

Rep. Kitchens: Radio address: Rep. Kitchens on education

Posted on Tuesday, Aug 15, 2023

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MADISON - Representative Kitchens (R - Sturgeon Bay) released the weekly radio address on behalf of Wisconsin Legislative Republicans.

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and kids will soon head back to school.

Thanks to the Right-To-Read Act that I authored, students' likelihood of success will be advanced. This act will bring a transformative shift in how reading is taught within our schools. For too long, kids learned the wrong way to read and our test scores prove it. Sixty-four percent of fourth-graders are not proficient at reading. I don't need to tell you that this is unacceptable.

The Right-to-Read Act not only switches our state to proven, science-based reading methods. It creates a comprehensive plan to catch struggling readers soon and make sure they are not left behind.

Republicans also put \$50 million in the state budget to retrain teachers, purchase new curriculums, and provide support for the switch to science-based reading methods. How do we know it will work? Science-based reading programs are already working in blue states and red states. I am confident it will also work in our purple state. It is the same way most of us learned to read in the first place. I've worked on a lot of important bills, but few will have the impact the Right-to-Read Act will.

Here's to a great school year!