News Release

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DPI-NR 2010-96
Tuesday, July 27, 2010
Contact: Patrick Gasper, DPI Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

Evers makes statement on Race to the Top application status

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers released the following statement on news that Wisconsin's second round Race to the Top application will not move forward in the competitive grant process.

"Though Wisconsin has not been invited to present more information on its Round II Race to the Top application, just by being among the 36 applicants for funding we laid the ground work for major change in public education for the students, educators, parents, and citizens of Wisconsin.

"Wisconsin's application had the support of 97 percent of school districts and 81 percent of participating unions. This represents unprecedented collaboration on the part of teachers, administrators, and school board members in our highly local control state. These stakeholders are ready to tackle the difficult issues facing public education in Wisconsin.

"Though the lack of funding will slow our progress, we will develop model curriculum and training for common core standards in English language arts and mathematics as well as stronger, more responsive student assessments. We will work to build consensus on 'Fair Funding for Our Future' to reform our school finance system so it is fair, sustainable, transparent, and accountable for results. And, we will work with all schools, especially struggling schools in our state's largest districts, to ensure that all students graduate with the knowledge and skills they need for the workforce or further education."

###