The Honorable Charles Wiger Room 205, Minnesota State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Jennifer Loon 449 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Wiger and Representative Loon:

In South St. Paul Schools we began sharing our kindergarten data last fall as a part of our World's Best Workforce reporting. In South St. Paul, our data shows our free and reduced lunch numbers have doubled in the last 10 years. Sixty-seven percent of our kids coming to kindergarten are not literacy ready for kindergarten, and will need additional intervention (more than a year's average growth) in order to be reading well by third grade.

Our community would greatly benefit from universal pre-K.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dave Webb Superintendent of Schools 104 - 5th Avenue South South St. Paul, MN 55075 (651) 457-9465 dave.webb@sspps.org