Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Full Summary of 2019 Act 9
Final 2019-21 Biennial Budget with Vetoes

(*Department's Request, Governor Evers' Proposal, the Budget Adopted by the Legislature, and Final Act with Partial Vetoes*)

Provisions Related to
Elementary and Secondary Education and
State Agency Operations

Prepared by the Policy and Budget Team
Department of Public Instruction

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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

Commonly Used Acronyms

- **CESA** – cooperative educational services agency
- **DIN** – decision item narrative
- **FTE** – full time equivalent
- **FY** – fiscal year
- **FED** – federal revenue
- **JCF** – Joint Committee on Finance ("Finance Committee")
- **LEA** – local educational agency

Fund Sources

- **GPR** – general purpose revenue
- **PR** – program revenue
- **PR-S** – program revenue-service
- **SEG** – segregated revenue

FY19 Base - The total FY19 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY19 appropriations, pay plan modifications and any other supplements. It is this base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for the 2019-21 biennium.

References to Members, Pupils, and Students
Throughout this document there are references to "student(s)", "pupil(s)", "member(s)", and "membership". These are all references to K-12 students, but the terms "member(s)" and "membership" reflect how students are counted under state law for purposes of state general equalization aid, certain categorical aids, and revenue limits.

Simply put, a district's "membership" is the total full time equivalent (FTE) of students who are residents of the school district and for whom the district pays the cost of educating. As an example: a district's "membership" includes residents who attend a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program (and conversely, excludes non-resident students who attend a public school in the district under open enrollment). This is because each school district incurs a cost, via a reduction in its state general aid, for each resident student who enrolls into a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program. State law provides for similar adjustments to a district's membership for other circumstance as well.

The singular term "member" generally means 1.0 FTE pupil, unless otherwise stated (e.g., with respect to four-year-old kindergarten, which may reference 0.5 FTE or 0.6 FTE pupil).

Membership for general equalization aid purposes uses prior year data. A district's total membership includes the average of the September and January pupil counts (converted to FTE), and adds in the district's FTE pupils for summer school and interim session, as applicable. General aid membership now also includes resident students of the district who enroll in the Racine and the Wisconsin private school parental choice programs (if the student first enrolled in those programs in the 2015-16 school year or after), and for a subset of independent charter schools. Finally, adjustments are made to reflect students enrolled part-time in the school district, in the Youth Challenge Academy program, and for some students in foster care placements.

Membership for revenue limit purposes uses current and prior year data. It is comprised of the three-year rolling average of FTE of the third Friday in September student count, plus 40 percent of summer school FTE (if applicable).

While general equalization aid membership is calculated differently than membership for revenue limit purposes, the concept of a member (a resident for whom the district pays the cost of educating) is the same for both purposes.

In this document, references to "pupil" (e.g., "per pupil adjustment"), in the context of state aids and revenue limits, has the same meaning as "member", as described above.

BIENNIAL BUDGET TIMELINE

September 17, 2018 – The Department of Public Instruction submits its 2019-21 biennial budget request to the Department of Administration.

February 28, 2019 – Governor Evers introduces his 2019-21 biennial budget proposal for all state agencies.

May 9, 2019 – The Joint Committee on Finance adopts motion #5, which removed several provisions of the Governor's 2019-21 biennial budget proposal from consideration during the Committee's deliberations on the budget. The K-12 funding provisions removed under motion #5 have been moved to the "ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE" section of this summary document.

May 23, 2019 – The Joint Committee on Finance takes action on the biennial budget for elementary and secondary education funding, public libraries and lifelong learning, and Department of Public Instruction administration (omnibus motion #94). (Additionally, action taken by the Committee on June 11, 2019, under motion #146, impacted funding for School Library Aids.)

June 25, 2019 – The Assembly adopts and passes Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to AB 56.

June 26, 2019 – The Senate concurs with AB 56 as amended.

July 3, 2019 – Governor Evers signs the budget bill into law, as 2019 Act 9 (reflects partial vetoes).

July 4, 2019 –2019 Act 9 is published.

July 5, 2019 – 2019 Act 9 is generally effective (excepted as specified in the Act).

Summary: 2019 Act 9 – Final 2019-21 Budget for School Aids & Tax Credits

	FY19 - Base	FY20	FY21	Total Change to Base
Categorical Aid Programs				
Per Pupil Aid^	$ 549,098,400	$ 619,124,800	$ 616,973,000	$ 137,901,000
Special Education Categorical Aid	$ 368,939,100	$ 384,472,300	$ 450,276,200	$ 96,870,300
Achievement Gap Reduction Contracts	$ 109,184,500	$ 109,184,500	$ 109,184,500	$ -
Sparsity Aid	$ 25,213,900	$ 24,713,900	$ 24,813,900	$ (900,000)
Pupil Transportation Aid	$ 24,000,000	$ 24,000,000	$ 24,000,000	$ -
High-Cost Transportation Aid	$ 12,700,000	$ 13,500,000	$ 13,500,000	$ 1,600,000
High-Cost Special Education Aid	$ 9,353,800	$ 9,353,800	$ 9,353,800	$ -
Personal Electronic Computing Device Grant - VETO	$ 9,187,500	$ -	$ -	$ (18,375,000)
Bilingual-Bicultural Aid	$ 8,589,800	$ 8,589,800	$ 8,589,800	$ -
State Tuition Payments	$ 8,242,900	$ 8,242,900	$ 8,242,900	$ -
Head Start Supplement	$ 6,264,100	$ 6,264,100	$ 6,264,100	$ -
Educator Effectiveness Grants	$ 5,746,000	$ 5,746,000	$ 5,746,000	$ -
School Lunch Match	$ 4,218,100	$ 4,218,100	$ 4,218,100	$ -
Aid for CCDEB's	$ 4,067,300	$ 4,067,300	$ 4,067,300	$ -
School Performance Improvement Grant	$ 3,690,600	$ 3,690,600	$ -	$ (3,690,600)
Special Education Transition Incentive Grant	$ 3,600,000	$ 3,600,000	$ 3,600,000	$ -
Mental Health School-Based Services Grant	$ 3,250,000	$ 6,500,000	$ 6,500,000	$ 6,500,000
Mental Health Categorical Aid	$ 3,000,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 6,000,000
School Breakfast Grant	$ 2,510,500	$ 2,510,500	$ 2,510,500	$ -
Supplemental Special Education Aid	$ 1,750,000	$ 1,750,000	$ -	$ (1,750,000)
Peer Review and Mentoring Grant	$ 1,606,700	$ 1,606,700	$ 1,606,700	$ -
Special Education Transition Readiness Grant	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ -
Summer School Programs Grant	$ 1,400,000	$ 1,400,000	$ 1,400,000	$ -
4K Start Up Grant	$ 1,350,000	$ 1,350,000	$ 1,350,000	$ -
TEACH Debt Service Aid	$ 832,300	$ 832,300	$ 832,300	$ -
School Day Milk Grant	$ 617,100	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,000,000	$ 765,800
Rural Teacher Talent Pilot Program	$ 500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,500,000	$ 2,000,000
Transportation Aid for Open Enrollment	$ 454,200	$ 454,200	$ 454,200	$ -
Robotics League Participation Grant	$ 250,000	$ 500,000	$ 500,000	$ 500,000
Gifted and Talented Grant	$ 237,200	$ 237,200	$ 237,200	$ -
SAGE Debt Service Aid	$ 133,700	$ 133,700	$ 133,700	$ -
Supplemental Aid	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	$ -
Supplemental Per Pupil Aid (NEW)	$ -	$ 2,800,000	$ 2,500,000	$ 5,300,000
GPR Categorical Aids	**$ 1,171,587,700**	**$ 1,258,942,700**	**$ 1,316,954,200**	**$ 232,721,500**
Tribal Languages (PR)	$ 222,800	$ 222,800	$ 222,800	$ -
Aid for AODA (PR)	$ 1,284,700	$ 1,284,700	$ 1,284,700	$ -
PR Categorical Aids	**$ 1,507,500**	**$ 1,507,500**	**$ 1,507,500**	**$ -**
School Library Aids (SEG)	$ 37,000,000	$ 39,400,000	$ 40,300,000	$ 5,700,000
Education Telecomm Access (SEG) [DOA]	$ 15,984,200	$ 15,984,200	$ 15,984,200	$ -
SEG Categorical Aids	**$ 52,984,200**	**$ 55,384,200**	**$ 56,284,200**	**$ 5,700,000**
Total Categorical Aids	**$ 1,226,079,400**	**$ 1,315,834,400**	**$ 1,374,745,900**	**$ 238,421,500**
General Aids				
General Equalization Aids	$ 4,656,848,000	$ 4,740,048,000	$ 4,903,590,000	$ 329,942,000
Gen Aids-Hold Harmless	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
High Poverty Aid	$ 16,830,000	$ 16,830,000	$ 16,830,000	$ -
Total General Aids	**$ 4,673,678,000**	**$ 4,756,878,000**	**$ 4,920,420,000**	**$ 329,942,000**
Total State School Aids (no tax credit)	$ 5,899,757,400	$ 6,072,712,400	$ 6,295,165,900	$ 568,363,500
School Levy Tax Credit	$ 1,090,000,000	$ 1,090,000,000	$ 1,090,000,000	$ -
Total Cat/Gen School Aids & Credits	**$ 6,989,757,400**	**$ 7,162,712,400**	**$ 7,385,165,900**	**$ 568,363,500**
State Residential Schools	$ 10,918,900	$ 11,928,400	$ 11,928,400	$ 2,019,000
Total State Support for Schools	**$ 7,000,676,300**	**$ 7,174,640,800**	**$ 7,397,094,300**	**$ 570,382,500**
Percent change to base:		**2.5%**	**5.7%**	**4.1%**

