



# MINNDEPENDENT

## What is MINNDEPENDENT membership?

**MINNDEPENDENT** is the largest membership organization serving private & independent schools in Minnesota. With 181 member schools across the state, it serves as a vital hub for **connection, collaboration, and advocacy** for school leaders, administrative staff, and educators.

As a unified voice for Minnesota's private and independent schools, **MINNDEPENDENT** champions the interests of member schools while safeguarding the unique missions that define each school.

## Value of MINNDEPENDENT Membership for Your School?

As a member school, you gain access to discounted or free resources, a members-only resource webpage, professional development opportunities, STEM grant offerings, expert support, and a trusted voice in public policy initiatives that support and protect the nonpublic school ecosystem.

## Benefits of School Membership:

### Stay Informed

- ✓ **Monthly Newsletter:** Receive the MINNDEPENDENT e-newsletter with the latest updates.
- ✓ **Timely Updates:** Get critical communications on issues affecting nonpublic schools.

### Exclusive Member Resources

- ✓ **Direct Staff Assistance:** Receive hands-on help from MINNDEPENDENT staff to navigate critical issues.
- ✓ **Member Only Webpage:** Access to members-only resources and content.
- ✓ **Law Guide:** Stay current with a regularly updated legal guide for nonpublic schools.
- ✓ **Directory of Services for Nonpublic Schools:** Access up-to-date guide to services for nonpublic schools.
- ✓ **Professional Development Archive:** View recordings from past training seminars.
- ✓ **Important Links:** Direct links to essential resources and documents.

### Save Time and Money

- ✓ **Discounted Partnerships:** Benefit from discounts through MINNDEPENDENT established partnerships.

### Connect and Convene

- ✓ **Event Discounts:** Receive reduced rates, or exclusive access to MINNDEPENDENT conferences and professional development trainings.
  - School Leadership Conference – Exclusive to members.
  - STEM Education Conference – Discounted for member schools.
  - Professional Development – Free and/or discounted rate.

## STEM Expertise and Support

- ✓ **STEM Grant Program:** Apply for STEM grants up to \$5000 annually.
- ✓ **STEM Community Partnerships:** Participate in hands-on programs that connect your school with STEM partners.
- ✓ **STEM Scoop:** Monthly newsletter segments featuring information, resources and updates to enhance STEM teaching and learning.

## Advocacy and Representation

- ✓ **Legislative Advocacy:** MINNDEPENDENT represents private and independent schools at both the state and federal levels.
  - Safeguards programs and resources that benefit students.
  - Testifies before the legislature to ensure the voices of private and independent schools are heard.
  - Advocates for school choice initiatives.
  - Promotes the private and independent school sector through media outreach and public engagement.
  - Provides guidance to help schools navigate federal and state programs and services.

## Membership Rates

### For the 2025-2026 school year, dues are:

- \$5.25 per student
- \$290 flat rate for schools with 55 or fewer students

### First-Year Discount:

- \$4.25 per student
- \$250 flat rate for schools with 55 or fewer students.

## Contact Information

### Tim Benz, President

- [tbenz@minnpendent.org](mailto:tbenz@minnpendent.org), 651-424-4929

### Lisa Vosbeek, Director of Development & Programs

- [lvosbeek@minndependent.org](mailto:lvosbeek@minndependent.org), 651-424-4930

## About MINNDEPENDENT

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.

[www.minndependent.org](http://www.minndependent.org)