you answered**



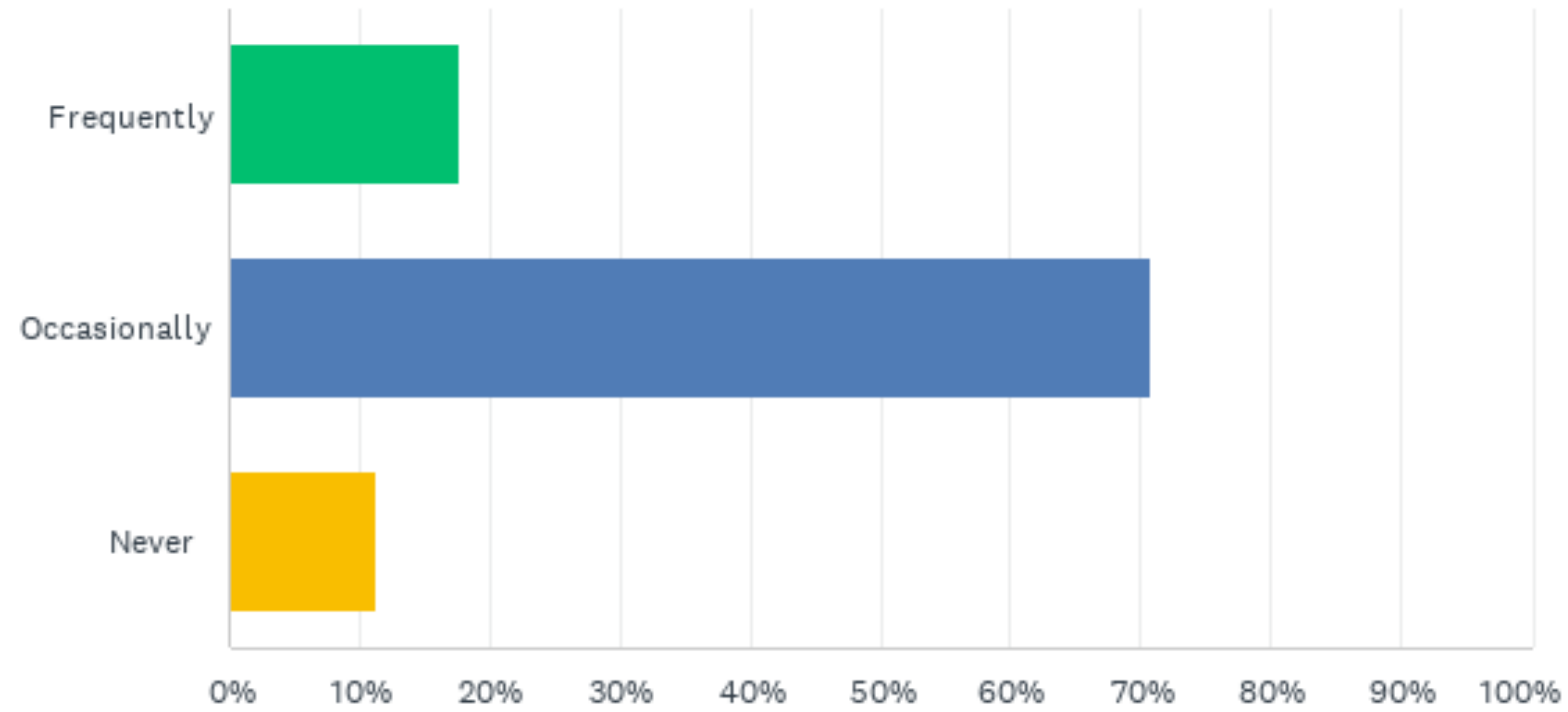


**MINNDEPENDENT**

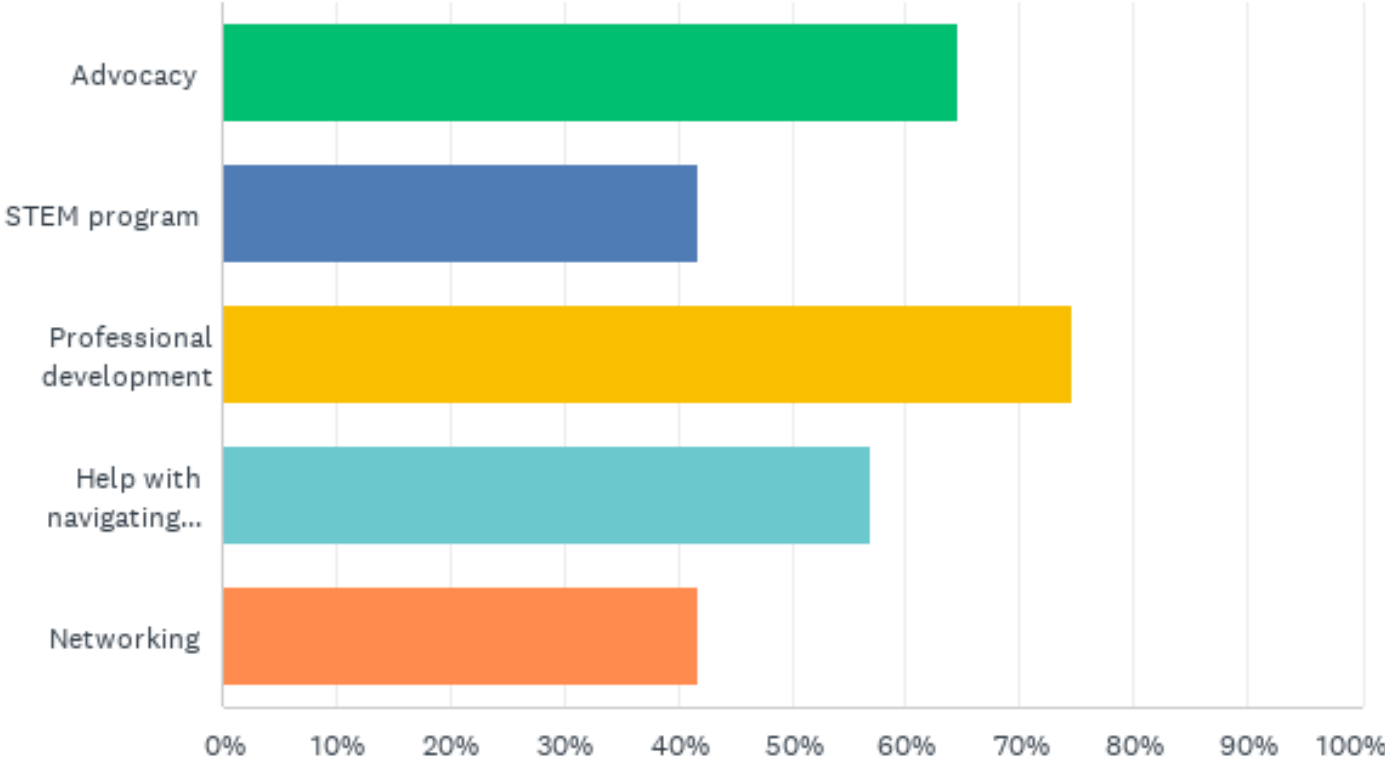
