

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 137 small rural districts to receive sparsity aid

MADISON — Small rural school districts will receive a sparsity aid payment of \$300 per student for the 2015-16 school year that can be used to support school district programs.

“The necessity of providing quality instructional and educational services to small numbers of students presents a fiscal challenge to our rural school districts,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “This aid supports these schools, which are so often the backbone of their community.”

Most of the 137 districts that are eligible for aid for the 2015-16 school year also received sparsity aid last year. Six public school districts gained eligibility based on 2014-15 enrollment of no more than 725 students and fewer than 10 students per square mile. New sparsity aid districts for 2015-16 are Barneveld, Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah, Erin, Mineral Point, Oakfield, and Stockbridge. Two districts lost eligibility for aid that they received last year: Crivitz and Spring Valley.

Sparsity aid, originally created as part of the 2007-09 budget, was a recommendation of the State Superintendent’s Rural Schools Advisory Council. In each of the previous years, the budgeted appropriation was less than eligibility so districts received a prorated per pupil payment. The 2015-17 budget provided \$17.32 million per year for sparsity aid, which fully funds the program for the 2015-16 school year at \$300 per student. The state superintendent requested full funding for sparsity aid in his proposed 2015-17 education budget. Both the governor and Legislature kept that request in the final budget.

“I am pleased that the Legislature and governor have targeted fiscal relief to rural Wisconsin schools,” Evers noted. “Fully funding sparsity aid is an important first step toward keeping these communities strong. I continue to work with my Rural Schools Advisory Council to seek out interested partners throughout Wisconsin and to pursue ways that we can help support our rural schools and the communities they serve.”

The Department of Public Instruction calculated 2015-16 school year sparsity aid using 2014-15 membership of 57,728 students in the 137 eligible districts. Student enrollment in these schools represents roughly 6.8 percent of total public school enrollment. Sparsity aid will be paid on the third Monday in September to each district’s general fund.

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**NOTES:** A list of public school districts receiving 2015-16 Sparsity Aid follows. A map of districts receiving aid can be found on the Department of Public Instruction website at [http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015\\_74\\_map.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015_74_map.pdf). This news release is available electronically at [http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015\\_74.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015_74.pdf).

## 2015-16 Sparsity Aid to Wisconsin Public School Districts

*Based on 2014-15 Data*

<b>District</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Aid</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Aid</b>
Albany	426	\$127,800	Elmwood	331	\$99,300
Alma	220	\$66,000	Erin	235	\$70,500
Alma Center	613	\$183,900	Flambeau	594	\$178,200
Almond-Bancroft	465	\$139,500	Florence	476	\$142,800
Argyle	347	\$104,100	Frederic	514	\$154,200
Athens	430	\$129,000	Gibraltar Area	583	\$174,900
Augusta	628	\$188,400	Gillett	596	\$178,800
Bangor	593	\$177,900	Gilman	422	\$126,600
Barneveld	446	\$133,800	Gilmanton	171	\$51,300
Bayfield	416	\$124,800	Goodman-Armstrong	110	\$33,000
Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine	263	\$78,900	Granton Area	255	\$76,500
Belmont Community	358	\$107,400	Green Lake	261	\$78,300
Benton	245	\$73,500	Greenwood	411	\$123,300
Big Foot UHS	542	\$162,600	Gresham	273	\$81,900
Birchwood	245	\$73,500	Herman #22	68	\$20,400
Black Hawk	389	\$116,700	Highland	284	\$85,200
Blair-Taylor	648	\$194,400	Hilbert	452	\$135,600
Bowler	445	\$133,500	Hillsboro	503	\$150,900
Brighton #1	125	\$37,500	Hurley	611	\$183,300
Bruce	545	\$163,500	Hustisford	450	\$135,000
Butternut	202	\$60,600	Independence	378	\$113,400
Cambria-Friesland	408	\$122,400	Iola-Scandinavia	697	\$209,100
Cashton	584	\$175,200	Ithaca	318	\$95,400
Cassville	217	\$65,100	Juda	254	\$76,200
Clayton	372	\$111,600	Kickapoo Area	484	\$145,200
Clear Lake	617	\$185,100	Lac du Flambeau #1	550	\$165,000
Cochrane-Fountain City	672	\$201,600	La Farge	233	\$69,900
Coleman	698	\$209,400	Lake Holcombe	330	\$99,000
Cornell	430	\$129,000	Lakeland UHS	696	\$208,800
Cuba City	664	\$199,200	Laona	211	\$63,300
De Soto Area	580	\$174,000	Lena	405	\$121,500
Drummond	417	\$125,100	Linn J4	116	\$34,800
Edgar	671	\$201,300	Linn J6	93	\$27,900
Elcho	331	\$99,300	Loyal	579	\$173,700
Eleva-Strum	617	\$185,100	Luck	495	\$148,500
Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah	516	\$154,800	Marathon City	658	\$197,400

<b>District</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Aid</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Aid</b>
Marion	493	\$147,900	River Ridge	530	\$159,000
Mellen	288	\$86,400	Riverdale	725	\$217,500
Mercer	141	\$42,300	Rosholt	563	\$168,900
Mineral Point	721	\$216,300	Royall	622	\$186,600
Minocqua J1	548	\$164,400	Rubicon J6	93	\$27,900
Monticello	393	\$117,900	Seneca	291	\$87,300
Necedah Area	709	\$212,700	Sevastopol	571	\$171,300
Neosho J3	218	\$65,400	Shell Lake	628	\$188,400
New Auburn	297	\$89,100	Shullsburg	392	\$117,600
New Lisbon	618	\$185,400	Siren	474	\$142,200
Niagara	366	\$109,800	Solon Springs	296	\$88,800
North Crawford	451	\$135,300	South Shore	200	\$60,000
North Lakeland	153	\$45,900	Southwestern Wisconsin	572	\$171,600
Northwood	373	\$111,900	Stockbridge	245	\$73,500
Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton	722	\$216,600	Suring	416	\$124,800
Norway J7	89	\$26,700	Thorp	575	\$172,500
Oakfield	503	\$150,900	Three Lakes	499	\$149,700
Owen-Withee	516	\$154,800	Tigerton	267	\$80,100
Paris J1	170	\$51,000	Tri-County Area	642	\$192,600
Pecatonica Area	452	\$135,600	Turtle Lake	485	\$145,500
Pepin Area	249	\$74,700	Wabeno Area	410	\$123,000
Phelps	143	\$42,900	Washburn	522	\$156,600
Pittsville	590	\$177,000	Washington	62	\$18,600
Plum City	284	\$85,200	Wausaukee	508	\$152,400
Port Edwards	377	\$113,100	Wauzeka-Steuben	307	\$92,100
Potosi	338	\$101,400	Webster	675	\$202,500
Prairie Farm	335	\$100,500	Weston	312	\$93,600
Prentice	435	\$130,500	White Lake	175	\$52,500
Princeton	392	\$117,600	Wild Rose	543	\$162,900
Randolph	537	\$161,100	Winter	320	\$96,000
Reedsville	651	\$195,300	Wonewoc-Union Center	373	\$111,900
Rib Lake	485	\$145,500	Woodruff J1	453	\$135,900
Rio Community	463	\$138,900			