



MINDEPENDENT

A Trusted Partner For Private & Independent Schools

2022-2023 Annual Report



OUR CORE: PARTNERSHIPS

We cultivate meaningful relationships with trusted partners to fulfill our mission and foster value exchanges that benefit all.

OUR PROGRAMS:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - We match schools with exceptional content providers to inspire learning, fuel innovation and create transformative educational experiences.

MEMBER RESOURCE HUB - We are a reliable helping hand for schools: a source for the latest information, a clear communicator and connector of opportunities, and a trusted advisor when navigating uncharted territory.

INNOVATION: STEM - We empower schools to fulfill their missions by connecting them to opportunities for funding, support and know-how to expand and improve their STEM programs.

ADVOCACY - We protect and advocate for the interests of private and independent schools at the state and federal level.

MINNDEPENDENT.ORG

Dear Friends of **MINNDEPENDENT**:

We are honored to share the 2022-23 Annual Report with you – our faithful donors, partners, members, and advocates who empower the important work of MINNDEPENDENT. Thank you for supporting and providing the financial resources to advance the mission of connecting and supporting private and independent schools in Minnesota.

During the past year, the MINNDEPENDENT board of directors navigated through a refreshed strategic direction. This process produced great clarity on the foundations of the organization and the impact made by MINNDEPENDENT. Our four key programmatic areas are below, including the “why” of each.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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INNOVATION: STEM

We empower schools to fulfill their missions by connecting them to opportunities for funding, support, and know-how to expand and improve their STEM programs.

ADVOCACY

We protect and advocate for the interests of private and independent schools at the state and federal level.

Because of you, MINNDEPENDENT continues to fulfill its vital role as the primary connector and convener of the private and independent school community in Minnesota. We are grateful for your ardent support and commitment.

Sincerely,



Michael Lamb
Chair, Board of Directors



Tim Benz
President

2022-2023 Member Schools

MINNDEPENDENT member schools represent a strong cross-section of faith affiliations, educational philosophies, and geographic and cultural diversity.

During 2022-2023 MINNDEPENDENT's membership network consisted of 165 schools serving 38,370 students.

CLICK HERE for a list of member schools and associate members



2022-2023 MINNDEPENDENT Staff

Tim Benz
President

Michele Skare
Administrative Assistant

Lisa Vosbeek
Director of Development & Programs

Consultant
Beth Murphy Ph.D.
STEM Program Manager

2022 – 2023 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Chairperson	Michael Lamb
Vice Chair	Kate Wollan
Secretary	Wyayn Rasmussen
Treasurer	Brian Lynch
President	Tim Benz

Dr. Timothy Berner, *Principal*, Concordia Academy

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

Dean Broadhead, *Chief Executive Officer*, Broadhead

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

Shana Duininck, *Parent and Volunteer*

Heidi Gallus, *Principal*, St. Michael Catholic School

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

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

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

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

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

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

Brian Lynch*, *Chief Financial Officer*, Benilde-St. Margaret's

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

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

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

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

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 2022-2023 STEM Advisory Committee:

Jasmine Darden, *3-D Printing Instructor*,
Dunwoody College of Technology

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

Vikram Ghosh, *Futures Trader*, Self-employed

John Henderson, *Product Development Specialist*,
3M

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

2022-2023 Private & Independent Education Awards

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Bridget Kramer
Principal,
Community of Saints
Regional Catholic School

Jake Mulvihill
Head of School,
Legacy Christian Academy

HONOR TEACHER AWARDS

Anita Hass
Lower School Classroom
Teacher, Franklin Academy

Jessi Weakley
Middle School (Grade 6 – 8),
8th Grade Homeroom,
St. John Paul II Catholic
School

