

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Evers to deliver annual State of Education address on Thursday

Event includes Friends of Education Awards presentation and recognition of four Teachers of the Year

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers will deliver his annual State of Education address at noon, Thursday, Sept. 17, in the State Capitol in Madison.

Rob Wagner, superintendent for the Lancaster Community School District, will give the welcome for the State of Education program. The Tremper High School Wind Ensemble will present “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” as a prelude to the event. The high school group from Kenosha is under the direction of Kathryn Ripley. Jacob Cavaiani, senior at Kettle Moraine High School in Wales and 2015 Badger Boys State Superintendent, will lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Jonathan Overby, lyric baritone and host for Wisconsin Public Radio’s “Higher Ground,” will sing the national anthem. Isabelle Abbott, 2015 Badger Girls State Superintendent, will introduce Evers. Abbott is a student at Menomonee Falls High School. The Recruiting and Retention Battalion of the Wisconsin Army National Guard will provide a color guard for the program. The postlude, “America the Beautiful,” will be played by the Tremper High School Wind Ensemble, which is one of three of the district’s concert bands celebrating their Golden Anniversary this year.

Following the State of Education address, Evers will present [Friend of Education awards](#) to Dr. Henry Gradillas of Ashland, an academic tutor at Ashland High School; Pam Jahnke, farm director and voice of the Wisconsin Farm Report, headquartered in Madison; Dr. Kevin Reilly of Verona, president emeritus of the University of Wisconsin System (2004-2013); Women in Focus Inc. of Madison, an organization dedicated to helping youth of color achieve their academic dreams; and Dang Yang of Eau Claire, whose volunteer efforts and work as the Multicultural Recruitment and Retention Coordinator for the University of Wisconsin-Stout’s School of Education are a force for underrepresented students. The state superintendent also will recognize [Wisconsin’s four Teachers of the Year](#) for the 2015-16 school year: Suzanne Devine of Northstar Middle School in Eau Claire, Roger King of Holmen High School, Amy Reed of Kimberly High School, and Mai Shoua Xiong of the Academy of Accelerated Learning in Milwaukee.

WHO: State Superintendent Tony Evers

WHAT: State of Education Address
Friend of Education Awards — Teacher of the Year Recognition

WHEN: Noon to 1 p.m., Thursday, September 17, 2015

WHERE: State Capitol Rotunda

Media Availability: 1:10 to 1:30 p.m. State Capitol Room, 225 NW