



March 7, 2022

Representative Ruth Richardson
Chair Minnesota House Education Policy Committee
403 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: House File 2726

Chair Richardson and Members of the Committee,

Education Evolving is a non-partisan education organization that works to advance student-centered learning for all Minnesota students. We are writing to express our support for Representative Edelson's additions to HF2726.

For the past two years, teachers have adapted their instruction to make shifting learning models accessible to as many students as possible. They quickly found ways to measure their students' work using creative approaches, because using seat time was no longer realistic. Educators have proven during this pandemic that education must adapt and innovate to meet the evolving needs and demographics of our students. This cannot be limited to just our crisis response.

We believe learning must be personalized to allow students to engage in different ways and in different places, and that schools must hold a student-centered and transformative approach to education. We have heard from educators across the state that they would like to implement evidence based practices like, for example, competency based education (CBE), but don't feel authorized by explicit district or state policy.

Expanding educational processes beyond seat time will offer students more flexibility to achieve academic success through personalizing pathways that are relevant to their interests and unique context. This bill will help codify the ability for schools and districts to implement personalized learning supports.

Thank you, Representative Edelson, for your leadership and support on this bill, and your efforts toward creating policy that would benefit all students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Danyika Leonard'.

Danyika Leonard
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