



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2019

Contact: Greta Neubauer, 608-237-9166

Rep.Neubauer@legis.wisconsin.gov

Every Child Deserves a Quality Education

Fully Funding Our Public Schools is Essential

MADISON - Yesterday, the Republican members of the Joint Finance Committee made drastic cuts to the public education and special education budgets proposed by Governor Tony Evers, who sought to restore funding levels after years of austerity. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) issued the following statement in response:

“When people say that the state budget is a moral document, this is what we are talking about,” Neubauer said. “Funding our public schools and special education is investing in our future. It is about equity, regardless of ability, zip code, or family income. Every child in Wisconsin deserves a quality education, not just children from wealthy neighborhoods or children without disabilities.”

Throughout the public hearings in the Joint Finance Committee, parents and school administrators testified that education funding is a top priority across Wisconsin. The governor’s education budget proposal provides a significant increase in funding for special education, ensuring state aid for the specialized services that students need and districts are required to provide by investing over \$600 million in the biennium to reimburse 30 percent of special education costs in fiscal year 2019-20 and 60 percent in fiscal year 2020-21. An increase in special education funding is supported by 73% of Wisconsinites.

“We know that we desperately need education funding in Racine, as in so many districts,” Neubauer continued. “We have a moral responsibility as legislators to bring equity to our school funding model and invest in public education so every child has an opportunity to succeed, but my Republican colleagues on the Joint Finance Committee are leaving students with crumbs. Our young people deserve better, and we will continue fighting for better.”

###