

4 Steps to Organize and Advocate for Your School District's Participation in the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS)

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is an anonymous statewide school-based survey conducted to gain insights into the world of students and their experiences. The survey is open to any public, private, or charter school to participate for free. Results from MSS can be used by schools and other stakeholders to monitor trends, assess the extent of disparities among population groups, obtain federal and state funding, and help inform policies and programming.

Are you interested in having your school district participate in the MSS?

Review the four steps below to help you organize and advocate for your school district's participation in the MSS.

1

Find out if your school district plans to participate in the 2022 MSS.

If your school district plans to participate - AWESOME!

If they don't plan to participate or are unsure, proceed to the next steps.

2

Identify your partners and collaborate.

Connect with people already in your network or research whether there are community groups, District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) or local public health agencies currently advocating for MSS participation in your district.

Discuss MSS benefits for each stakeholder group and create a plan and talking points to communicate to decision makers why participating in the MSS is important.

3

Identify champions.

A champion is someone who leads an initiative's efforts. They are well-respected in the community and can leverage relationships and networks to ensure that the goals of the initiative are met.

Your champions could include members of the school board, community members, youth or YOU!

4

Talk to decision-makers.

Meet with school administrators or other decision makers to speak on this issue.

Follow up with the [MSS factsheet](#) for additional information and a thank you email after each meeting. Let decision-makers know you anticipate their answer.