**MEMBERSHIP**

**EVALUATION 2022**

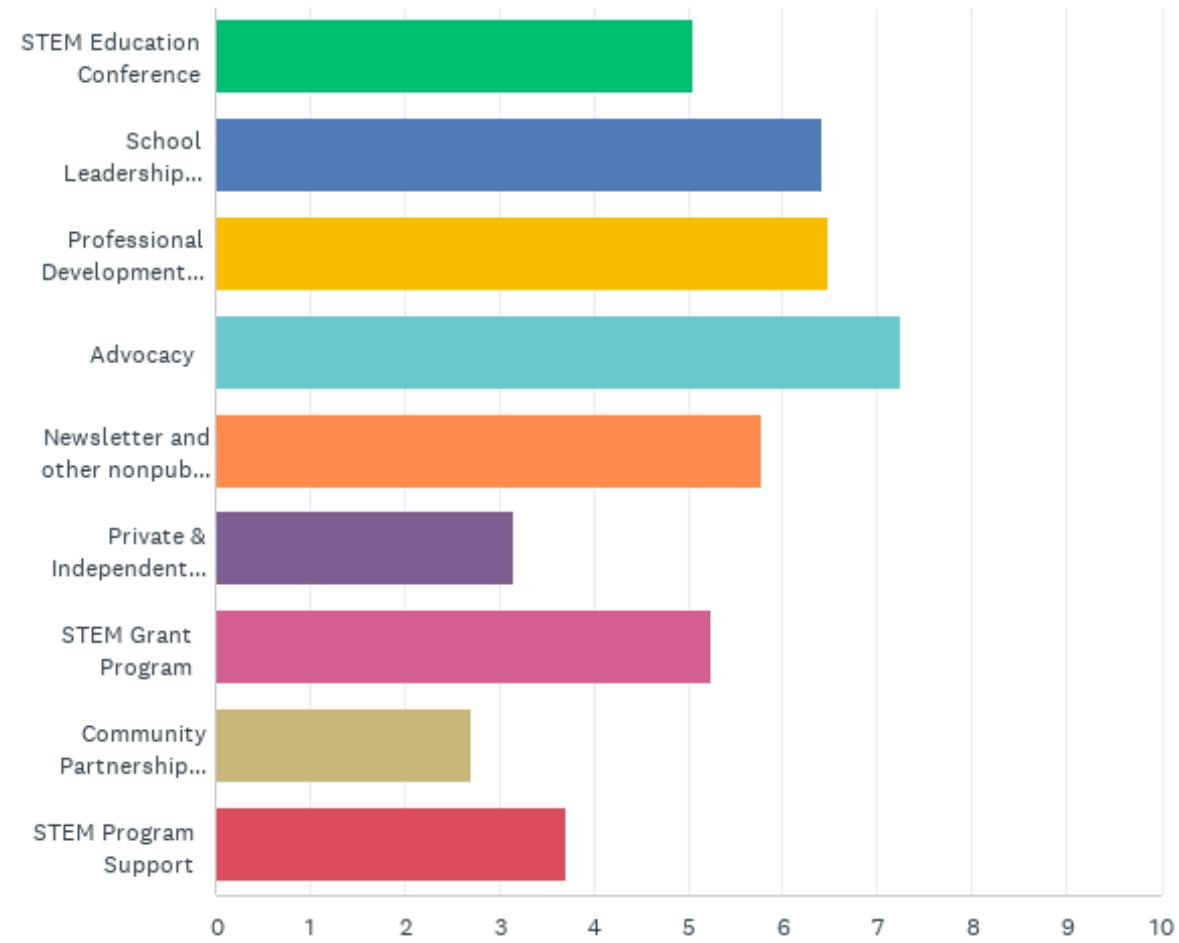
## Q2 How often do you attend our events?



