



RESOLUTION OF THE D.C. EVEREST SCHOOL BOARD

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long tradition of providing a high-quality public education system and investing in public education is an investment not only in our students' capacity for success beyond high school, but an investment in economic development and the future of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has proposed a \$150 decrease per pupil categorical aid in public school fund for 2015-2016;

WHEREAS, this equates to an \$872,000 decrease in the D.C. Everest budget for 2015-2016 and a reduction in educational opportunities for students;

WHEREAS, since the 1993-1994 school year, districts have been operating under state-imposed revenue limits that cap the amount schools can collect in state aid and local property taxes combined, and thus serve to limit school spending; and

WHEREAS, until recently, those revenue limits have been increased annually at the rate of inflation accommodating increases in costs to school districts to provide a stable and predictable annual increase for schools to use in budgetary planning, and Governor Walker's proposed 2015-2017 state budget allows no increase in revenue limits in the biennium; and

WHEREAS, with no increase in per pupil revenue limits, none of the additional state dollars proposed for K-12 education general aid and (i.e. \$108 million in 2016-2017) will go for schools or students, but instead be directed to reducing property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget expands taxpayer subsidies to private voucher and independent charter schools, removing the 1000 student cap on vouchers, taking additional money away from state general aid to school districts and reducing state funding for public schools;

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides an additional \$211.2 million to increase the school levy tax credit, this money will be paid to municipalities not school districts and does not provide resources directly to schools. Although the name of this tax credit suggests it has something to do with money for schools, its only connection to school budgets is that it is calculated based on school levies; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walker and various legislators have made public comments in support of increasing funding for public schools if additional state revenue is available after April tax collections are counted;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the D.C. Everest School Board calls upon Senator Jerry Petrowski, Representative Dave Heaton and Representative John Spiros to work with their legislative colleagues and Governor Walker to revise the proposed budget to restore school funding for 2015-2017 to levels adequate to fund public education in Wisconsin and to reject any decrease in anticipated revenue in the first year of the biennium, while also providing for inflationary revenue increase in both years

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the D.C. Everest School Board, on the 25th day of February 2015, directed the Superintendent to prepare and to present this Resolution to Governor Walker, Senator Petrowski, Representative Heaton, and Representative Spiros.

Adopted this Second Day of March 2015

Diane Stroik, President
D.C. Everest School Board