



2021-2022 Annual Report

2022 Leadership Conference



MINNDEPENDENT serves as a trusted beacon for private and independent schools by providing:

Programming

We offer a variety of professional development opportunities, including an annual School Leadership Conference, STEM Education Conference and topical seminars throughout the year.

Partnership

We foster relationships with funders, businesses, and community organizations on behalf of member schools, resulting in grants, in-kinds services, and professional resources.

Public Policy

We advocate for the interests of independent schools, providing a consistent voice at the state level.

When we work together we learn from each other and grow stronger, paving the way toward a bright future for member schools and their students.

MINNDEPENDENT.ORG

Dear Friends of **MINNDEPENDENT**:

We are proud to share the 2021-22 Annual Report with donors, members, and advocates of MINNDEPENDENT. Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and financial resources in our mission of connecting and supporting private and independent schools in Minnesota.

The past year was highlighted by the full transition to the new organizational name and brand. This transition has been well received including a response from a member school, "I love the new name and logo!!! This looks like a very smart and well considered rebrand. It's refreshing to have an educational organization whose name cannot be reduced to yet another acronym!"

Further highlights during the past fiscal year include:

- Membership grew 7.5% to the organization's highest membership of 172 member schools
- Retention of member schools hit an all-time high of 98%
- Surpassed more than \$1.5 million in STEM grants and program assistance to member schools since 2009
- Continued to build further financial stability through thoughtful partnership and long-term reserves

These points of emphasis further illustrate the important place MINNDEPENDENT plays in the private and independent school community. Schools across Minnesota trust MINNDEPENDENT to provide critical information, thoughtful programming, a unified voice, and guidance in a timely and accurate manner.

As we look forward, the board of directors will begin charting the future of MINNDEPENDENT. The organization will engage in a thorough process to meet the needs of our vital educational sector. There is one thing that has become clear in the last two years – finding ways to support, lift and inspire students must be at the forefront of all of our work.

Thank you again for your partnership and generosity. Your gifts make an impact on leaders, educators, and students across Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Michael Lamb
Chair, Board of Directors



Tim Benz
President

2021-2022 Member Schools

MINNDEPENDENT membership represents a diverse coalition of schools and individuals across geographic, pedagogical, and religious affiliations.

During 2021-2022 MINNDEPENDENT's membership network consisted of 172 schools serving 39,205 students.

CLICK HERE for a list of member schools and associate members.



2021-2022 MINNDEPENDENT Staff

Tim Benz

President

Debbie Kaliszewski

Business Manager (Retired 4/30/2022)

Michele Skare

Administrative Assistant

Lisa Vosbeek

Director of Development & Programs

Consultant

Beth Murphy Ph.D.

STEM Program Manager

2021 – 2022 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Chairperson	Teri McCloughan
Vice Chair	Michael Lamb
Secretary	Wyayn Rasmussen
Treasurer	Brian Lynch
President	Tim Benz

PRESIDENT

Tim Benz*, *President*, MINNDEPENDENT

CLASS OF 2022

Michael Lamb*, *Senior Vice President, Transmission*, Xcel Energy

Brian Lynch*, *CFO and Director of Customer Success*, BData Inc.

Kelly Regan, *Vice President & Marketing Director*, Premier Banks

CLASS OF 2023

Michael Brennan, *President*, Holy Family Catholic High School

Jennifer Cassidy, *Director of Catholic School/Church Partnerships*,
Lake Area Discovery Center

Josh Killian*, *Vice President Marketing*, Patterson Dental

Veena Lakkundi, *Senior VP Corporate Strategy & Development*,
Rockwell Automation

Joel Landskroener*, *Executive Director*, Mayer Lutheran High School

Anna Lima, *Attorney/Owner*, Lima Law Office PLLP

Wyayn Rasmussen*, **Ed.D.**, *Executive Director*,
Academy of Whole Learning (Retired)

Brian Sullivan, *Chief of Staff*, Living Word Christian Center

Kate Wollan, *Principal*, Nativity of Our Lord School

CLASS OF 2024

Dr. Timothy Berner, *Principal*, Concordia Academy

Dean Broadhead, *Chief Executive Officer*, Broadhead

Jim Hansen, *Business Executive and President*, Hill-Murray (Retired)

Teri McCloughan*, *Attorney*, Stapleton & McCloughan, PLLC

BOARD MEMBER EMERITA

Rosa Miller, *Vice President*, 3M Latin America (Retired)

*Executive Committee

MINNDEPENDENT's STEM Advisory Committee engages representatives from the community who have expertise and a vested interest in high-quality STEM education. This committee serves as the review panel for the STEM Grant Program.