EDUCATION AWARDS HONOREES

Behind the Scenes Award

John Fischer
After-School Program, St. John
Paul II Catholic School

Program Award

**Concordia Cohorts &
Cohort Conversations**
Concordia Academy

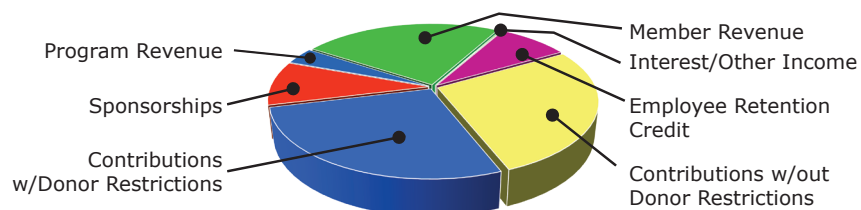
Community Champion Award

Don Mulligan
Chair of the Aim Higher Board
of Directors, Aim Higher
Foundation

Financial Activity 2022-2023

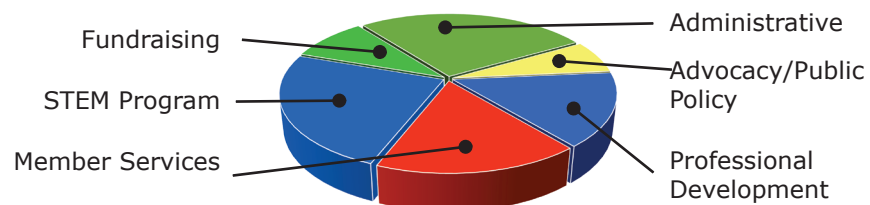
Revenue and Support

Contributions-without donor restrictions	\$222,043
Contributions-with donor restrictions	\$220,869
Sponsorships	\$76,850
Program Revenue	\$29,350
Member Revenue	\$193,566
Interest/Other Income	\$1,471
Employee Retention Credit	\$69,003
Net Assets released from restrictions and/or satisfaction of program restrictions	\$222,664
Total Revenue and Other Support	\$813,152



Expenses

Program Expenses	
Advocacy/Public Policy	\$46,981
Professional Development	\$104,684
Member Services	\$116,948
STEM Program	\$165,645
Fundraising	\$62,502
Administrative	\$185,437
Total Expenses	\$682,197
Change in Net Assets	\$130,955
Net Assets-Beginning	\$533,356
Net Assets-Ending	\$664,311



2022-2023 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, 2022, and June 30, 2023.

\$50,000 AND ABOVE

Schott Foundation*
3M Foundation*
WEM Foundation

Teri and Kevin McCloughan, and the
McCloughan Family Fund of the
Catholic Community Foundation
Premier Bank*

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Hardengergh Foundation*
Helen Harrington Charitable Trust*
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation*

\$1000 - \$2499

Archdiocese of Saint Paul
and Minneapolis
Tim and Anastasia Benz*
Bethel University
Blackbaud
Broadhead
Catholic Charities
Catholic Community Foundation
Donald's Uniform
Albin Dubiak
Eight Moon
Escale Advisors
Jim Hansen
Hellmuth & Johnson, PLLC
Randy and Rachel Kroll and the
Kroll Family Fund of the National
Christian Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Mr. & Mrs. William B. Frels and the
Frels Family Foundation*
Rosa M. Miller*

\$5000 - \$9,999

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

\$2500 - \$4,999

Aim Higher Foundation
Boyum & Barendschr PLLP
Dean and Cheri Broadhead
Canopy IT Solutions
Catholic Schools Center of Excellence
Cognia
FACTS
Gradelink
Mairs and Power*

Lakeshore Learning
Michael and Ellen Lamb
Mathiowetz Construction Company*
North Risk Partners
Redpath and Company
Kelly Regan*
Saint Mary's University of MN
Sowles Company*
The Olson Group
The Mark E. & Mary A. Davis
Foundation*

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.

