

Minnesota North College 2024 Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement Action Plan

Developed by: Brad Krasaway

Executive Summary:

This nonpartisan democratic engagement action plan was developed by Minnesota North College in Minnesota for the 2024 election. This action plan covers the Hibbing, Itasca, Mesabi Range Virginia, Mesabi Range Eveleth, Rainy River, and Vermilion campuses. The purpose of this action plan is to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter registration, education, and turnout in the 2024 election. The goals for Minnesota North College for the 2024 election are: **Collaborate and empower students, faculty and staff at each campus to strengthen voter registration, education & participation. More specifically to Increase the college-wide student voter participation average by 2% (50 students).**

Leadership:

Our leadership team includes the following, campus groups, and organizations:

Brad Krasaway, Director of Operations Rainy River Campus & College Retention Coordinator

Aaron Reini, Academic Dean of Liberal Arts & Director of Operations Hibbing Campus

Jamie Musburger, Executive Assistant Hibbing Campus

Jessalyn Sabin, Academic Dean of Technical Programs & Director of Operations Mesabi Range Eveleth Campus

Lisa Marcis, Director of Operations Itasca Campus

Jodi Pontinen, Academic Dean of Liberal Arts & Director of Operations Mesabi Range Virginia Campus

Chris Koivisto, Academic Dean of Natural Sciences, Human Services & Director of Operations Vermilion Campus

Commitment:

Minnesota North College Mission

Minnesota North College prepares lifelong learners and engaged citizens through inclusive, transformative experience reflecting the character and natural environment of the region.

Minnesota North College Vision

Minnesota North College will be the premier provider of life-changing education and the catalyst for regional prosperity.

Minnesota North College Core Values

Access and Opportunity

We provide access to transformative education, equipping all learners to achieve their goals.

Community Engagement

We collaborate and build relationships with our communities to support and enrich our region.

Equity and Inclusion

We advance equity and social justice, striving to build more diverse, equitable, and inclusive communities.

Environment and Culture

We explore the history, culture, and natural surroundings of our region, recognizing their contributions to our unique learning environment.

Growth and Learning

We create a safe learning community that cultivates personal growth, critical thinking, and self-reflection.

Minnesota North College's commitment to the college community's civic engagement is also evident in the College Learning Outcomes, which states: "...**Practice Ethical Citizenship:** Students will explain complex issues from multiple perspectives and engage in activities that positively impact their community and environment."

President Michael Raich is a current signatory to the ALL IN Presidents' Commitment to Full Student Voter Participation most recently signing the commitment in 2022.

Landscape:

Minnesota North College is a public community college and joined the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge in 2019. While more diverse than the communities we serve, we still are a predominantly white, rural serving institution.

Our campus demographic and voting data:

College-wide voter participation in the two previous Presidential election cycles were 82% in 2016 and 79% in 2020.

Minnesota North College currently (Fall 2023) has 2,165 students who are of voting age and 3,026 total students. Of those students:

- 365 are considered from “Out of the State”
- 455 are Residential and live on campus
- Age Breakdown
 - o 18-20 1318
 - o 21-24 341
 - o 25-34 284
 - o 35-44 143
 - o 45-54 63
 - o 55 + 16
- Ethnicity / Race
 - o American Indian 55
 - o Asian 12
 - o African American 151
 - o Latino/Hispanic 119
 - o Native Hawaiian 2
 - o Nonresident Alien 28
 - o Two or more 132
 - o Unknown 29
 - o White 1637

Prospective voters have until 21 days before to election day to register to vote but also are able to register on election day.

Minnesota North College has authorized the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) and will receive campus voting data for the 2022 election in fall 2023. Our NSLVE authorization runs through 2033.

Legacy Colleges of Minnesota North College 2016 campus voting rate was 82%.
Legacy Colleges of Minnesota North College 2020 campus voting rate was 79%.

The legacy colleges of Minnesota North College had been recognized by ALL IN with the following seals of recognition most recently in 2018 (Gold).

Goals:

Our institution's nonpartisan democratic engagement goal is to:

- **Increase student voter turnout by 2% in 2024 when compared to the previous Presidential Election Cycle (2020).**

Strategy:

Minnesota North College will implement these strategies to increase nonpartisan democratic engagement and student voter participation.

- **Utilize Constitution Day activities to educate students about the importance of voting**
- **Host Voter Registration Drives at each campus**
- **Provide rides to the polls for residential students**
- **Encourage voter education organizations to have a presence on campus**

Evaluation:

We will evaluate our action plan in the following ways:

Minnesota North College will use the National, Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement to evaluate the increase of student voting by comparing our campus voter turnout and voter registration rates to past elections to measure progress on increasing both.

Minnesota North College also participates in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) bi-annually which measures student engagement and activism on campus.

Reporting:

Our campus action plan will be posted on our campus page on ALL IN's website <https://allinchallenge.org/campuses/minnesota-north-college-hibbing/>.

Our institution has given ALL IN permission to publish our past NSLVE reports, which can also be found on our campus page above.