Members of the 2021-2022 STEM Advisory Committee:

Anne Dougherty, *Entrepreneurship and Business Teacher*
Cretin-Derham Hall

Vikram Ghosh, *Specialty Sales - National Accounts*
Ardent Mills

John Henderson, *Product Development Specialist*
3M

Dr. Jennifer Krieger, *Principal*
Holy Spirit School, St. Paul

Michael Lamb, *Senior Vice President, Transmission*
Xcel Energy

Debbie Monson, Ph.D., *Associate Professor*
University of St. Thomas

Justin Spencer, *Associate Director of Education*
The Bakken Museum

Jorge Ulate, *Senior R&D Manager*
General Mills

Private & Independent Education Awards

LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES

Carrie Hackman

Principal,
St. Jude of the Lake Catholic
School

Kelby Woodard

Headmaster,
Saint Thomas Academy

HONOR TEACHER AWARD HONOREES

K-6 Honor Teacher

Emily Heydon

Kindergarten Teacher,
St. Pius X School,
Rochester Catholic Schools

7-12 Honor Teacher

Rebecca Buller

Middle School Math & STEAM
Teacher, St. Alphonsus
Catholic School

EDUCATION AWARDS HONOREES

Behind the Scenes Award

Susan Besser

Library and Data Specialist,
Minnehaha Academy

Program Award

The Nicholas Center

Brent Johnson

Director of Nicholas Center,
Hill-Murray School

Community Champion Award

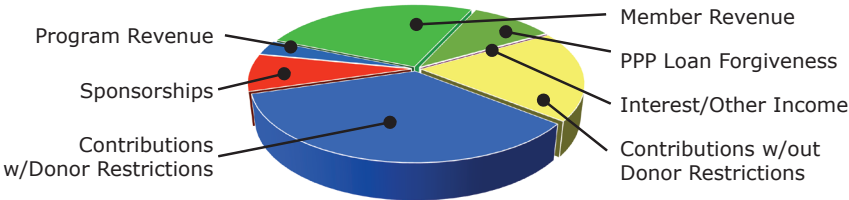
John Higgins

Volunteer, Academy of Whole
Learning/Franklin Academy

Financial Activity 2021-2022

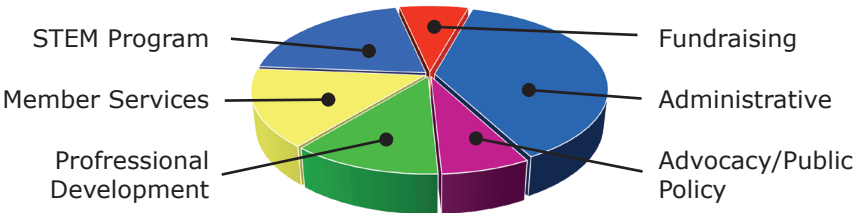
Revenue and Support

Contributions-without donor restrictions	\$138,422
Contributions-with donor restrictions.....	\$250,813
Sponsorships	\$57,050
Program Revenue	\$22,620
Member Revenue.....	\$184,639
PPP loan forgiveness	\$71,210
Interest/Other Income	\$376
Net Assets released from restrictions and/or satisfaction of program restrictions	\$183,846
Total Revenue and Other Support	\$725,130



Expenses

Program Expenses	
Advocacy/Public Policy	\$44,501
Professional Development	\$74,792
Member Services	\$97,578
STEM Program.....	\$129,612
Fundraising.....	\$49,066
Administrative.....	\$241,577
Total Expenses	\$637,126
Change in Net Assets	\$88,004
Net Assets-Beginning	\$445,352
Net Assets-Ending	\$533,356



2021-2022 Donor Recognition

MINNDEPENDENT would like to thank the special donors who graciously support private and independent education through gifts of cash, stock, and in-kind donations. The following businesses, corporations, foundations, and individuals made contributions between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2022.

