



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SFN Endorses State Superintendent Evers' Budget
Fair Funding for Our Future is a step in the right direction

Madison – The School Finance Network (SFN) has announced its endorsement of State Superintendent Tony Evers' budget: Fair Funding for Our Future. Evers' plan calls for changes in the way the state funds schools by creating a base level of funding, directing dollars to where they are needed most and working to protect both students and property taxpayers.

The plan that Evers introduced includes several items that are also included in the SFN's plan and is a significant step in the right direction in terms of school finance reform.

"Wisconsin educators applaud the state superintendent's efforts in recognizing the need for school funding reform," said Mary Bell, President of the Wisconsin Education Association Council. "Moving education forward is a top priority for our union of educators, and this is an important first step toward achieving meaningful funding reform for all of the state's public schools."

Among the changes the state superintendent called for are guaranteeing a base level of funding for every Wisconsin district, creating more truth in budgeting and providing additional dollars to districts with high percentages of students in poverty and to rural districts.

The state superintendent's plan also addresses an important shift which has occurred in recent years as the state backed away from its commitment to fund two-thirds of the costs of Wisconsin schools. Under the Fair Funding for Our Future plan, the state would once again fund more of the costs for Wisconsin schools, thereby reducing property taxes.

"We simply cannot continue the same way that we have in the past," said John Ashley, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards. "We need wholesale reform in the way that we fund our schools. That work begins with the plan that State Superintendent Evers introduced today."

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The School Finance Network is a coalition of individuals and organizations dedicated to improving the method of funding Wisconsin's public schools. SFN is comprised of the following groups: AFT–Wisconsin, the Fair Aid Coalition, the School Administrators Alliance, the Southeastern Wisconsin Schools Alliance, the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools, the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, the Wisconsin Education Association Council and the Wisconsin PTA.

COALITION PARTNERS

AFT – Wisconsin
www.aft-wisconsin.org

Fair Aid Coalition

School Administrators
Alliance
www.wsaa.org

Southeastern Wisconsin
Schools Alliance
www.schoolsalliance.com

Wisconsin Alliance for
Excellent Schools
www.excellentschools.org

Wisconsin Association
of School Boards
www.wasb.org

Wisconsin Association
of School District
Administrators
www.wasda.org

Wisconsin Education
Association Council
www.weac.org

Wisconsin Parent Teacher
Association (PTA)
www.wisconsinpta.org

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