

## News Release

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### Statement from Evers on Walker's rural schools proposal

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers released a statement today regarding the rural school funding proposals that Governor Scott Walker said he plans to incorporate into his 2017-19 biennial budget.

“I applaud the governor’s proposal to provide much-needed resources to our rural schools. For more than a decade, I have been working with leaders of rural schools and their communities to find ways the state can help them address the issues they face. Many of the items included in the governor’s proposal originally came from that process and were included as part of the budget request I submitted. I would like to acknowledge the past and present members of my [Rural Schools Advisory Council](#), along with the countless rural administrators, board members, and advocates, for their work to raise awareness of issues that rural schools face.

“I am also encouraged by the piece included to help address the educator shortage experienced by many rural districts. But, to properly stem the tide of professionals leaving rural districts, the state must provide a funding stream to equalize the differences between rural districts and their wealthier, often more urban, counterparts. I submitted a proposal in my budget to address this issue, and I would encourage the Legislature give my recommendation a serious look.”

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**NOTE:** This statement is available electronically at [http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2017\\_16.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2017_16.pdf).