\$50,000 AND ABOVE

Schott Foundation*
3M Foundation*

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Helen Harrington Charitable Trust*
Hardenbergh Foundation*
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Rosa M. Miller*
Xcel Energy Foundation*
WEM Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

H.B. Fuller Company Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Frels/
Frels Family Foundation*

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Catapult Learning, LLC
Mairs and Power*
Philip J. and Constance Paquette*
Jon and Lea Theobald*

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Tim and Anastasia Benz
Bright Schools Project
Canopy IT Solutions
Escalade Advisors
Facts/Nelnet Business Solutions
Therese and Kevin McCloughan
and the McCloughan Family Fund of the
Catholic Community Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Athwin Foundation
Bethel University
Boyum & Barenscheer PLLP
Broadhead
Mark & Mary Davis Foundation*
Albin Dubiak
Edgenuity
Eight Moon
Gradelink
Jim Hansen
Hellmuth and Johnson
John and Amy Higgins
Linda and Kenneth Holmen
Randy and Rachel Kroll and
the Kroll Family Fund of the National
Christian Foundation
Lake Area Discovery Center
Michael Lamb
Anna and Jason Lima
MN Private College Council, Inc.*
Nelson Worldwide
Premier Banks*
Redpath and Company
Kelly Regan*
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
Saint Thomas Academy
Sowles Company
Ulteig

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this publication. If we have omitted, misplaced, or misspelled any name, please accept our apologies. For corrections, please contact the MINNDEPENDENT office at 651.297.6716 or office@MINNDEPENDENT.org.

\$500 - \$999

Academy of Whole Learning
BData Inc.
Brian Lynch
Chuck Spaeth Ford, Inc.*
Hill Murray School
Doug and Laura Jaeger*
Josh and Sue Killian
Chuck and Mary Killian`
Veena Lakkundi
Brian Lynch
NCCO Foodservice Solutions
Blake and Kristen Nelson
Park Street Public
Rochester Catholic Schools
St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School
Kate Wollan

\$100 - \$499

Aim Higher Foundation
Tim Berner
Andy and Anne Biebl*
Michael Brennan
Jennifer and Ed Cassidy*
Donald's Inc.
Vikramaditya Ghosh
Joel P. Landskroener*
M. William Lower*
Minnehaha Academy
Minnesota Academy of Science
Next Wave STEM
Platinum Bank
St. Alphonsus Catholic School
Marshall and Michele Skare*
Smith Foundry Company*

Toucan Tech
Lisa and Chris Vosbeek

UNDER \$100

Timothy Barrett
Robert and Debbie Kaliszewski
Thomas D. Larson D.D.S*
Roger and Beth Maulik
Drs. Gene and Carrie Pfeifer

IN-KIND GIFTS

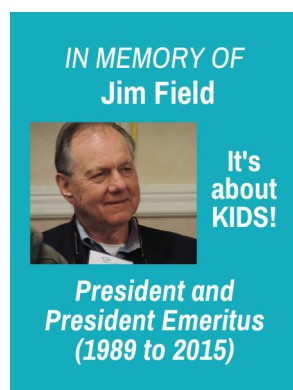
Spartan Promotional Products
Academy of Whole Learning /
Franklin Academy
Jerry's Printing

MATCHING GIFTS

Ryan Companies Foundation
Best Buy Foundation

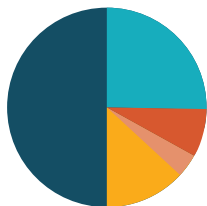
IN MEMORY OF JIM FIELD

Jon and Lea Theobald*



* Denotes donors who have supported MINNDEPENDENT for 10 or more years.

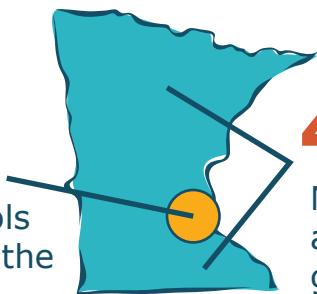
172 member schools
36% of market share



- 53% Catholic
- 26% Lutheran
- 13% Inter-Denom (Christian, ACSI, CSI, Evangelical)
- 7% Independent/Non-Denom, Montessori
- 3% Other religious (Jewish, Islamic, SDA)

60%

Member schools are located in the metro



40%

Member schools are located in the greater MN

12

Schools participated in the STEM Community Partnership Program with Science from Scientists and We Share Solar which allocated an additional **\$53,436** in STEM resources to schools

