



GradMinnesota is a partnership of
Minnesota Alliance With Youth
Minnesota Department of Education
Office of the Governor

SEPTEMBER GRADMN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Join us for the September GradMN Advisory Council Meeting on the topic of Recommendation #4: **Recover and Reengage Youth.**



Where: Wilder Foundation, Auditorium A, 451 Lexington Parkway N, St. Paul (*NEW LOCATION*)

When: Thursday, Sept 28

Time: 9am-11am

Mark your calendar...

OCTOBER GRADMN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Where: Minnesota Department of Education (Conference Center B, Room 16), [1500 West Highway 36, Roseville, MN](#)

When: Thursday, October 19, 9am-11am

Topic: Recommendation 6 - Make Transportation Accessible to All Students

**GradNation Activation Platform
Announced**



[America's Promise Alliance](#) has announced their new **GradNation Action Platform**, identifying six areas that every community should act on to accelerate the high school graduation rate.

The six platform areas are based on the collective experience and expertise of individuals at organizations engaged with young people across the country, the experience of young people themselves, and their own research.

The new platform areas closely mirror [GradMinnesota's Seven Priority Recommendations](#), and include using High Quality Data, improving School Climate, promoting Caring Adult Relationships, and Youth Re-Engagement.

[Read more about GradNation's new Activation Platform ...](#)

Welcome, Colin!

A big welcome to our new GradMinnesota Alliance AmeriCorps VISTA member, Colin Casey! Colin graduated from Macalester College, earning a degree in philosophy with an emphasis on politics and law. Colin loves visiting his grandmother in Stillwater, going on runs, and cooking. Colin will be supporting the work of GradMinnesota and partner specifically with communities that are working to improve high school graduation rates and post-secondary success. **For more information, contact Colin at ccasey@mnyouth.net or visit the [GradNation Communities in Minnesota page](#).**



Recognizing Assets: What is a “Bilingual Seal?”

In June of 2015, the Minnesota legislature enacted bilingual and multilingual seals and world language proficiency certificate legislation to acknowledge and celebrate Minnesota high school students with proficiency



in both English and another language.

Since 2015, each spring, districts can offer students in grades 10, 11, or 12 the opportunity to demonstrate their language proficiency skills using an approved assessment. Minnesota districts and charter schools may award Minnesota bilingual and multilingual seals and world language proficiency certificates to graduating high school students who have demonstrated the required levels of language proficiency in languages other than English. [Read more ...](#)

Youth Testimonials on Exclusionary Discipline Policies: Bridging Experience and Data

In continuation of last month's GradMinnesota Newsletter feature [School-wide Restorative Culture: A Conversation with Alexis Goffe](#), we are spotlighting students from [Paladin Career and Technical High School](#) who were interviewed by Alexis about their experience with exclusionary disciplinary policies and restorative culture. These testimonials provide context for the data, showing the lived experiences of young people.

Q: When do you feel most comfortable, able to learn, and yourself at school?

A: "When I know at least one adult gets me. If something happens I can go to them." "Sometimes I don't need advice, I need [adults] to listen." "I know other students who don't come to school because there is drama. I used to be like that but here I feel safe because I know the stories."

[Read more ...](#)



Minnesota Early Indicator and Response System (MEIRS) Orientation Webinars

MEIRS is a tool that can be used to provide a snapshot of students in grade six and grade nine who are at increased risk of not completing high school in four years. Informed by MEIRS data, schools can develop supports targeted to students who may need additional assistance to stay on track for graduation and to be career and college ready.

The hour-long webinar will introduce you to the complexities of Minnesota's graduation rate and some techniques for dissecting your district's graduation rate.

Upcoming MEIRS webinars and times are listed on the [MDE website](#). **Register Now!**

GradMinnesota

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