

WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK

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For immediate release

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Wisconsin Education Advocates Respond to Poll Results

"New data confirms what we've been saying – and hearing – for years"

The latest Marquette University Law School poll released today shows overwhelming support for the public schools at the heart of Wisconsin communities.

The poll reveals that 80% of those polled support increasing state aid to public schools and 74% of respondents were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with their public schools.

Ellen Lindgren, a retired school board member and member of the grassroots advocacy team Community Advocates for Public Education-Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District, hopes that the poll results will be heard by decision-makers. "I hope to see 80% of our legislators voting for restoring funding to our public schools," Lindgren said.

In Oak Creek, parent advocate Jenny von Helms of YES for Oak Creek Schools connected the dots to a larger trend she sees in concerns among parents: "These results validate what I've been hearing from parents. We need Wisconsin public schools fully funded so teachers and students have the resources they need to prepare our students for the future. The state has a duty to invest in public education and not move funds to private schools with zero accountability."

Both the Middleton team and the Oak Creek team have joined 26 other teams around the state in a [call to restore public school funding](#) through a minimum \$300/pupil/year revenue limit increase and by increasing funding for special education.

Around the state, these local advocacy teams are gearing up to testify in favor of strong local schools at the upcoming public hearings on the state budget to make clear to decision-makers how the budget will impact local communities. More information on these events, and how others can connect to local-level teams is available at <http://www.wisconsinnetwork.org/blog/budget>.

Wisconsin Public Education Network is a coalition of individuals, organizations, school districts, and grassroots advocacy teams working to ensure that every child in Wisconsin has equal opportunity and equal access to an excellent public education. Those who wish to connect with the Network and be part of the growing movement to support local schools are invited to visit <http://WisconsinNetwork.org>. Wisconsin Public Education Network is a project of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools, a 501(c)(4) non-profit advocacy organization.

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WISCONSIN HAS SPOKEN:

74% ARE SATISIFIED OR
VERY SATISFIED
WITH THEIR
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

80% WANT TO SEE
MORE STATE AID
FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GO PUBLIC!
#WiBUDGET2017

Source: Marquette University Law School poll 3/22/2017

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