

**2-16-15 RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS
RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN**

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has proposed a \$150 decrease per student in public school funding for 2015-16;

WHEREAS, this decrease results in \$460,000 "base" cut to the School District of River Falls;

WHEREAS, in addition to the year 1 decrease of \$150 per pupil, Governor Walker's budget plan also includes no revenue limit per pupil increase;

WHEREAS, when factored together (base cut plus no inflationary revenue cap increase) the overall results in reductions in educational opportunities for public school children in River Falls is compounded upwards toward \$1M;

WHEREAS, although the Governor indicated in his budget address on February 3rd that school revenues remained essentially flat, his budget plan actually imposes a \$150 (\$127 million statewide) cut in the per-pupil special categorical aid in the first year of the biennium;

WHEREAS, this \$150 per-pupil categorical aid was in the 2014-15 state budget base and expected in each year of the 2015-17 biennium to minimally keep pace with inflation;

WHEREAS, even though the Governor proposes to add about \$142 million (about \$165 per pupil) to the per-pupil categorical aid in the second year of the biennium, the net result is a cut of approximately \$135 per pupil (\$112 million) over the biennium;

WHEREAS, in addition to the \$142 million in the per-pupil categorical in the second year of the budget, the governor also proposes spending \$211.2 million in increased school levy credits (\$105.6 million in each year) and \$108 million in increased general aid with no corresponding revenue limit increase; therefore, this \$319 million is "school funding in name only." It simply flows to taxpayers as property tax relief and schools cannot spend one dime of it on the educational needs of their students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School District of River Falls Board of Education strongly encourages the Governor and State Legislature to revise the Governor's budget to restore school funding in 2015-17 to educationally adequate levels to include no decrease in year 1 anticipated revenue while also providing for inflationary revenue increases in both years.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the Board of Education for the School District of River Falls, have executed this resolution this 16th day of February, 2015.

Stacy Johnson Myers, President

Richard Gerczak, Member

Dennis Behnke, Vice-President

Mike Miller, Member

Manville Kenney, Treasurer

Alan Tuchtenhagen, Member

Barbara E Kolpin, Board Clerk