^The amounts shown for Per Pupil Aid are estimates of the amount required to fully fund the aid program, based on current projections of statewide revenue limit membership for FY20 and for FY21. This is a sum-sufficient appropriation, meaning that all districts will receive the full amount for which they are eligible ($742 per revenue limit member in FY20 and in FY21).

Summary: 2019 Act 9 – Final 2019-21 Budget for Aids to Individuals & Organizations

Program	FY19 (Base)	FY20	FY21	Total Change to Base	% change over BYD
AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS					
Wisconsin Reading Corps (WRC)*	$ 700,000	$ 700,000	$ 700,000	$ -	**0.0%**
Very Special Arts	$ 75,000	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	$ 50,000	**33.3%**
Special Olympics	$ 75,000	$ 100,000	$ 100,000	$ 50,000	**33.3%**
HOPELINE (text-based suicide prevention)	$ -	$ 110,000	$ 110,000	$ 220,000	**N/A**
Public Library System Aid	$ 15,013,100	$ 16,013,100	$ 16,013,100	$ 2,000,000	**6.7%**
Badgerlink and NFB	$ 2,937,500	$ 2,937,500	$ 3,283,300	$ 345,800	**5.9%**
Library Service Contracts	$ 1,174,300	$ 1,307,500	$ 1,312,400	$ 271,300	**11.6%**
AGENCY OPERATIONS					
Fuel & Utilities Reestimate (Res Schools)	$ 512,200	$ 537,600	$ 548,500	$ 61,700	**6.0%**
Debt Service Reestimate (Res Schools)	$ 988,700	$ 1,094,800	$ 1,020,000	$ 137,400	**6.9%**

^Funding for the WRC had been provided on a one-time basis for the 2017-19 biennium under 2017 Act 59; under the Governor's proposal, adopted by the JCF, funding for WRC will be permanent (unless changed by a future act of the Legislature).

^^Funding for HOPELINE is provided under the Joint Committee on Finance Supplemental appropriation, rather than within the Chapter 20 appropriations schedule for DPI.

NOTE: This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs, as included in: the Department of Public Instruction's 2019-21 biennial budget request; Governor Evers' budget proposal for K-12 education funding; the budget bill as amended by the Finance Committee and then adopted by the Legislature; and the final budget bill signed by the Governor (with partial vetoes) and enacted as 2019 Act 9.

The departments' full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found at: https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/biennial-budget/current.

All action on the 2019-21 biennial budget for all state agencies, from agency requests through the final signed budget bill, is summarized by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau; the full summaries can be found at this web site: http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/budget/2019_21_biennial_budget/

GENERAL AIDS & REVENUE LIMITS (SCHOOL FINANCE)

The department submitted the **Fair Funding for Our Future: School Finance Reform package** as part of its 2019-21 biennial budget request. For a complete review of Fair Funding for Our Future, please visit: https://dpi.wi.gov/budget/funding-reform

***School Finance – Revenue Limits and General Aid**: In Wisconsin, public school districts receive general equalization aid to support general operational programs of the district. General equalization aid is in essence a cost-reimbursement program, providing aid to districts based on districts' prior year shared (aidable) costs and relative ability to provide financial support for schools, as measured by property value per member.*

Wisconsin state law limits the total amount of revenues a district may raise with general equalization aid and local property tax levies, referred to as the "revenue limit". General equalization aid is funding that goes directly to school districts, and reduces districts' controlled property tax levies; thus, general equalization aid is referred to as being received "under the revenue limit".

See the section of this summary "ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE", subsection "SCHOOL FINANCE", for additional information.

GENERAL STATE AIDS

General Equalization Aids

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $190,000,000 GPR in FY20 and $406,322,000 GPR in FY21, for general equalization aids for public school districts in Wisconsin and implement the state superintendent's "Fair Funding for Our Future" (Fair Funding) school finance reform formula changes. The amounts reflect increases to all general school aids of 4.1 percent and 4.6 percent annually, over the biennium.

  Note: these amounts exclude $1,090,000,000 GPR that would be transferred from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; $940,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; $150,000,000), to the General Equalization Aid formula for FY21, because that amount would be appropriated in FY22.

- Request to modify the school aid formula to:

  1. Include a 20 percent weighing factor to reflect income/poverty for pupils who meet the criteria for free and reduced price lunch eligibility;
  2. Raise the secondary cost ceiling from 90 percent to 100 percent of the statewide average shared cost per FTE general aid member;
  3. Modify the Special Adjustment Aid eligibility threshold from 85 percent to 90 percent of the prior year state general aid amount; and
  4. Provide for minimum state general aid of $3,000 per FTE general aid member.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the requested changes to the general equalization aid formula under the department's Fair Funding school finance reform proposal.
- Increase funding for general equalization aid by $15,000,000 GPR in FY20 (above agency request) and approve the requested funding in FY21.
- Beginning in FY20, eliminate the current law delayed aid payment ($75,000,000) that was first implemented in FY00.

- The proposed funding reflects annual increases to all general school aids of 4.4 percent in FY20 and 4.3 percent in FY21 (net of the SLTC and FDC).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Increase funding for general equalization aid by $83,200,000 GPR in FY20 and $246,742,000 GPR in FY21.
- Deny the requested changes to the general equalization aid formula and to eliminate the current law delayed aid payment (maintain current law).

General Equalization Aids-Hold Harmless
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request $5,800,000 in FY21 in a new, sum sufficient appropriation, to provide hold harmless aid to certain districts, to ensure that every district receives the same amount of total state support, as compared to current law, accounting for the School Levy Tax Credit amounts.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify agency request: increase funding level for hold-harmless payments to $7,500,000 GPR in FY21, to reflect a revised simulation of the proposal, based on data from the October 15 certification of 2018-19 general equalization aid (increase of $1,700,000 GPR in FY21).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

Aid for High Poverty Districts
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request to maintain High Poverty Aid base funding for FY20, and to eliminate the program in FY21 and transfer the base level funding of $16.8 million into the general equalization aids appropriation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

REVENUE LIMITS

Revenue Limit per Pupil
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment for school districts, to provide $200 per revenue limit member in FY20 and $204 per revenue limit member in FY21.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide per member adjustments of $175 in FY20 and $179 in FY21. *See also the Per Pupil Aid program, and the new Supplemental Per Pupil Aid program, under the CATEGORICAL AIDS section of this document.*

Low Revenue Ceiling
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Increase the current law low-revenue ceiling threshold of $9,400 per pupil (FY19), to $9,700 in FY20 and then to $10,000 in FY21.

