

Candidate Engagement and Relationship Building

Ways to engage Minnesota House candidates this fall:

- Hold an education forum and invite all House candidates. This is a way to highlight education issues important to your district community.
- Attend other candidate forums in your community sponsored by the League of Women Voters or the Chamber of Commerce, for example, and ask candidates questions on where they stand on education issues.
- Invite candidates to an informal meeting with the superintendent and board chair or other identified school board members (keeping in mind open meeting law) to learn more about a candidate's priorities, thoughts on education and provide information about your district, with the goal of building relationships.
- Invite candidates into the district for a school tour, open house or other special school event. This creates an opportunity to highlight programs, facility needs or construction work, explain challenges and successes, meet school leadership and teachers, and visit a classroom.
- Contact candidates directly, campaign websites include contact information.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to speak with candidates at your door when they are out door knocking in your neighborhood.
- Attend community or town hall meetings, often held by incumbent legislators to share information and answer questions, some have regular monthly informal meetings in coffee shops.

You, as Individuals, have a right to express preferences for or against candidates but not in the capacity of representing AMSD, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization. In this highly charged political environment our goal is to educate, advocate and build relationships with candidates to create the foundation of future work with whomever is elected to office.