

Meg Erler, Board President; Attila J. Weninger, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Bliss Educational Services Center  
1900 Polk Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481  
TEL: (715) 345-5444 FAX: (715) 345-7302  
merler@pointschools.net; aweninge@pointschools.net



STEVENS POINT  
AREA PUBLIC  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 5, 2015

Dear District Parents/Guardians and Citizens,

The Wisconsin legislature is currently considering the state's biennial budget, along with several bills that will harm public education financially and programmatically. As you may be aware, education funding has been in the news lately with the debate over the budget bill in Madison.

Wisconsin K-12 public school districts face the following in the proposed budget:

1. no increase in the revenue limit; The only suggestion I would have would be to briefly explain that revenue limits means we cannot just raise extra money to meet our needs.
2. less state general aid than in 2010;
3. falling below the national average in per pupil spending for the first time;
4. expansion of voucher programs, and the funding for them will be taken directly from public school general aid; and
5. further public education degradation through special education vouchers, home school students participating on high school sports teams, "learning portfolios" for graduation credit, licensing teachers without an education degree, and a new civics test requirement for graduation.

Since 2008, Wisconsin has seen a 15% decrease in per pupil spending for public education and is one of only 5 states whose spending on public education is nearly flat. All other states have increased public education spending an average of 4%.

Wisconsin's school districts are responsible stewards of financial resources used in the education of children. The current budget bill will harm public school education in the short and long term.

Please contact our local legislators immediately and ask them to fully fund our public schools and districts and help us continue to provide a quality education for all children. Below, please find those names and directory information.

***70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District***

Representative Nancy VanderMeer  
(888)266-8366  
[Rep.VanderMeer@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.VanderMeer@legis.wisconsin.gov)

***71<sup>st</sup> Assembly District***

Representative Katrina Shankland  
(888) 534-0071  
[Rep.Shankland@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Shankland@legis.wisconsin.gov)

***72<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District***

Representative Scott Krug  
(888) 529-0072  
[Rep.Krug@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Krug@legis.wisconsin.gov)

***24<sup>th</sup> Senate District***

Senator Julie Lassa  
(608) 266-2123  
[Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sen.Lassa@legis.wisconsin.gov)

Sincerely,

Meg Erler, President  
Board of Education

Attila J. Weninger, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

