



# School District of New Glarus

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March 9, 2015

Dear Legislators:

On February 3rd, Governor Walker released his state budget proposal for the 2015-17 biennium. School districts across the state, including here in New Glarus, were anticipating and planning for a \$0 increase even though our expenses continue to rise at the cost of inflation. For New Glarus, that meant we were anticipating a deficit of \$250,000, but we had come up with a plan for dealing with those cuts and keeping them away from the classrooms. Unfortunately, the Governor's proposed budget is worse than anticipated and imposes an additional \$150 cut in the per pupil categorical aid in the first year of the biennium, which amounts to an additional \$130,000 deficit for the New Glarus School District. In the second year of the biennium, some of the funding is proposed to be restored, but the net result will still be a cut of approximately \$135 per pupil over the biennium.

Enclosed is a copy of a Board Resolution requesting that you restore education funding and also allow for an inflationary increase. During the coming months you will be determining the final fate of education in the 2015-17 biennial state budget and we strongly encourage you to support public education in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

The New Glarus Board of Education

Gail Anderson, President

Paul Eichelkraut, Vice President

Jerry Landmark, Treasurer

Mary Anne Oemichen, Clerk

Ellyn Runde, Director

Keith Steffen, Director

Travis Zimmerman, Director

3-9-15 RESOLUTION OF  
THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW GLARUS  
NEW GLARUS WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has proposed a \$150 decrease per student in public school funding for 2015-16;

WHEREAS, this decrease results in \$130,000 "base" cut to the School District of New Glarus;

WHEREAS, in addition to the year 1 decrease of \$150 per pupil, Governor Walker's budget plan also includes no revenue limit per pupil increase;

WHEREAS, when factored together (base cut plus no inflationary revenue cap increase) the overall results in reductions in educational opportunities for public school children in New Glarus is compounded upwards toward \$300,000.

WHEREAS, although the Governor indicated in his budget address on February 3<sup>rd</sup> that school revenues remained essentially flat, his budget plan actually imposes a \$150 (\$127 million statewide) cut in the per-pupil special categorical aid in the first year of the biennium;

WHEREAS, this \$150 per-pupil categorical aid was in the 2014-15 state budget base and expected in each year of the 2015-17 biennium to minimally keep pace with inflation;

WHEREAS, even though the Governor proposes to add about \$142 million (about \$165 per pupil) to the per-pupil categorical aid in the second year of the biennium, the net result is a cut of approximately \$135 per pupil (\$112 million) over the biennium;

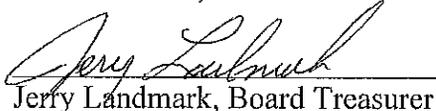
WHEREAS, the Governor proposes spending \$211.2 million in increased school levy credits (\$105.6 million in each year) and \$108 million in increased general aid with no corresponding revenue limit increase; therefore, the \$319 million is "school funding in name only." It simply flows to taxpayers as property tax relief and schools cannot spend one dime of it on the educational needs of their students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School District of New Glarus of Education strongly encourages the Governor and State Legislature to revise the Governor's budget to restore school funding in 2015-17 to educationally adequate levels to include no decrease in year 1 anticipated revenue while also providing for inflationary revenue increases in both years.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the Board of Education for the School District of New Glarus have executed this resolution this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.



Gail Anderson, Board President



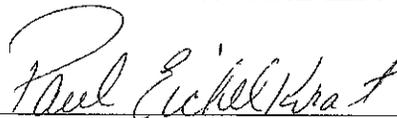
Jerry Landmark, Board Treasurer



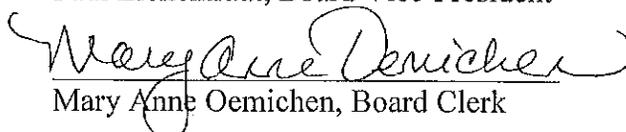
Ellyn Runde, Director



Travis Zimmerman, Director



Paul Eichelkraut, Board Vice-President



Mary Anne Oemichen, Board Clerk



Keith Steffen, Director