



# Libraries Strengthen Minnesota

## Legislative Platform

Minnesota Library Association • Minnesota Educational Media Organization

- MLA and MEMO support the allocation of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of public library accessibility and improvement grants. Over \$250 million in renovation, expansion or new public library projects are planned for the near future. State investment in these projects leverages local dollars, and provide incentives that accommodate new technologies, and extend 21st century library services to those with physical disabilities.
- MLA and MEMO support an increase in Local Government Aid (LGA) and County Program Aid. Cuts have resulted in significant revenue losses for cities and counties, affecting library services.
- MLA and MEMO support the capital budget proposals to improve library facilities for Northland Community College - East Grand Forks campus; Minnesota State Community & Technical College – Moorhead campus; Hennepin Technical College - Eden Prairie and Brooklyn Park campuses; and, Minnesota State University, Moorhead.
- MLA and MEMO support legislation requiring all students have the regular services of a certified school library media specialist throughout the school day who can build age and developmentally appropriate collections, teach information and technology literacy, and promote voluntary free reading opportunities throughout the school.
- MLA and MEMO support an increase in the basic education formula for all public schools in Minnesota for the 2008-09 school year.
- MLA and MEMO supports the recommendations of the Task Force on K-12 Technology Standards.