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
Ulteig

\$500 - \$999

Community of Saints Regional
Catholic School
Enquiry Tracker
Franklin Academy
H2I Group
Kenneth and Linda Holmen
Douglas and Laura Jaeger*
Chuck and Mary Killian
Josh and Sue Killian*
Larkin Hoffman
Legacy Christian Academy
LeiningerCPA LTD
Anna and Jason Lima
National Checking Company*
Blake and Kris Nelson
Park Steet Public
Platinum Bank
Our Lady of Grace School
Visitation School
MN Engineering Center of Excellence

\$100 - \$499

Roger D. and Mary E. Ahrenholz
Ascension Catholic Academy
The Bakken
Tim Berner
Andy & Anne Biebl*
Michael Brennan
createMpls
Vikram Ghosh
Joel P. Landskroener*

M. William Lower*
Brian Lynch
Martin and Beth Peyer
Thomas Farnham*
Roger John Maulik
Minnesota Tech for Success
Sadlier
Science Museum
Marshall and Michele Skare*
Lisa and Chris Vosbeek

UNDER \$100

Tim Barrett
Jennifer and Ed Cassidy*
Thomas D. Larson D.D.S.*
Frances Murnane

IN-KIND GIFTS

Spartan Promotional Products
Eight Moon

MATCHING GIFTS

Best Buy Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation*

HONORARY GIFTS

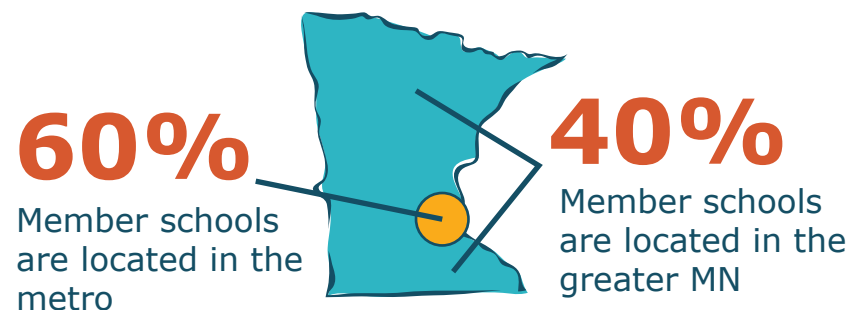
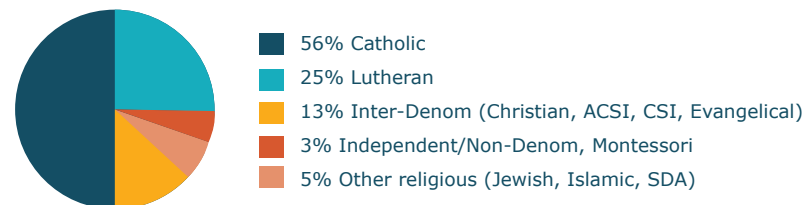
World50 in honor of Veena Lakkundi

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

2022-2023 Facts About MINNDEPENDENT

165 member schools

35% of market share



17

Schools participated in the STEM Community Partnership Program with Science from Scientists and We Share Solar which allocated an additional **\$73,500** in STEM resources to schools

\$1,684,618

STEM support awarded to member schools to date

4 new member schools

15 STEM Grants



awarded in
2022-23
totaling

\$48,937

94%

**Member Schools
Retention rate**



38,370 Students
55% of market share



92%

Engagement rate
with 165 member schools

319

STEM Grants awarded
to member schools
since the program
began

A TRUSTED PARTNER

For Private & Independent Schools



School Leadership Conference

"MINNDEPENDENT encourages and provides support for leaders of nonpublic schools. The School Leadership Conference is one of the ways the school leaders are educated, but the conference also allows us to network and relax. I

won't miss the next one. It should be on every leader's schedule."
Pete Markgraf, Principal, St. Paul's Lutheran, New Ulm

"I've been a private school administrator for 13 years and have found nothing more relevant, engaging, and worthwhile to attend. The focus is the business of running a private school in our state; what could be more relevant than that?"
Marnie McPherson, Head of School, White Bear Montessori School, White Bear Lake

STEM Education Conference

"MINNDEPENDENT hosts an informative, timely, and relevant conference each August. MINNDEPENDENT is a trusted friend of private schools in MN!"
Tonya Scott, President, Heritage Christian Academy, Maple Grove





STEM Grant Program

"It has been amazing to watch students rise to new challenges, approach unfamiliar tasks, and problem solve through obstacles because of the new materials and tools that are available to our students through the MINNDEPENDENT Innovation Grant.