\$1,503,745

STEM support awarded to member schools to date

14 new member schools

**10 STEM
Grants**



awarded in
2021-22
totaling

\$36,406

98.7%

Member Schools
Retention rate



39,205 Students
56% of market share



92%

Engagement rate
with 172 member schools

304

STEM Grants awarded
to member schools
since the program
began

A TRUSTED PARTNER

For Private & Independent Schools



School Leadership Conference

"I really enjoyed the time away to "reset". Too many times we (leaders) think that we can't get away because the school "needs" us. I believe that we are better leaders by taking this time for us to learn, connect and reset."

Sean Slaikeu, St. Rose of Lima, Roseville

STEM Education Conference

"I left with a lot of great hands-on ideas to get students active and excited about learning.

"We are so grateful for MINNDEPENDENT and your passion for STEM education. We have received grants from MINNDEPENDENT, and it

has been so transformative for our students and our school. THANK YOU!" **STEM Conference Attendee**

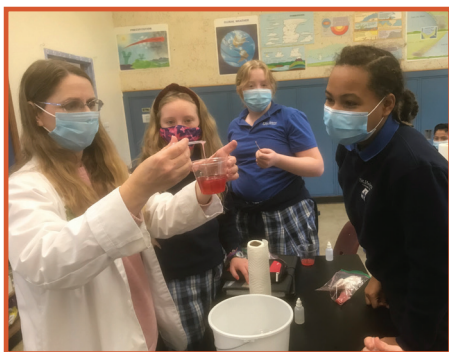




STEM Grant Program

"We are so proud and fortunate to partner with MINNDEPENDENT. This grant allowed us to step deeper into the STEM space with our summer program. It has ignited passion for STEM in some of our teachers. We are excited to begin to work towards our next STEM goals this year. Our entire year will be focused on STEM. This includes increased STEM professional development, updated science curriculum, a twice per week STEM specialist class, and updating of science on our report cards. This great work could not be done without the partnership of Minndependent and all its supporters."

***Paul Dieltz, Principal,
St. John the Baptist School, Vermillion***



STEM Community Partnership Program

"Our students love Science from Scientists, and they look forward to it and ask about it. It's such a significant event that they are even willing to postpone recess for it!"

Kevin Dalum, Risen Christ Catholic School, Minneapolis

What School Leaders Value the Most About Their Membership with MINNDEPENDENT.

MINNDEPENDENT over the years has been so helpful to me in understanding how to navigate a lot of different worlds of leadership. I feel like there's just an openness from your organization to school leaders to very comfortably be able to reach out and say, I need help with this, I'm not sure what to do with this, that just feels very supportive in a land where school leaders in nonpublic schools are often the only one in the building. It's nice to have that camaraderie and support network."

Anne McNeill Gattman, St. Jerome Catholic School (Maplewood)

"I greatly value MINNDEPENDENT's role in being the unified non-public school connection/voice/conduit to the MDE and other government entities."

Sean Martens, MN South District – LCMS

"The connection to colleagues, support with MDE / LEA challenges, and updates with federal/state legislation."

Andrew Hilliker, Stella Maris Academy (Duluth)

"So thankful for the opportunities to collaborate and network with fellow administrators throughout the state."

Randy Pfeifle, Southwest MN Christian Schools

"Advocacy and information about what's happening at the state and national levels. There's so much information to know, it is very valuable to have an organization that stays attuned to it and disseminates the information."

Melissa Livermore, Holy Family Catholic High School (Victoria)

"Being a part of something bigger than just our school. Networking in MINNDEPENDENT regularly drives that point home."

Joel P. Landskroener, Mayer Lutheran

"An organization who is watching out for the needs of private schools in an ever fast changing world of education. I appreciate the discounts for my staff wanting to attend workshops."

Dave Gartner, West Lutheran High School (Plymouth)

"Advocacy and having a voice, support for private school leaders, and the STEM program support and funding."

Carl Adolphson, Sacred Heart School, East Grand Forks



MINNDEPENDENT

A Trusted Partner For Private & Independent Schools

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Our Mission

MINNDEPENDENT connects and strengthens Minnesota's independent schools through exceptional training, resources, and advocacy so they can be student-centered, and mission driven.