TWO-THIRDS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Restore Two-Thirds Funding
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Restore the prior law definition of partial school revenues and "two-thirds" funding for public schools, beginning in FY21. Restore the prior law provisions pertaining to the state's commitment to fund two-thirds of public education costs that were generally in effect from FY97 through FY03.
- The Governor's proposal includes state support for public schools at 66.73% in FY20 and 68.64% in FY21.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the Governor's request to restore prior law two-thirds funding commitment (maintain current law).

CATEGORICAL AIDS

School districts may also receive categorical state aids, which are intended to finance or provide reimbursement for a specific instructional or supporting program, or to aid a particular target group of pupils. (Per Pupil Aid is the exception to this rule, as it provides a flat dollar per member, with no eligibility criteria applied). Categorical aids are received "outside the revenue limit", as receipt of a categorical aid does not reduce a district's ability to raise property taxes. School districts do not receive general equalization aid for expenditures supported by categorical aids.

Per Pupil Aid (*Partial Veto*)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Continue funding Per Pupil Aid at the FY19 payment of $654 per member, and request a decrease in expenditure authority of $3,398,400 in FY20 and a decrease of $5,298,400 in FY21, to reflect the amount required to fund payments, based on estimated statewide revenue limit membership in FY20 and FY21.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide increases of $17,459,200 GPR in FY20, and $36,277,600 in FY21, to reflect increases of $25 annually to the per pupil payment amount, based on projected statewide revenue limit membership.
- The resulting payments will be $679 per member in FY20 and $704 per member in FY21.

GOVERNOR'S VETO:

- ***Partially veto the language in the bill so as to provide a total of $742 per member in FY20 and in FY21.***
- While the Governor's partial veto resulted in a higher per pupil payment to school district than was included in AB 56, the chapter 20 appropriation was not increased as a result of the veto. The appropriation is sum-sufficient, meaning all school districts will receive the full amount of Per Pupil Aid for which they are eligible.

Supplemental Per Pupil Aid (*Partial Veto*)
FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Create a new categorical aid program to provide additional aid to districts, if their per-member General Aid amount, plus the per-member Per Pupil Aid amount, is less than $1,000.

- For eligible districts, this supplemental payment would be equal to amount required to reach $1,000, multiplied by the number of revenue limit members (as used for Per Pupil Aid).
- The aid is provided in a sum-certain appropriation, thus it will be prorated if funding is insufficient to pay aid in full to eligible districts.

GOVERNOR'S VETO:

- ***Partially veto the language in the bill so as to distribute the appropriated amounts to all school districts.***

MENTAL HEALTH: EXPANDING ACCESS AND IMPROVING SERVICES

School Mental Health Categorical Aid Program
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $22,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the categorical aid for school mental health programs and provide reimbursements on the basis of expenditures for all pupil services categories, as opposed to just school social workers (i.e., expenditures for school counselors, school nurses, and school psychologists would be aidable).
- The department also requests modifications to the program so that all eligible claimants will receive at least some aid at the Tier 2 aid level.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide increases of $3,000,000 GPR annually, to raise funding to $6,000,000 annually.
- Deny request to expand aid to all pupil service categories (maintain current law).

Community and School Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $7,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the School-Based Mental Health Services Grant program, in order to support more school districts and independent charter schools in connecting youth to needed mental health services.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide increases of $3,250,000 GPR annually, to raise funding to $6,500,000 annually.

See also "Mental Health and School Climate Training Support" under "AGENCY ADMINISTRATION".

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special Education Categorical Aid
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $75,060,900 GPR in FY20 and $531,060,900 GPR in FY21 to increase the reimbursement rate for aidable special education costs, from approximately 25 percent in FY19, to 30 percent in FY20 and 60 percent in FY21.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Increase funding by $15,533,200 GPR in FY20 & $81,337,100 GPR in FY21, to increase the reimbursement rate for aidable special education costs, to 26 percent in FY20 and 30 percent in FY21.

Supplemental Special Education
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Maintain base funding for FY20, but repeal the supplemental special education categorical aid program beginning in FY21 (decrease of $1,750,000 GPR).

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DENIED THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL EDUCATION PROPOSALS

High-Cost Special Education
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Maintain base funding and request that the appropriation type be changed to sum sufficient, to allow all eligible claims to be fully paid.
- Allow for reimbursement of 100 percent of eligible prior year costs above the $30,000 per student high cost threshold (current law specifies only 90 percent of prior year aidable costs may be reimbursed).

Special Education – Transitions Incentive Grants
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Maintain base funding and request that the appropriation be fully expended on an annual basis, with individual incentive grants capped at $1,500 per qualified survey response. School districts and independent charter schools are eligible for incentive grants.

Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $3,500,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to expand the Transition Readiness Grant program, from $1,500,000 to $5,000,000 annually.

INVESTING IN RURAL SCHOOLS

Sparsity Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $9,786,100 GPR in FY20 and $9,786,100 in FY21 to fully fund the Sparsity Aid categorical aid program, based on projected membership in eligible school districts at $400 member, and to create a second tier of eligibility within the program to expand Sparsity Aid to school districts that meet the sparsity criteria (fewer than ten members per square mile) and have 746 or more members. Districts meeting the second tier criteria would be eligible to receive aid in the amount of $100 per member.
- Request a statutory change to the Sparsity Aid program to provide the stopgap payment for one year to districts that lose eligibility for Sparsity Aid because the district no longer meets the sparsity criteria.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify agency request: delay the creation of the second tier of aid eligibility until FY21 (no funding increase for FY20), but fully fund projected aid eligibility in FY20, under current law provisions (1 tier of eligibility).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law) and reduce base funding by $500,000 GPR in FY20 and by $400,000 GPR in FY21, to reflect the amounts required to fully fund aid eligibility.

Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request a statutory change to the Pupil Transportation Aid program to increase the amount paid to school districts and independent charter schools, for each student transported over 12 miles to and from the school attended in the regular school year, from $365 to $375.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the requirement that the department prorate aid payments for summer and interim session transportation based on the number of days a student rides the bus.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $2,300,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase the reimbursement rate for the High Cost Transportation Aid categorical aid program from 84.9 percent in FY18 to 100 percent of eligible expenditures.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the $200,000 cap on total stopgap payments, whereby school districts that have lost eligibility for High Cost Transportation Aid receive an aid payment equal to 50 percent of its prior year aid award (prorated, if necessary).

GOVERNOR:

- Modify agency request: delay the increase in funding until FY21, but maintain the request to eliminate the $200,000 cap on total stopgap payments to eligible districts, effective with aid distributed in FY20.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide increases of $800,000 GPR annually, to fund aid claims at 90 percent of projected eligibility and deny request to remove the $200,000 limit on stop gap payments for districts that lose aid eligibility.

BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION / SUPPORTING ENGLISH LEARNERS

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DENIED THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS

Bilingual-Bicultural Aid
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $14,110,200 GPR in FY20 and $26,810,200 in FY21 to increase the state reimbursement rate for Bilingual-Bicultural; (BLBC) education programs, from roughly 8 percent under current law, to 20 percent in FY20 and to 30 percent in FY21.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the proposal increases funding by $8,510,200 GPR in FY20, to reimburse eligible school districts at 15 percent of prior year expenditures; and provides the funding increase in FY21 sufficient to reimburse at 30 percent of eligible prior year expenditures (decrease of $5,600,000 GPR, compared to agency request).

Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural Aid
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request $2,400,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to create a new program, Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) Aid. Under this new program, the department would award $100 per English Learner (EL) to school districts with EL student populations below the statutory threshold, as specified under s. 115.997 Wis. Stat., for the current law BLBC program, and thus do not receive BLBC state aid.

  NOTE: Under the Governor's proposal, the program would begin in FY21 (decrease of $2,400,000 GPR, compared to agency request).

Targeted Aid for English Learners
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request $3,400,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to create a new categorical aid program to provide aid to school districts in an amount equal to $100 for each English Learner student (EL) whose English language proficiency is classified at a level 1, 2 or 3 on the annual English Language Proficiency Assessment. School districts would receive aid under this new program regardless of the district's eligibility for the current law Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) Aid program, or the department's proposed new Supplemental BLBC Aid Program.

  NOTE: Under the Governor's proposal, the program would begin in FY21 (decrease of $3,400,000 GPR, compared to agency request).

Grants to Support English Learners and Bilingual-Bicultural Education Programs
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request $5,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY21, to create a new, discretionary grant program to support educational programming for ELs and for bilingual-bicultural (BLBC) education in schools.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the proposal to provide $2,500,000 annually, beginning in FY21, for the new grant program (decrease of $2,500,000 GPR, compared to agency request).

URBAN EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DENIED THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS

Early Childhood Education Grant (Categorical Aid)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request $5,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY21, to create an early childhood education grant program. The program would provide support the state's very large urban districts to either start up a new or expand an existing program offering high quality early childhood education to children in the district, as a way to ensure all children have a successful start to school. The proposed grant would provide $1,000 for each student attending an early childhood education program to each of the Big Five school districts.

Summer School Grant (Categorical Aid)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $3,600,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the current law Summer School Grant to Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) to the Big Five school districts. The grant award for MPS would be increased, from $1.4 million to $2.0 million (annually), and the remaining $3.0 million would be distributed evenly to the remaining four school districts (i.e., $750,000 annually for the each of the other Big Five school districts). Funding would allow districts to offer additional learning opportunities to students when they are normally out of school as a way to reduce summer learning loss and thereby improve general academic performance.

Supporting Great Teachers- National Board Certified Teacher and Master Educator Grants
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $571,200 GPR in FY20 and $652,900 GPR in FY21, to reflect projected grant awards under the program, and beginning in FY20, modify the continuing grant amount as follows:
  - Increase the continuing grant amount, from $5,000 to $15,000 annually, for eligible individuals teaching in very high poverty schools located in districts with a student enrollment of at least 18,000.
  - Increase the size of the continuing grant, from $5,000 to $10,000 annually, for eligible individuals teaching in high poverty schools located with a student enrollment less than 18,000.
  - Maintain grants at $2,500 annually for individuals teaching in non-high poverty schools.

Supporting Great Leaders–Wisconsin Urban Leadership Institute
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request $250,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a new grant program for the Wisconsin Urban Leadership Institute, to expand training, coaching, and support for principals in all Big Five school districts.

Collaborating with Community Partners
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request $1,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a new Community Engagement grant program, to support the Big Five school districts in working collaboratively with partners in their communities, to improve outcomes for students. The Governor's proposal included additional criteria to be met by applicants, as a condition of receiving a grant.

DUAL ENROLLMENT (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COLLEGE CREDIT)

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DENIED THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS

Eliminate the Early College Credit Program (ECCP)
GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate the current law provisions around the ECCP, first effective with the 2020-21 school year. [Students would have the option of participating under the ECCP during the 2019-21 school year].
- Direct the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin Technical College System to develop dual enrollment opportunities for high school students in public and private high schools and to provide the credit-bearing courses at no cost to students, their families, or to the school or district attended by the student.

State Aid to Schools for Early College Credit Program (ECCP)
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $1,753,500 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to reflect the transfer of the appropriation for tuition reimbursements to schools under the Early College Credit Program, from the Department of Workforce Development to the Department of Public Instruction. Also, request that aid payments be based on prior year data. While this request represents an increase to the department's appropriations schedule, it would be offset by an equal reduction to DWD's appropriations schedule, under Wis. Stat. Chapter 20.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny agency request (see Early College Credit Program item, above)

Aid for Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Transportation
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a statutory change to the appropriation language governing the program that provides aid to parents who incur transportation costs related to their child (or children) participating in the Open Enrollment program and/or the ECCP to ensure transparency in the administration of both programs.
- Reduce the appropriation by $20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 as an offset to the department's request to provide $20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 in a new, annual appropriation specifically for ECCP transportation aid payments.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny agency request (see Early College Credit Program item, above), and maintain base funding in the appropriation for Transportation Aid for open enrolled students.

TEACHER TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT

Minority Teacher Grant Program
GOVERNOR:

- Provide $500,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a new program to award competitive grants to school districts to recruit minorities to teach in the school district. The department must award 50 percent of the amount to Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) and 50 percent to school districts other than MPS. The department must also give preference in awarding funding to school districts that have a high percentage of pupils who are minorities, as defined by the department by rule.
- Funding for the proposed new grant program would be reallocated from the Minority Teacher Loan program that is administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board (the Minority Teacher Loan program would be eliminated).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

Rural Teacher Talent Pilot Program
FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Increase funding, from $500,000 GPR to $1,500,000 GPR, beginning in FY20, for the existing grant program under which the department awards grants to CESAs to coordinate with universities and colleges to provide practicums, student-teacher placement, and internships for undergraduate college students in rural school districts. Funding provided to CESAs under this program are used to provide stipends and reimbursements (e.g., for mileage) to students.

TARGETED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS ADOPTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robotics League Participation Grants
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $250,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to fully fund the anticipated demand for Robotics League Participation grants.

School Day Milk Program
AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $382,900 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to increase the reimbursement rate for the Wisconsin School Day Milk Program from 58 percent (in FY17) to 100 percent of eligible expenditures.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Approve requested funding. Additionally, expand eligibility for this program to Independent Charter Schools, the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and residential care centers for children and youth.

School Library Aid
GOVERNOR:

- Increase funding for School Library Aids by $900,000 SEG in FY20 and by $1,800,000 in FY21, to reflect a re-estimate of the amount of revenue available for distribution to school districts.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Increase funding for School Library Aids by an additional $1,500,000 SEG in FY20 and in FY21, to reflect the latest re-estimate of available revenue. Total funding: $39,400,000 in FY20 and $40,300,000 in FY21.

School Performance Improvement Grant
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Modify counting of public school students, to be consistent with how students in private schools and independent charter schools are counted for this program.

GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Approve agency request to modify counting of public school students (applicable in FY20), but eliminate funding for this grant program beginning in FY21 ($3,690,600 GPR annually).

ITEMS VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR

Grants to Lakeland STAR Schools (*Veto*)
FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide $250,000 GPR annually in a biennial appropriation for grants to the Lakeland STAR School and the Lakeland STAR Academy. Funding would be allocated among the Minocqua J1 [K-8] school district ($83,000) and the Lakeland Unified High School (UHS) school district ($167,000).
- The grant would be contingent on the Lakeland START School and the Lakeland STAR Academy demonstrating matching funds from private donors, and would be provide for only the 2019-21 biennium. The school districts would be required to submit a report to the Legislature and to the State Superintendent.

GOVERNOR:

- ***Veto the provision entirely.***

Robots for Autism (*Veto*)
FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide $25,000 GPR annually for grants to implement Robots4Autism programming.
- The department would be required to award grants to CESAs to implement programs that use interactive facially expressive humanoid robotics for social and behavioral skills development in the advanced treatment of autism.
- The grant could be used for the purchase of robotic devices and curriculum with demonstrated effectiveness for aiding in the academic and social-motional learning f pupils on the autism spectrum, and technical assistance and training related to those devices.

