

February 15, 2015

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Paul, MN 55155

Representative Carlos Mariani 203
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Senator Chuck Wiger
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Representative Jennifer Loon 449
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Representative Mary Murphy 343
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Dear Chairs and Ranking Minority Members:

Laws of 2014, Chapter 272 Article 4 Section 13 require the commissioner of education, in consultation with stakeholders and consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.56, to develop recommendations for improving the academic performance of underachieving students through a multi-tiered system of early intervention and instructional support.

These written recommendations were to be submitted to the education policy and finance committees of the Legislature by February 15, 2015. The Minnesota Department of Education convened a stakeholder group consistent with the provisions identified in statute.

Attached are the stakeholder group's recommendations for supporting early intervention and instructional support to improve the academic performance of underachieving students.

Key among the stakeholder group's recommendations is the need for strong district and administrative leadership for a systemic approach that consistently integrates research-based interventions with fidelity into already existing processes within each district. This process needs to be supported by professional development and meaningful parental engagement.

The co-chairs of the stakeholder group and department supporting staff are available to present these recommendations and the rationale for them to your committees during the 2015 legislative session. Adosh Unni, Director of Government Relations for the Department, is available to assist you in scheduling a presentation. He may be reached at 651-582-8292 or adosh.unni@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,



Brenda Cannelin
Commissioner