Middle school students independently

using drills, a table saw, and the band saw. Elementary students are exploring and creating with new materials including snap circuits and LEGOS. High school students have learned how to use Solid Works and have produced parts on our CNC milling machine. The list could continue, but we are grateful for the boost this grant afforded to our growing Innovation Program." **Janna Hub, Legacy Christian Academy, Andover**

STEM Community Partnership Program (Science from Scientists)

"Our scholars LOVED Sfs. They absolutely got more excited and more engaged with STEM projects as the visits this year went on. Most notably, my students love dissecting owl pellets. It was so funny to see how grossed out they were at first, and then how intrigued they were as they got more comfortable and felt "more like scientists". My students also really enjoyed the finger printing lesson. They were fingerprinting each other for weeks after using the techniques that they had been taught in that lesson."

Kayleigh Purcell, St. John Paul II Catholic School, Minneapolis



STEM Community Partnership Program (We Share Solar)

"The We Share Solar grant gave our kiddos the opportunity to learn about places outside of their own community. It gave them

purpose in helping people other than themselves. They learned new skills with the electrical work and the pros and cons of solar power. Some of the kiddos used their new knowledge to research further and base their STEM Fair projects off of what they learned. It also helped with their Lego League Innovation project this year."

Jill Ryan, St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School, Mahtomedi

What School Leaders Value the Most About Their Membership with MINNDEPENDENT

"One of the great strengths, and also the great weaknesses of being an independent school, is that we are independent. There is great value in making our own decisions and being somewhat masters of our own fate, if you will. But there's also a danger in that, and what I love about MINNDEPENDENT is that we are independent, but we are never alone. We have the support of MINNDEPENDENT coming beside us in all important issues, someone that we can get feedback from, someone that advocates for us, someone that connects us with other like-minded schools, which is truly invaluable." **Rev. Dr. Timothy Berner, Principal, Concordia Academy, Roseville**

"We know that work at the school level can be really tough, and it's organizations like MINNDEPENDENT and particularly their work in advocacy in the government that helps keep resources in our building and they fight the good fight of making sure our scholars have what they need social-emotionally and academically through community partnerships." **Trish Menzhuber, Principal, St. John Paul II Catholic School, Minneapolis**

"MINNDEPENDENT plays a vital role in the state of Minnesota. First and foremost because it's a convener, it connects schools. In many places MINNDEPENDENT is the primary voice, ensuring that the school choice and the parental choice movement continues to be present in Minnesota state conversations. Parents deserve the opportunity to choose the best school for their kids, and MINNDEPENDENT is an incredible ally in the Aim Higher Foundation is so proud to be one of their partners." **Ricky Austin, President, Aim Higher Foundation**

"An organization like MINNDEPENDENT is super important because it's a voice for the independent and private schools, and if MINNDEPENDENT wasn't around, that voice would be a lot, lot quieter." **Jake Mulvihill, Head of School, Legacy Christian Academy, Andover**

"Our school joined Minndependent during the spring of 2020. It was such a relief to have access to information quickly and with the assurance that it was accurate and applicable to our Lutheran school. At the time, I was spending way too much time trying to find answers and guidance. Minndependent provided what I needed at the time and continues to be an invaluable resource for our school." **Sandra Trittin - Principal/Teacher, Our Savior's Lutheran School, Crookston**



MINNDEPENDENT

A Trusted Partner For Private & Independent Schools

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Our Mission

MINNDEPENDENT connects and strengthens Minnesota's private and independent schools through programming, partnerships and public policy so members can be student-centered and mission-driven.