

Anamoose Public School
Public School District No. 14 - McHenry County
706 3rd St. West
Anamoose, North Dakota 58710-4109
Telephone 701-465-3258 FAX: 701-465-3259
Every Child – Every Chance – Every Day

**Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
Chairman Holmberg
March 18, 2021**

HB 1013

Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Steven Heim. I serve as the superintendent of the Anamoose and Drake Public Schools. I write to you today to offer our support for HB 1013, specifically, the amendment brought forth by Senator Burckhard to allow a one-time grant of \$5.9 million from special funds made available from 2019-21 biennium carryover for the development of science experiments and STEAM education, including ADA accessible space and equipment needed for all children at a hybrid children's museum/science center in Minot.

The Magic City Discovery Center is a resource that our elementary school has utilized to offer our students a valuable learning experience that we do not have access to in our own communities. It gives our students a whole different perspective of STEAM education that otherwise would not get to experience.

Sincerely



Steven Heim, Superintendent

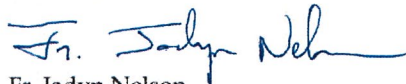
March 8, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

HB 1013 includes allocations for STEM enhancement through competitive science grants. I am writing in support of a potential recipient of such grant funding, the Magic City Discovery Center (MCDC). The MCDC is a project that as a recipient of such grant funding would provide a tremendous opportunity for our region's children to explore STEM education in an engaging, age appropriate, and inspiring environment. This type of facility will have a positive impact on our children, and thus our state's future.

Furthermore, as the president of one of our state's non-public schools, I am encouraged that such a project would be able to impact our students. Not all educational programs and opportunities funded by the state are practically available to North Dakota students attending non-public schools. Bishop Ryan Catholic School students, in this case, would have equity of opportunity to utilize such a facility and its benefits. I believe this is a worthwhile endeavor for the common good in our region and state.

Sincerely,



Fr. Jady Nelson
President



Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
Chairman Holmberg
March 17, 2021

HB 1013

Chairman Holmberg and members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, my name is Luke Schaefer. I am the Executive Director of the Central Regional Education Association and work with 57 school districts throughout the central swath of North Dakota. I am writing to inform you of the benefits that we see for the HB 1013, and specifically, the amendment brought forth by Senator Burckhard to allow a one-time grant from special funds for the development of science and STEAM education initiatives, including accessible space and equipment for children at a museum/science center in Minot.

In working with multiple school districts who surround the Bismarck area, they frequently gain valuable learning experiences from the ND Heritage Museum and Gateway to Science. This amendment would allow for similar opportunities for the school districts and their students surrounding the greater Minot area. This funding would create opportunities for students of all ages to have hands-on instruction with state-of-the-art equipment and exhibits, allowing for better prepared students for life outside of school.

I encourage you to consider the benefits offered to students in the northern region of the state.

Sincerely,

Luke Schaefer
Executive Director, Central Regional Education Association

Central Regional Education Association
128 Soo Line Drive, Suite 102
Bismarck, ND 58501

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Email crea.nd@k12.nd.us
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Divide County School District

PO Box G
106 1st Street NE
Crosby, ND 58730

Phone: 701-965-6313
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Date: March 18, 2021

Memo To: Chairman Holmberg & Senate Appropriations Subcommittee

From: Dr. Sherlock Hirling, Supt. *Dr. S. Hirling*

RE: HB 1013

Chairman Holmberg and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

On behalf of Divide County School District, I submit this letter of support for HB 1013, specifically, the amendment brought forth by Senator Burckhard. This amendment would allow a one-time grant of \$5.9 million from special funds made available from the 2019-21 biennium carryover for the development of science experiments and STEAM education, including ADA accessible space and equipment needed for all children at a hybrid children's museum/science center in Minot. It appears this amendment has generated a lot of excitement and hesitation at the same time. The Magic City Discovery Center is a state-of-the-art center to support science and technology in our region of the state. The MCDC board has worked diligently to raise funds, design an appropriate building, and develop excellent exhibits that support learning in a fun and creative manner. The Magic City Discovery Center project is not a proposal, but ready for construction with ground breaking to occur soon. The Magic City Discovery Center will provide ample opportunity for Northwest North Dakota students to learn, first hand, how science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) fit into students' day to day lives and how STEAM has an impact on our economy. The project will provide ample opportunities for children, parents, and community members to:

- Promote learning for pre-school children in the region;
- Support economic development in the region;
- Provide opportunities for Minot State University students to understand classroom pedagogy and to practice these skills in a learning environment filled with excitement;
- Provide hands-on learning opportunities for all students in the region, through in-person visits to the Magic City Discovery Center, traveling exhibits, and in-person presentations at remote locations, and;
- Support the learning process for thousands of students by providing real-time learning experiences in a regional setting (previously, our families would need to travel to Minneapolis to experience this level of interactive, science-based learning).