GOVERNOR:

- ***Veto the provision entirely.***

Personal Electronic Computing Devices Grant (*Veto*)
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Modify counting of public school students, to be consistent with how students in private schools and independent charter schools are counted for this program.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve agency request to modify counting of public school students (applicable in FY20) and eliminate funding for this grant program beginning in FY21 ($9,187,500 GPR annually).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the Governor's request, thereby maintaining current law funding at $9,187,500 GPR annually.

GOVERNOR'S VETO:

- ***Partially veto the bill to reduce the appropriation for this grant program, to zero, beginning in FY20. As a result of the partial veto, there is no funding for the grant program.***

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE **DENIED** THE FOLLOWING GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS FOR **NEW** PROGRAMS

After School Grant Program
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request $20,000,000 GPR beginning in FY21, to create a new state-funded afterschool grant program that would provide ongoing support to afterschool program sites and out-of-school time programs. The Governor modified the agency's request to provide $10,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, in a biennial appropriation for the proposed afterschool grant program.

  [*Denial by the Committee – no new program.]*

Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership Grant
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request $2,500,000 GPR in FY20 and $10,000,000 GPR in FY21 to create a new program for a mathematics partnership of the Milwaukee Public Schools district (MPS) and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to select, train, place, and support a Mathematics Teacher Leader in school buildings in MPS, as part of a systematic and comprehensive plan for improving mathematics teaching and learning in MPS schools. The overarching goal of the MMP is to raise student achievement in math and to narrow persistent achievement gaps among student groups in MPS. The Governor modified the agency's request to begin the proposed MMP grant program in FY21 (decrease of $2,500,000 GPR).

  [*Denial by the Committee – no new program.]*

Water Filtration Grants
GOVERNOR:

- Provide $250,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY21, to provide grants to school districts to install water bottle filling stations with filters that reduce harmful toxins (e.g., lead, nitrates) in student drinking water.

  [*Denial by the Committee – no new program.]*

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE **DENIED** THE FOLLOWING GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS FOR **EXISTING** PROGRAMS

Grants to Support Gifted and Talented Programs
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $762,800 GPR in FY20 and in FY21 to increase the appropriation for grants to support gifted and talented programs, in order to reach more students in more schools. Request modifications to the program to: 1) give applicants flexibility in the strategies they pursue to support gifted and talented students; and 2) focus the overarching goal of the program to identify and serve students that have been historically under-identified in gifted and talented programing.

  [*Denial by the Committee maintains funding ($237,200 GPR annually) and current law program language.*]

School Breakfast Aid
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $2,789,500 GPR in FY20 and $2,889,500 in FY21 to increase the state reimbursement rate for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to 15.0 cents for each breakfast served to school districts and private schools.
- Expand eligibility for the program to Independent Charter Schools, the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and residential care centers for children and youth. Request $120,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to fund reimbursements under the SBP at 15.0 cents for each breakfast served in these institutions.

  [*Denial by the Committee maintains funding ($2,510,500 GPR annually) and current law program language.*]

Tribal Language Revitalization Grants
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $362,200 PR-S beginning in FY21, for a new Young Learners Tribal Language Revitalization initiative, including $262,200 PR-S to increase the existing funding for grants, and $100,000 PR-S to fund operations of programs in partnership with Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.

  [*Denial by the Committee maintains funding ($222,800 PR-S annually) and current law program language.*]

INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE, SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, AND OPEN ENROLLMENT

Formula for the Annual Adjustment to Per Pupil Payments

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Modify the calculation for the annual adjustment to the per pupil payment for independent charter schools (ICS), private schools participating in a parental choice program or the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP), and for the full time transfer amount under the public school Open Enrollment (OE) program (applies to both the special education OE and the regular OE transfer amounts).
    - The department recommends that just two factors be included in the annual adjustment: 1) the dollar amount of the revenue limit adjustment per revenue limit member provided to public school districts; and 2) the dollar increase in the payment per revenue limit member under the Per Pupil Aid program [per Wis. Stats. Sec. 115.437].
    - Current law specifies that the dollar increase in state appropriations for most categorical aid programs, divided by the prior year revenue limit membership, is added to the revenue limit per pupil adjustment, to determine the annual adjustment to the per pupil payments for ICS, private school choice & SNSP schools, and OE transfer amounts*.
- The resulting adjustments, based on the department's request for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment, and for Per Pupil Aid, would be $200 for FY20 and $204 for FY21.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request to modify the calculation for the annual adjustment to the per pupil payment for all programs; the resulting increase is the same as the department's request: $200 in FY20 and $204 in FY21, (except for the OE program, for which increases would be $300 in FY20 and $304 in FY21).

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Maintain the current law indexing method. The table below shows estimated annual increaes based on Act 9 appropriations.

Table 1. Estimated Per Pupil Adjustment and Payments under 2019 Act 9 for Parental Choice and Special Needs Scholarship Programs, for Independent Charter Schools, and for Open Enrollment

		Annual Increase		Per Pupil Payment	
Program	**FY19 (Base)**	**FY20**	**FY21**	**FY20**	**FY21**
Independent Charter Schools	$ 8,619	$292	$254	$8,911	$9,165
Private School Choice (grades K-8)	7,754	292	254	8,046	8,300
Private School Choice (grades 9-12)	8,400	292	254	8,692	8,946
Spec. Educ. OE & SNSP	12,431	292	254	12,723	12,977
OE [reflects additional $100 each year]	7,379	392	354	7,771	8,125

*For the transfers of aid for non-special education students participating in OE, the per-pupil adjustment would continue to be increased by an additional $100 in FY20 and in FY21, per 2017 Act 59 (under Wis. Stat. 118.51(16) (a) 3.c.).

See the section "ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE", subsection "CHOICE/CHARTER/SNSP/OPEN ENROLLMENT", for additional information.

Independent Charter School Programs – Payment Estimates
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Legacy Authorizers: Request an increase of $7,099,400 GPR in FY20 and $13,910,500 GPR in FY21, to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the legacy "2r" independent charter schools (ICS) authorized by the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside.
- Office of Education Opportunity (OEO) Authorizers: Request an increase of $3,130,800 GPR in FY20 and $4,579,100 GPR in FY21 to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the new "2x" ICS authorized by the Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) within the UW System.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the appropriations for payments to ICS that are authorized by the OEO, by $61,700 in FY20 and by $-144,300 in FY21, reflecting estimated enrollments. [Net change of $3,192,500 in FY20 and $4,434,800 in FY21.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify the funding changes to reflect reestimate of costs of the program under current law and with the estimated per pupil payment amounts.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program – Payment Estimate
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $19,764,100 GPR in FY20 and $38,453,700 GPR in FY21 to continue to fund the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) under Wis. Stats. Sec. 119.23.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the appropriation for MPCP payments, by -$9,010,000 in FY20 and -$15,250,100 in FY21, to reflect re-estimates for program participation. [Net change of $10,754,100 in FY20 and $23,203,600 in FY21.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify the funding changes to reflect reestimate of costs of the program under current law and with the estimated per pupil payment amounts.

Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs – Payment Estimates
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $25,128,900 GPR in FY20 and $53,802,200 GPR in FY21 to continue to fund the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP) and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) under Wis. Stats. Sec. 118.60.
  - Increases for the RPCP: $4,479,000 in FY20 and $8,904,100 in FY21.
  - Increases for the WPCP: $20,649,900 in FY20 and $44,898,100 in FY21.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the appropriation for RPCP and WPCP payments, by -$952,700 in FY20 and -$24,991,200 in FY21, to reflect re-estimates for program participation. [Net change of $24,176,200 in FY20 and $28,811,000 in FY21.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify the funding changes to reflect reestimate of costs of the program under current law and with the estimated per pupil payment amounts.

Special Needs Scholarship Program – Payment Estimate
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of $3,373,700 GPR in FY20 and $7,578,600 GPR in FY21 to continue funding the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) under Wis. State. sec. 115.7915. In addition, the department recommends several changes to existing SNSP statutory language (see below).

