



Supporting Professionals and Promoting Quality

The Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children The Minnesota School Age Care Alliance 2012 Public Policy Agenda

MnAEYC-MnSACA's goal is that every Minnesota child will be nurtured, healthy, eager to learn and prepared to succeed in school AND life. To achieve this goal MnAEYC-MnSACA seeks to improve the quality of early childhood and out-of-school time in Minnesota by supporting members to be effective advocates and by collaborating with other stakeholders to promote public policies that address the needs of young children, youth, their families, and the professionals who work with them.

Promote Quality Through Accreditation

- ✓ Promote accreditation as a pathway to quality.
- ✓ Support efforts to maintain the highest level of quality standards in accreditation statute.

Support the Statewide Expansion of Parent Aware

- ✓ Ensure that quality standards are defined and fairly applied to child care, Head Start and school-based early education programs.

Improve Investments in Early Childhood and Out-of-School Education

- ✓ Increase eligibility for childcare assistance to 75% of Minnesota state median income and fully fund the basic sliding fee childcare assistance program.
- ✓ Restore the rate cuts to childcare providers that were enacted in 2011.
- ✓ Increase funding for T.E.A.C.H. and R.E.E.T.A.I.N.
- ✓ Sustain funding for learning beyond the classroom (afterschool, summer school, and community learning opportunities for youth).

Support System Reforms

- ✓ Support legislation to establish the Minnesota Youth Council.
- ✓ Support efforts to better align resources and link with quality.
- ✓ Work with Governor Dayton's office to identify a lead staff person on youth policy issues.

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