



The Horace Mann League's 5-year vision statement

Within the next five years the Horace Mann League will be recognized not only as a guardian of Horace Mann's legacy, but as a dynamic and respected national voice for democratic public education.

The Horace Mann League's Board of Directors will work with our members and partner organizations to realize this vision through operationalizing the following seven goals:

- 1. Over the next five years, the League will move deliberately** from a primarily honorary society to a strategically focused advocacy organization — one that translates our ideals into organized action. Our influence will no longer rest primarily on legacy. It will rest on visible impact.
- 2. We will remain rooted in our founding principles** — that publicly governed public schools are a cornerstone of our communities and of our democracy, that they serve the public good through universal access to equitable and excellent educational opportunity, and that our public schools are, and remain, non-sectarian.
- 3. We will identify and pursue clear, national priorities aligned with our mission.** Whether making a strong case for uniform accountability measures for all educational systems receiving public funds, promoting the civic purpose of education, safeguarding constitutional principles, or other issues of educational significance, our voice will be coherent, disciplined, and consistent.
- 4. Our publications will speak with clarity.** Our public statements will reinforce shared priorities. Our programming will reflect strategic focus. Our partnerships will amplify our influence, and we will act with intention and continuity.
- 5. Membership will evolve from affiliation to engagement.** League members will see themselves not only as supporters of an idea, but as participants in a structured effort to advance public education nationally. We will create opportunities for scholarship, public dialogue, and coordinated advocacy with other like-minded educational organizations to strengthen intellectual engagement, civic presence, and action.
- 6. Governance will reflect strategic discipline.** The Board of Directors will guard focus carefully, ensuring that resources — financial, intellectual, and reputational — are aligned with clearly defined objectives. We will measure our influence thoughtfully, tracking growth in membership, public presence, policy engagement, and strategic partnerships.
- 7. The Horace Mann League will be seen as a strong and influential voice for public education** — an organization that speaks for democratic principles without rancor, that defends public education without apology, and that models critical thinking and reasoned civic leadership.

We will not attempt to compete with larger organizations in scale. Our influence will come from clarity, coherence, and credibility.

The League was founded in 1922 to perpetuate the ideals of Horace Mann. In the coming five years, we will ensure that those ideals are not only remembered — but actively advanced.

The mission of the Horace Mann League is to promote and defend public education as a cornerstone of our communities and our democracy