GOVERNOR:

- Modify the appropriation for SNSP payments, by -$4,645,600 in FY21, to reflect re-estimates for program participation. [Net change of $3,373,700 in FY20 and $2,933,000 in FY21.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify the funding changes to reflect reestimate of costs of the program under current law and with the estimated per pupil payment amounts.

Special Education Open Enrollment Program Language Changes
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis, as opposed to the flat per pupil amount as specified under state statute.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC LIBRARIES, AND LIFELONG LEARNING

BadgerLink
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $345,800 SEG in FY21 to increase funding for the contracts with all current BadgerLink vendors and to maintain the current level of services through Newsline for the Blind.

Information Technology Education Grants
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate the IT Education grant program, effective with FY20. Under current law, this grant is awarded to an entity to provide IT education opportunities to public school students in grades 6 to 12, technical college district students, and patrons of public libraries.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

Library Service Contracts
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $133,200 SEG in FY20 and $168,100 SEG in FY21 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the department.

Public Library System Aid
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request an increase of $2,500,000 SEG in FY20 and $4,000,000 SEG in FY21 for aid to public library systems, to support the operations and maintenance of public library services.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify funding to provide increases of $1,000,000 SEG in FY20 and $1,000,000 SEG in FY21, compared to base funding.

Recollection Wisconsin
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Authorize the department to use existing funds in the appropriation for WISElearn (digital learning portal built and maintained by the department) to public library work of digitally archiving historical records.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS

Special Olympics Wisconsin
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $25,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase funding for Special Olympics Wisconsin.

Very Special Arts Wisconsin
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $25,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase funding for Very Special Arts Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Reading Corps
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Request an increase of $700,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to restore funding for the Wisconsin Reading Corps to the amount provided in FY19, and remove the sunset on state funding.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

Bullying Prevention Program Grant
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request a modification to the language to specify that the organization that was awarded a grant under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.28 (45) would continue to receive the grant in FY20 and thereafter. The grant is provided to a non-profit organization to provide training and an online bullying prevention curriculum for pupils in grades kindergarten to 8. The grant was awarded to the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW), the only applicant in both years, for its online bullying prevention curriculum ("ActNow!"), in both FY18 and FY19.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request (maintain current law).

Mental Health and School Climate Training Program
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request a total increase of $2,580,000 annually, beginning in FY20, for mental health and school safety trainings and support for schools in the state. The request includes funding increases for the following:
  - $1,160, 000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to increase funding for the existing mental health training programs, and to expand the types of mental health trainings that will be offered, as well as to broaden the scope of allowable trainings to include school climate and school safety.
  - $1,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for enhanced support to the Wisconsin Safe and Healthy Schools Training and Technical Assistance (WISH) Center. This will allow the WISH center to provide increased training opportunities and technical assistance to all school districts.
  - $310,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20 , to provide a grant to Wisconsin Family Ties to support training of Parent Peer Support Specialists and to maintain their presence in schools, for the purpose of helping families navigate the complement of mental health services available to students in school and the wider community.
  - $110,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to provide an annual grant to the Center for Suicide Awareness, to provide funding to support the operation of a text-based suicide prevention program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Provide $110,000 GPR annually in the JCF Supplemental appropriation for HOPELINE, the text-based suicide prevention program operated by the Center for Suicide Awareness.
- Deny request to broaden scope of trainings and for additional funding in the Department's appropriation.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request $150,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to cover the expenses associated with the purchase and maintenance of a statewide survey data system, including obtaining licenses for department staff who will work with the survey data system, as well as for relevant staff located in county public health department, CESAs, and all school districts.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the request.

Operational Support – Expanding Existing State Programs
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Requests an increase of $216,300 GPR in FY20 and $286,500 in FY21, and a total of 3.0 FTE GPR permanent positions beginning in FY20, for general program operations. The request for additional permanent position authority includes:
  1. Support for the work associated with the department's proposal to expand state support for English Learner students and for Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) programs.
  2. Support for the department's current work on school mental health programs and the proposed expansion of school mental health and school safety programs.
  3. Support for the department's work on the existing Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP).

GOVERNOR:

- Modify agency request:
  1. Provide 1.0 FTE GPR position, and $95,500 GPR, beginning in FY21, for the department's work related to supporting EL students and expanding BLBC programming.
  2. Provide 1.0 FTE GPR position beginning in FY20, and $72,100 GPR in FY20 / $95,500 GPR in FY21, for the department's work related to mental health and school climate.
  3. Deny request for 1.0 GPR FTE position and funding for administration of the SNSP.
- Additionally, provide position authority and funding for the following purposes:
  1. 1.0 FTE GPR position beginning in FY20, and $48,000 GPR in FY20 and $63,500 GPR in FY21, to support the work of the department related to programs transferred from DWD, for CTE Incentive Grants (to school districts), CTE Completion Awards (to students), Technical Equipment Assistance Grants, and the Teacher Training and Recruitment Grant.
  2. 1.0 FTE GPR position beginning January 1, 2020, and $48,300 in FY20 / $95,500 in FY21, to support the work of the department related to the School Safety Grant program transferred from DOJ.
  3. 1.0 FTE GPR project position beginning in FY20, and $48,000 in FY20 / $63,500 in FY21, to support the work of the department related to administering the Farm to School Grant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny requests for additional position and budget authority.

Standard Budget Adjustments
AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Request adjustments to the agency's base to reflect standard budget adjustments for:

- Turnover reduction (-$440,500 GPR and -$525,900 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Remove non-continuing items from the base (federal project positions; -8.0 FTE and -$455,700 FED in FY20, and -8.0 FTE and -$844,300 FED in FY21).
- Full funding of continuing salaries and fringe ($425,900 GPR, $127,900 PR, $245,800 PR-S, and $1,143,300 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Reclassification and semiautomatic pay progression ($8,900 PR in FY20 and FY21).
- Overtime ($273,500 GPR, $3,600 PR, $10,200 PR-S, and $50,100 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Night and weekend differential ($55,500 GPR, $200 PR-S, and $400 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Full funding of lease and directed moves costs ($4,700 GPR and -$10,500 FED in FY20 and $52,100 GPR and -$9,900 FED in FY21).

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSIDERATION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

On May 11, 2019, the Joint Finance on Committee adopted motion #5, which removed from consideration several provisions of the Governor's 2019-21 biennial budget proposal (i.e., provisions were not considered by the Committee as part of deliberations on the budget). The provisions that had been included in the Governor's proposal for K-12 Education funding, but removed under motion #5, are listed below.

SCHOOL FINANCE

Counting Pupils for 4 Year Old Kindergarten (4K)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Beginning in FY21, modify current law to allow school districts to count 4K students enrolled in a full-day program as 1.0 FTE in the pupil counts that are the basis of school districts' general aid membership and revenue limit membership, and the basis of state payments to private parental choice schools and independent charter schools. Current law permits 4K students to be counted as either 0.50 FTE or 0.60 FTE (if additional hours of outreach are provided), regardless of whether a part-day or a full-day program.

Revenue Limit Exemption for Lead Remediation
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Create a non-recurring revenue limit exemption for lead remediation. A school board would be allowed to approve, by resolution, exceeding the district's revenue limit for the purpose of identifying and fixing lead contamination in the district's buildings. The exemption could be used to make debt service payments if the district borrows funds for the lead remediation project.

School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Request to transfer the $1,090,000,000 GPR combined from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; $940,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; $150,000,000) into general equalization aids beginning with the FY21 state aid payments.

CATEGORICAL AID PROGRAMS

Driver Education Categorical Aid
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Provide $2,000,000 GPR beginning in FY21, to create a new categorical aid program to offset the costs of providing driver education (DE) instruction. School districts, independent charter schools, and Cooperative Educational Services Agencies (CESAs) [collectively, LEAs] would be eligible to receive state aid based on the number of economically disadvantaged students who, in the prior school year, have completed a department-approved DE course of instruction, including both in-classroom and behind the wheel instruction. For each qualified student, the LEA would be eligible to receive up to $200 in state aid, provided the LEA reduces or waives the fee normally charged for DE instruction, for the qualified student.