The funding provided through this one-time grant will enhance plans already in existence, and will provide ADA compliant outdoor learning activities to support and enhance STEAM opportunities in our region. As one of the northwest North Dakota school districts who will have the privilege of offering the experiences afforded through MCDC, I urge your support of Senator Burckhard's amendment to HB 1013, in order to make the MCDC model a cutting edge learning center for our region. I encourage a "DO PASS" recommendation.

GLENBURN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 26

BOARD OF EDUCATION
James Peters, President
Dianne Hensen, Vice President
Michael Nash
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SUPERINTENDENT
Larry K. Derr
PRINCIPALS
Layne D. Fluhrer
James P. Swegarden
BUSINESS MANAGER
Jennifer Hansen

March 8th, 2021

RE: HB 1013

Dear Senators,

My name is Larry Derr. I am currently the Superintendent at Glenburn Public School in Glenburn, North Dakota. I am asking you to vote yes on HB 1013. This bill would help support the Magic City Discovery Center which would benefit students from all over North Dakota. Our students benefits include classroom field trips, family STEAM nights, STEAM camps, or we could have a school assembly in Glenburn.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,



Larry Derr

102 Raymond Street
Glenburn, ND, 58740

The Glenburn School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities.

Kenmare Public Schools

Box 667 • Kenmare, North Dakota 58746
<https://www.kenmare.k12.nd.us>

Board of Education:

Blaine Huff, Chair Melissa Burud
Lars Christensen Jason Zeltinger
Tawnya Gill Mike Pugh
Amy Ones

Administration:

Dr. Tim Godfrey, Supt./9-12 Principal
Alex Hennix, Elem. Principal
Mary Ann Melin, Business Manager



March 17, 2021


Dear Chairman and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

Kenmare School District shows our support for Minot Public Schools in its endeavor to receive grant funding, through HB 1013, for the purpose of providing STEAM education, ADA accessibility, and equipment for the Magic City Discovery Center. Research suggests that traditional learning, while having a place in educating our children, is not sufficient for preparing students to complete in the 21st century labor force. The world is in search of innovators and entrepreneurs capable of creative problem solving when facing the challenges of today and the future.

The Magic City Discovery Center will offer experiences and opportunities for children in the Northwest region of the state that are normally out of our reach. Kenmare Public Schools is in the process of implementing project based learning in our district as a means to help provide the resources and tools necessary to equip our students to succeed in a future that will demand them to be competitive in their creativity and critical thinking. Magic City Discovery Center will be an asset to us in reaching this endeavor.

Please support HB 1013 and its amendments so we can give our students in the region an advantage in becoming competent in the skills necessary to carry on the innovative greatness that North Dakota public education has to offer.

Respectfully yours,



Dr. Tim Godfrey
Superintendent
Kenmare Public Schools

Rugby Public School District #5

Board of Education

Dustin Hager, President
Carlisle Johnson, Vice President
Shane Livedalen
Kristi Blessum
Brenda Heilman
Dawn Hauck, Business Mgr.



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Administration

Michael McNeff, Superintendent
Jason Gullickson, Ely Elementary Principal
Jared Blikre, Junior/Senior High Principal

March 8, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the Magic City Discovery Center (MCDC) and the educational opportunities that they will be able to provide to our region. Rugby is located an hour away from Minot, this makes their program very accessible to our school district. I am impressed with the offerings that are available for children, and I am envisioning sending our classes to learn more about buoyancy, force and motion, the science of sound, architecture, magnets, coding, and chain reactions. They will also provide Family STEAM Nights, School Assemblies, and STEAM Camps.

The cost structure for schools is affordable and the topics are on point and align with what schools want to provide their students and families. Rugby is a rural community and lacks access to high-quality STEAM experiences, we see the MCDC as a great way to access missing content and curriculum that we lack within our school experience. The MCDC will provide an excellent educational opportunity for our region.

I have personally attended Children's Museums in larger cities with my children and we feel fortunate to have one close to home. I see our school district leveraging the MCDC for our future field trip destinations and the other education experiences that they will provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'McNeff', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr. Michael McNeff
Superintendent of Schools
Rugby, ND