### Q3 What benefits do you find most valuable? (check all that apply)

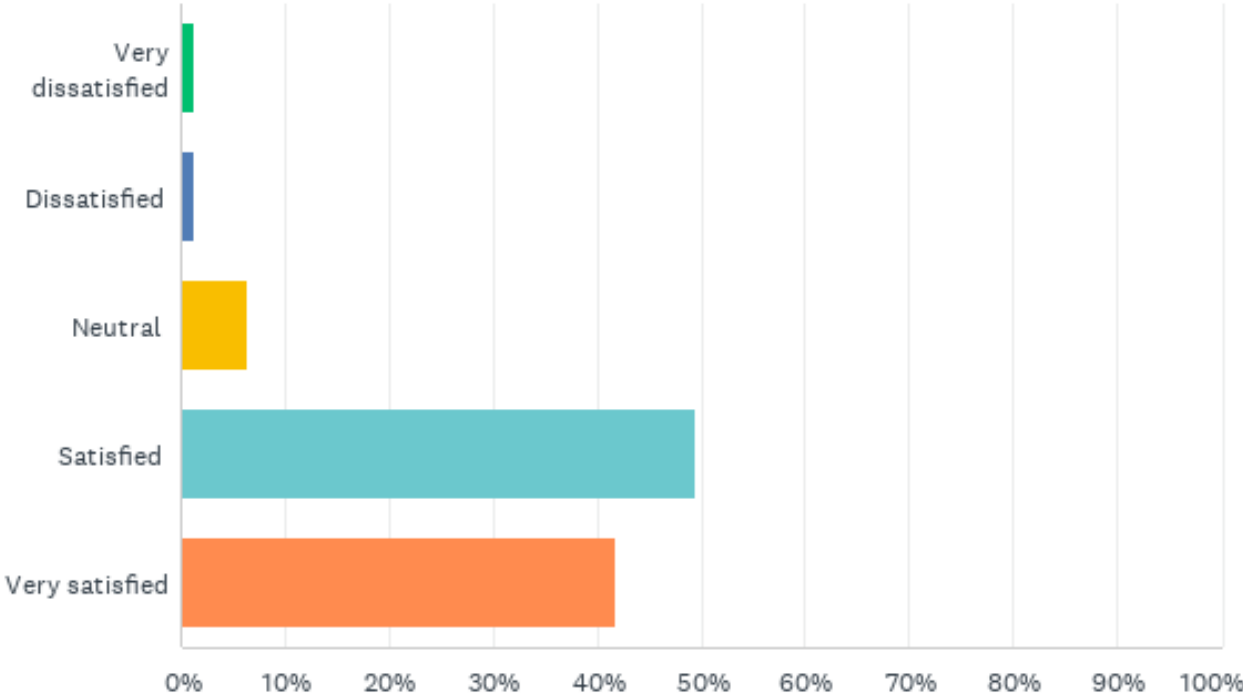


## Q4 Rank our services based on what you feel is most important

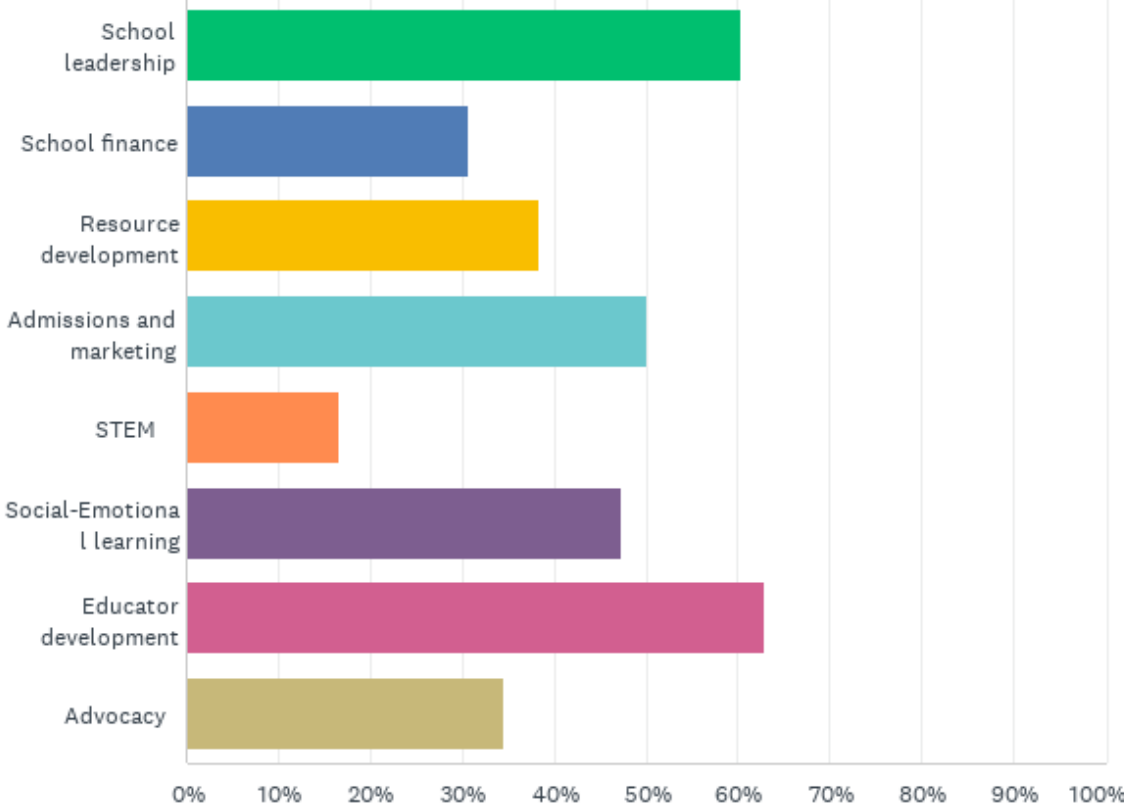




Q6 Overall, how satisfied are you with your MINNDEPENDENT membership



# Q7 What educational topics would you like to see presented at in-person and virtual training?



Q9 What do you see as the biggest benefit of being a member of MINNDEPENDENT

state support RESOURCES issues programs PD appreciate school leaders  
education STEM **Advocacy** Grant  
**Networking** Advocacy information **schools** know  
access MINNDEPENDENT **voice** funding private schools able information  
organization

Q10 What are the top three challenges you are facing right now?

Hiring qualified teachers Lack development enrollment facility students  
retaining teachers school needs staff Finding teachers  
Space new recruitment families growth issues teaching Funding

**Questions? Comments?  
Thoughts?**





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