

## News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

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Contact: Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Director, (608) 266-3559

### Evers: Our plan focuses on local strategies to close gaps

*Statement on approval of Wisconsin's ESSA Plan*

MADISON —State Superintendent Tony Evers issued a statement today on the approval from the U.S. Department of Education of Wisconsin's Consolidated State Plan to implement the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), federal law governing PK-12 education.

"Wisconsin's ESSA plan is an opportunity to focus on local strategies to close opportunity and achievement gaps for all kids. We're excited to pursue the hard work that will entail and look forward to building on the important relationships we have forged through our Equity Council.

"Wisconsin's ESSA plan

- Focuses on the ambitious goal of cutting the achievement gap in half in six years for all subgroups of students in English language arts, mathematics, and graduation rates.
- Has a clear structure for rating all schools using a one-hundred-point system that is straightforward and will effectively identify schools for additional supports and interventions.
- Uses new research focused on implementation science to support locally determined interventions for school improvement in the lowest-performing schools and is coordinating that work with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements to lead to better outcomes for all students and streamline requirements for local educational agencies."

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**NOTES:** A copy of the [Wisconsin Consolidated State Plan](https://dpi.wi.gov/esea) can be found on the Reauthorization of ESEA: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) webpage, <https://dpi.wi.gov/esea>. This news release is available electronically at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2018-04.pdf>.