

## Education Minnesota

# Budget surplus offers a historic opportunity for Minnesota students

For more information, contact:

[Chris Williams](#)

651-292-4816 (work)

651-247-5539 (cell)

*ST. PAUL, Minn. Dec. 6, 2018* \_ The 2019 Minnesota Legislature will start its budget deliberations with a projected surplus of \$1.5 billion, state officials announced Thursday. Education Minnesota President Denise Specht released the following statements in response.

“The next state budget is an opportunity for our elected officials to demonstrate their commitment to the future of our state through investments in public education and the people who deliver it,” Specht said. “This surplus is a historic opportunity to invest in the idea that our state can prepare every student for a successful life, no matter their race or where they were born. The educators of Minnesota stand ready to work with Gov.-elect Tim Walz to make it happen.”

“Minnesotans will always remember Gov. Mark Dayton for his unwavering support for investments in public education - from the youngest learners to students in college,” Specht said. “But today we should not forget those investments were only possible because of his administration’s equally strong commitment to erasing the \$6 billion deficit it inherited in 2011, repaying \$1 billion borrowed from schools and restoring honesty to the budget process. On behalf of Minnesota educators, and the students we teach, thank you, Governor Dayton.”

### About Education Minnesota

Education Minnesota is the voice for professional educators and students. Education Minnesota’s members include teachers and education support professionals in Minnesota’s public school districts, faculty members at Minnesota’s community and technical colleges and University of Minnesota campuses in Duluth and Crookston, retired educators and student teachers. Education Minnesota is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, National Education Association and AFL-CIO.

[Contact us](#) | [Local union websites](#) | [Careers](#)

© 2021 Education Minnesota. All rights reserved.

[Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)