Teacher Training and Recruitment Grant Program
GOVERNOR:

- Provide $750,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a grant program that would provide state support to school boards, governing bodies, and charter management organizations that partner with educator

preparation programs to design and implement teacher development programs, for the purpose of training and recruiting highly-qualified teachers, teachers in high-demand/hard-to-fill subjects, or to increase capacity for schools to offer dual enrollment (college credit bearing) courses for high school students. Funding would be transferred from appropriations for teacher training and development that are currently housed at the Department of Workforce Development.

Transfer Career and Technical Education (CTE) Completion Award Program
GOVERNOR:

- Beginning in FY20, transfer the appropriation and the responsibly for administering the CTE Completion Award program, from DWD to the department. Under this grant program, students are eligible for a payment of $500 for each industry-recognized certification earned by the student. It is a zero dollar, sum sufficient appropriation (all eligible claimants receive full award amount).

Transfer Career and Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grant Program
GOVERNOR:

- Provide $3,500,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to reflect the transfer of the appropriation for the CTE Incentive grant program, back to the department (as initially created under 2015 Act 59), from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). Under this grant program, school districts with an industry-recognized certification program are eligible for a payment of $1,000 for each student who graduates from a high school in the district with an industry-recognized certificate, in addition to a high school or technical education diploma (awards are prorated if funding is insufficient).

Transfer of School Safety Grant Program
GOVERNOR:

- Transfer the Office of School Safety, which administers the School Safety grant program, from the Department of Justice (DOJ) to the department. The duty to offer training to school staff remains with DOJ while all other duties of the office move to the department.

Transfer of Technical Equipment Assistance Grant Program
GOVERNOR:

- Provide $500,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to reflect the transfer of the appropriation for the Technical Equipment Assistance grant program, from DWD to the department. Transfer responsibility for administering the grant program from DWD to the department. Under this program, school districts can apply for grants to be used for the acquisition of equipment that is used in advanced manufacturing fields in the workplace, and for the software and instructional material necessary to train students in the operation of that equipment.

CHARTER/CHOICE/SNSP/OPEN ENROLLMENT

Independent Charter Schools – Prohibition on Authorizing New Schools
GOVERNOR:

- Specify that no new independent charter schools (ICS) may be authorized by any ICS authorizer*, beginning with the effective date of the 2019-21 budget bill, through FY23, except that an entity that is permitted under current law to authorize an ICS could do so (after the effective date of the budget bill) if that entity had indicated to the department its intent to authorize the ICS, by February 1, 2019.

  The Governor's proposal retained current law provisions that requires a charter contract to allow for an entity that has authorized more than one ICS to open one or more additional ICS, if all the schools that are authorized by that entity were assigned to one of the top two performance categories in the most recent school and school district accountability report.

*Under current law, ICS authorizers include "legacy" and newer authorizing entities. The legacy authorizers include: the common council of the City of Milwaukee, the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee, the chancellor of the UW-Parkside, and the Milwaukee Area Technical College district board. The following entities were authorized under 2015 Act 55 and 2017 Act 59 to authorize independent charter schools: each technical college district board, the chancellor of any institution in the UW System, the county executive of Waukesha County, the College of Menominee Nation, and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College. Additionally, the UW System Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) was created under 2015 Act 55 as an ICS authorizer; under 2017 Act 59, the initial restrictions placed on the location of OEO-authorized ICS was removed.

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program – Participation
GOVERNOR:

- Specify that, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year (FY21), the number of spaces (students) in the MPCP may not exceed the number of students participating in the 2019-2020 school year (FY20). If the number of applicants exceeds available space, the department would be required to conduct a random selection process to determine which applicants could participate.

Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs – Participation
GOVERNOR:

- Specify that, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year (FY21), the number of spaces (students) in the RPCP and WPCP may not exceed the number of students participating in the 2019-2020 school year (FY20). If the number of applicants exceeds available space, the department would be required to conduct a random selection process to determine which applicants could participate.

Special Needs Scholarship Program – Participation
GOVERNOR:

- Specify that after the 2019-20 school year, no additional students may be accepted into the SNSP (thereby phasing out the SNSP, beginning in the 2020-21 school year).

SNSP – Program Language Changes
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis, as opposed to the flat per pupil amount as specified under state statute.

- Eliminate the language under Wis. Stats. s. 115.7915(2)(f), which provides that students may apply at any time in a school year and begin attending at any time during the school year, and instead specify that SNSP schools must accept students on a random selection basis (rather, than first come first serve). This change would make the SNSP consistent with the state's other private school parental choice programs. [***NOTE****: The Governor's proposal to phase out participation in the SNSP would render this provision moot.*]
- Remove the requirement that schools can be approved as a private school by the state superintendent and replace it with the requirement that schools obtain pre-accreditation if they are not accredited. Current law requires that schools either be approved as a private school by the state superintendent or be accredited. This change would create consistent requirements between the SNSP and the state's other private school parental choice programs. [***NOTE****: the Governor's proposal specifies that the change would apply to schools that first participate in the SNSP in the 2020-21 school year.*]
- Specify that any schools that first participate in the SNSP in the 2019-20 school year must also participate in at least one of the state's other private school parental choice programs (i.e., the MPCP, RPCP, or the WPCP). This provision would ensure that private schools participating in the SNSP are also meeting the requirements such as school accountability, financial viability, and teacher credentials. [***NOTE****: the Governor's proposal specifies that the change would apply to schools that first participate in the SNSP in the 2020-21 school year.*]
- Allow students to opt out of religious activities, as provided for under the private school parental choice programs.
- Specify that the provisions governing the charging of fees and tuition that apply in the state's other private school parental choice programs also apply in the SNSP. Currently, all SNSP students can be charged tuition regardless of grade level or income. Under the state's other private school parental choice programs only students in grades 9-12 who have a family income greater than 220 percent may be charged tuition. [***NOTE****: the Governor's proposal specifies that the change would apply to schools that first participate in the SNSP in the 2020-21 school year.*]

Additional Transparency and Accountability Provisions for Parental Choice Programs and SNSP
GOVERNOR:

- Require all teachers at private parental choice schools, and at private schools participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP), to hold a department-issued license or permit, beginning July 1, 2022. Individuals who have been teaching for at least five consecutive years in a private school as of July 2, 2022 could apply for a temporary waiver from the department while they pursue department licensure (waivers would no longer be valid after July 1, 2027).
- Require a private school the begins participating in a parental choice program in the 2021-22 school year and thereafter be accredited by August 1 of their first year of participation.
- Require the amount of the gross reduction to a school district's general equalization aid related to private school parental choice programs, independent charter schools, and the SNSP be included on property tax bills.
- Eliminate the 6.6 percent transfer of state general aid between MPS and the City of Milwaukee.

Special Education Open Enrollment – Program Language Changes
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis, as opposed to the flat per pupil amount as specified under state statute.

ADMINISTRATION AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MANAGEMENT

Alternative Educator Preparation Program (Educator Licensing)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the statutory language that requires the department to grant an initial teaching license to an individual who has successfully completed an alternative teacher certification program operated by an alternative preparation program provider that is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code, that operates in at least five states and has been in operation for at least ten years, and that requires the candidate to pass a subject area exam and the pedagogy exam known as the Professional Teaching Knowledge exam to receive a certificate. The specific criteria included in the statutory provisions related to the alternative teacher preparation program describe the American Board for Certification of Teaching Excellence (ABCTE). The ABCTE provides an on-line teacher preparation program (with no required in-classroom, face-to-face student time).

Opportunity Schools and Partnership Programs (OSPP)
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- Repeal of the current OSPP language and replace it with a set of supports for persistently struggling (low-performing) districts – as requested under the department's Urban Excellence Initiative.

