



School Administrators Alliance

Representing the Interests of Wisconsin School Children

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Statement by the School Administrators Alliance on Joint Finance Committee K12 Education Budget

MADISON – John Forester, executive director for the School Administrators Alliance, released the following statement on the K12 education budget adopted yesterday by the Joint Finance Committee (JFC):

"Budgets are about choices. They're about priorities. For the School Administrators Alliance (SAA), and the more than 4,000 public school administrators we represent throughout Wisconsin, our priority has always been improving the educational experience for the public school children we serve. For that reason, we are very pleased that the Joint Finance Committee in its state budget action yesterday placed a high priority on the educational needs of Wisconsin's public school children."

"We thank the committee members for recognizing that every Wisconsin school district needs at least a \$200 per-pupil revenue increase in each year of the biennium to support high-quality educational opportunities for the children they serve."

"We thank the committee members for recognizing the enduring challenges faced by low revenue districts and for supporting a significant increase in the low revenue ceiling."

"We thank the committee members for recognizing the plight of our students with mental health challenges and for supporting educators in their efforts to meet the needs of these students."

"We also thank committee members for their support of a number of other education policy initiatives including much-needed increases in high-cost special education and high-cost transportation aids, personal electronic computing grants and teacher/administrator licensure flexibility."

"As with previous state budgets, the K12 education budget adopted by JFC yesterday contains some provisions that we find disappointing. Nonetheless, it is an important step forward in addressing the significant fiscal challenges facing school districts throughout Wisconsin. Clearly, yesterday's JFC budget action supports quality and equitable educational opportunities for children throughout Wisconsin. For that, we are grateful."

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The SAA is an alliance of the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA), Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO), Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators (WASDA), Wisconsin Association of School Personnel Administrators (WASPA), and Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services (WCASS). It advocates on behalf of school leaders in their efforts to strengthen Wisconsin's national leadership in education to ensure that the state's children receive the highest-quality education possible.