

U.S. Dept. of Education Secretary DeVos: Approves Wisconsin's ESSA state plan

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WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos today announced the approval of Wisconsin's consolidated state plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

“Wisconsin's plan met the requirements of the law, and so I am happy to approve it,” said Secretary DeVos. “This plan should not be seen as a ceiling, but as a foundation upon which Wisconsin can improve education for its students.”

Allowing states more flexibility in how they deliver education to students is at the core of ESSA. Each state crafted a plan that it feels will best offer educational opportunities to meet the needs of the state and its students. The following are some of the unique elements from Wisconsin's approved plan as highlighted by the state:

- Cuts the achievement gap in half in six years for all subgroups of students in English language arts, mathematics and graduation rates.
- Supports evidence-based interventions for school improvement in the lowest-performing schools, implemented in collaboration with stakeholders.

“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,” said Wisconsin State Superintendent Tony Evers.