Paid Planning Time for Teachers
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Require every school board to provide each of its teachers with paid planning time each school day equal to at least 45 minutes or the equivalent of one class period, whichever is longer.

School District Referenda Scheduling Restrictions
AGENCY REQUEST:

- Repeal the statutory language included in 2017 Act 59 that limits school boards to holding referenda no more than twice in a calendar year and only on regularly scheduled election dates (i.e., primaries and general elections), with an exception for districts that had experienced a natural disaster [provision under Wis. Stat. sec. 67.05 and 121.91].
- Repeal the statutory language that links the authority of a school board to use the low revenue ceiling adjustment in current law to successful passage of referenda in prior years [Wis. Stat. sec. 121.905 (1)(b)]. Essentially, failed referenda within the three prior years make a school district ineligible to use the low revenue ceiling (some exceptions in current law for specific situations). This language was included in 2017 Act 141.

GOVERNOR:

- Modify agency request: approve the language changes requested, except that the Governor's proposal maintains the current law requirement that school district referenda be held only on regularly scheduled primary and general elections.

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ITEMS INCLUDED IN OTHER AGENCY BUDGETS

Following is a summary of proposed changes to programs that are administered by other state agencies, but have an impact on schools. The specific details of these budget proposals can be found in the sources as indicated for each item below.

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION (DOA)

School Bus Replacement Grant
AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Modify the Governor's recommendation pertaining to use of the Volkswagen settlement funding by allocating $3,000,000 PR over the 2019-21 biennium for a new program to provide aid to school districts to offset the costs of replacing school buses that are energy efficient, including school buses that use alternative fuels.
- Allow any school board to apply for a grant under the program. Specify that as a condition of receiving a grant, the school board must provide matching funds equal to the amount of the grant award. Provide that a school board may use settlement funds awarded only for the payment of costs incurred by the school board to replace school buses in accordance with the settlement guidelines.

GOVERNOR's VETO:

- ***Veto the provision.***

Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) Program Changes
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

Modify the current TEACH program:

- Extend the information technology infrastructure block grants through June 30, 2021, at $3,000,000 SEG annually. Under current law this funding would expire on June 30, 2019).
- Eliminate the educational technology training and technical assistance (schools and libraries) grants and technology educational technology curriculum grants, effective with FY20.
- Modifying current law to ensure that the department has the most accurate data when determining eligibility for the information technology infrastructure block grant awards:
    - School districts: eligibility for the grants would be based on membership in the most recent school year for which finalized [audited] data is available (instead of membership in the previous year);
    - Public libraries: modify the definition of rural territories to be "any territory, population, and housing units located outside urbanized areas or urban clusters" (current law refers to U.S. Bureau of Census definition); and
    - For other block grant requirements that refer to municipal population, clarify that population is determined in the first year of a fiscal biennium.

- Make certain public library systems and consortia of public libraries eligible for the grants.
- Increases the data line speed that applies to a limit on what DOA may charge educational agencies for data lines (from 1.544 megabytes to 1 gigabyte).
- Eliminates references to video links under the TEACH program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Approve the following components of the Governor's proposal:
  - Extend the information technology infrastructure block grants through June 30, 2021, at $3,000,000 SEG annually.
  - Eliminate the educational technology training and technical assistance (schools and libraries) grants and technology educational technology curriculum grants, effective with FY20.
  - Eliminates references to video links under the TEACH program.
- Deny the components of the Governor's proposal related to data and parameters of program eligibility.
- Deny the request to increase the applicable line speed for data lines.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF)

Read to Lead
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Reduce funding by $23,600 SEG annually, and repeal the Read to Lead Development Council, the Read to Lead development fund, and the GPR and SEG appropriations that fund the program.

HISTORY: The Read to Lead program was created in 2012 to provide grants to school districts and other entities to support literacy and early childhood development programs. The DCF Secretary chairs the Council and shares responsibility for awarding grants with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Council recommends grant awards within the limits of the program's GPR funding, the Read to Lead development fund, and the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) SEG sum sufficient appropriation for grants for literacy and early childhood development programs. The Read to Lead development fund consists of all gifts, grants, bequests, and other contributions made to the fund. The GPR appropriation has been budgeted $23,600 annually since FY12. The administration indicated that the Read to Lead program has effectively ceased operations. The program's development fund initially received $400,000 from the general fund, but has subsequently received only interest earnings. Since the program's inception, the Council has never solicited funding.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)

School Safety Grant
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Transfer appropriations and responsibility for administering School Safety Grant Program, currently housed in DOJ, to the Department of Public Instruction.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Removed from consideration (maintain current law).

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DWD)

Career and Technical Education
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Transfer appropriations and responsibility for administering CTE programs that are currently housed in DWD to the Department of Public Instruction.
    - CTE Completion Award Program
    - CTE Incentive Grant Program
    - Technical Equipment Assistance Grant

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Removed from consideration (maintain current law).

Teacher Training and Recruitment
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Transfer appropriations and responsibility for administering programs for teacher training and development that are currently housed at DWD to the Department of Public Instruction. *See the item "Teacher Training and Recruitment Grant Program" in this summary in the Categorical Aids section, under "Teacher Training and Recruitment".*

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Removed from consideration (maintain current law).

EMPLOYEE TRUST FUNDS (ETF)

Rehired Annuitant Teachers
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Specify that a Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) participant who is employed as a teacher by a school district, and who retires on or after the effective date of the bill, would have a break-in-service requirement of 30 days (rather than 75 days as under current law), between termination of employment as a teacher and again becoming a WRS participant teacher (as an employee or contractor) with any school district to qualify for an annuity or lump sum payment.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the Governor's proposal (maintain current law).

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD (HEAB)

Minority Teacher Loan
AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Transfer the appropriation for the Minority Teacher Loan Program, currently housed in HEAB, to the Department of Public Instruction. Repurpose the funding for a new grant program to assist school districts with recruiting minority teachers. *See the item "Minority Teacher Grant Program" in this summary in the Categorical Aids section, under "Teacher Training and Recruitment".*

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Deny the Governor's proposal (maintain current law).

WISCONSIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (WEDC)

Fabrication Laboratory ("Fab Lab") Grant Program
FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- Require WEDC to provide at least $500,000 SEG in FY20 and in FY21 to continue a fabrication laboratory ("fab lab") program that is substantially similar to the program under s.238.145, 2015 Wis. Stats., from its economic development fund operations and programs SEG appropriation.

HISTORY: WEDC was provided $500,000 GPR in FY16, pursuant to 2015 Act 55 (2015-17 budget bill), to develop and implement a program to make grants to eligible recipients for purchases of equipment used in fab labs for instructional and educational purposes by grade school, junior high school, and high school students. The statutes that created the fabrication laboratory grant program were repealed under 2017 Act 59, which instead required that WEDC continue to provide funding of at least $500,000 in FY18 and FY19, from either its GPR appropriation for operations and programs, or its SEG appropriation for economic development fund operations and programs. That funding was provided to implement a program substantially similar to the Act 55 program. Thus, this provision included in the 2019-21 budget bill would require WEDC to continue the grant program through the 2019-21 biennium.

GOVERNOR's VETO:

- ***Veto the provision.*** The Governor's veto does not prohibit WEDC from allocating monies for purposes of providing Fab Lab grants on its own volition.

LIST OF GOVERNOR'S VETOES

2019 Act 9 was partially vetoed by Governor Evers. Specific vetoes related to K-12 education include the following:

1. Per Pupil Aid – partial veto
2. Supplemental Per Pupil Aid – partial veto
3. Grants to Lakeland STAR Schools – full veto of provisions
4. Robots for Autism Grant – full veto of provisions
5. Personal Electronic Computing Devices Grant – partial (write-down) veto
6. School Bus Replacement Grant – partial veto
7. Fabrication Laboratory ("Fab Lab") Grant Program

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