

**MINNESOTA'S PROMISE:
WORLD-CLASS SCHOOLS, WORLD-CLASS STATE**

October 6, 2006

Evaluation Results Summary

In thinking about the superintendents' vision, how much do you support moving the vision to action?

Champion	Actively Support	Support but not likely to act	Disagree but not likely to act	Would actively block	No Response
29%	42%	10%	1%	0%	18%

What is your overall impression of the event?

Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	No Response
34%	49%	12%	1%	0%	4%

Common comments of overall impressions:

- Very well done!
- Interesting conversation
- Great first start
- Timely and purposeful

Comments on how overall impressions could have been better met:

- Participants trying hard – well-meaning in trying to address education issues
- Action steps needed
- Need more diversity of the superintendents' group to ensure all voices heard

How well did this event meet your expectations?

Very well	Well	Somewhat	Not at all	No Response
41%	39%	15%	0%	5%

Common comments on audience expectations and how well expectations were met:

- To begin to work together/make the connections (action plan)
- Exceeded my expectations - I came away energized
- Be informed and challenged about where MN education is heading and where its leaders want to go
- Informative

Comments on how audience expectations could have been better met:

- I'd like to engage in more discourse
- It's hard to accomplish much in half a day with such a large group
- A conference about education policy – I thought there would have been more case examples and application

How well do you feel this event helped you understand the need for a common vision for education in Minnesota and the 8 components of a world-class educational system?

Very well	Well	Somewhat	Not at all	No Response
35%	39%	18%	1%	6 %

Comments on how well audience members understand the need for a common vision:

- Appreciated the perspectives
- The additional interchange of conversation was enlightening and brings forward just how important it is to involve all constituents
- I am really committed to the next steps

Comments on better understanding the need for a common vision:

- I see the common vision issue as the foremost issue - I think the 8 are a draft structure for achieving the common vision
- Not exactly new information, but hopefully it is now organized and ready for action
- I understand what was presented but think it is a work in progress, not a complete eight components

How well do you feel this event helped you develop an awareness and understanding of components related to policy and practice effectiveness, cost-benefits, and feasibility in reaching the Superintendent Symposium's vision of a world-class education system in Minnesota?

Very well	Well	Somewhat	Not at all	No Response
13%	30%	42%	12%	2%

Comments on how well audience members developed an awareness and understanding of the vision's components, and how awareness and understanding could have been better developed:

- Subject is broad, didn't address all [components]
- They didn't really get into the practice/implementation/next steps component

- We all know the need, and the situation, but we also need action for improving the situations in our schools
- At a high level - now need practical and proactive detail

Use of Audience Response Technology

Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	No Response
33%	48%	12%	1 %	0%	6%

Comments on technology use:

- Cool - immediate feed back was great
- Excellent - helped people become engaged
- What a great surprise!
- I liked this component a lot – nice to have the audience participation component

Comments on how technology could have been better used:

- Not used enough
- Yes/No questions were not worth the time
- Some questions were good...others were pointless

Audience and panel discussion

Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor	No Response
33%	48%	12%	1 %	0%	6%

Comments on audience and panel discussion:

- Very nice to hear the diversity of thought represented in the audience
- It was great that the audience was able to voice their opinions
- Interesting

Comments on how audience and panel discussions could have been better used:

- Great way to get involved - more time needs to be dedicated to the interaction between the audience and panelist
- Not enough time curtailed important discussion
- Audience had been working on this issue and had lots to say – many of us have heard it before we need a plan for action and accountability
- Some questions open to interpretation; other questions not asked

From your perspective, what was the most beneficial part of the event?

The most common comments were:

- Clarity of mission, vision and the 8 points

- Interactive discussion
- The dialogue from the audience
- Dialogue and technology of Q&A
- Having non-educators involved in the dialogue (various viewpoints)
- Collecting the group of people you did to present “Minnesota’s Promise” and beginning discussion to start generating action that realizes the promise
- The gathering of such distinguished group of people with a common vision.

From your perspective, what part was least beneficial?

Comments:

- Lack of action platform
- Not sufficient time, nor a plan to get “us” together again
- No response from our state government leaders about a commitment of the necessary dollars to help this vision succeed
- Maybe a bit too much audience participation, would like to have heard more from the panel
- Not enough time to comment and make people from different communities talk about action

Should the University of Minnesota host follow up events related to the vision?

Yes	No	No Response
84%	0%	16%

If yes, what should be the focus of these events (no one answered “If no, why not”)?

The most common comments were:

- Action: set priorities and a process
- How will it happen, how will it move forward - how will we get the job done?
- A report back on how the plan has been received by the many communities of Minnesota and the “promise has changed” (progress of the mission)
- Getting a diverse leadership group to continue dialogues, spread the word, and develop action plans
- Short term wins
- Action steps
- Specific details of the 8 areas
- Implementation of the plan
- More discussion
- Must bring people of color, different ethnic groups and people in poverty to the table

- Events focused on the specific vision topics mentioned
- Gaining engagement of business and policy makers in buying into information, concept and vision
- How community can get involved and have a real voice

Who should participate in these events?

The most common comments were:

- Parents
- A similar, diverse group of people (but with rep. from communities to which you brought and discussed the “Promise”)
- Conversation with legislators
- Community of color
- People who are in a position to provide funding and authorize change
- Business
- Broad based educators
- Policy leaders, research, practice (those most impacted by the change)
- Students
- Broad representation
- Rural input
- Community groups
- Grass roots

What additional suggestions do you have for creating a common vision and addressing the 8 components of world-class education systems?

- The state should remove barriers and provide funding to help us do our work
- Seek ways to spread the vision to get ownership of it, then work with policy makers to develop action plans
- We should ask these questions to the 201 people we might elect in a month - they ultimately will decide our futures on many of these points
- Keep the data connected to economic gain/loss
- Focus on minority kids that are being ignored
- High priority should be given to teacher preparation – in college and universities, more diverse teachers in the classrooms
- Active connections to all systems. Action steps, commitments and follow-up together based on our common concerns, vision and capacities within our missions.
- I would like to see this wonderful vision put into work, and have teachers, staff, students and community involved. I would also like to see every trait put into practice with examples and specific strategies that would go beyond the planning or designing.
- Put them forward in election. Prioritize and create an ongoing momentum to move them forward.

- Informational segments using media and a wide variety of venues

Other comments:

- Use the media to help get the word out and spread the sense of urgency and invite others to the table
- Schools are the hub – work with the community and make use of the school infrastructure
- Well-intentioned effort
- Where is the sense of urgency?
- Well planned and facilitated
- The superintendents did an outstanding job – now they need to be more inclusive. Opening up the conversation brings a new dimension.
- The vision should be a work in progress - it should address parental involvement