

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Republicans cut \$900 million dollars from Gov. Evers' K-12 budget

## GOP Senators block historic investments for special education funding in their own districts

MADISON – Today, Senate Republicans cut \$900 million dollars from Governor Tony Evers' education budget including \$500 million from special education aids. After eight years of zero increases in special education funding under the previous Republican administration, Senate Republicans worked to block funding necessary to ensure that every child in Wisconsin has the opportunity to receive a quality education.

"Governor Evers recognizes that what's best for our kids is best for our state. That's why he proposed a desperately needed investment in public schools across Wisconsin and a historic \$600 million investment in special education," said Katie Iliff, SSDC Executive Director. "Families shouldn't have to settle for a Republican budget that cuts the governor's special education funding proposal by 83 percent."

In just three Senate districts alone, Republicans blocked over \$150 million in special education aids. School districts in Senator Alberta Darling's district will lose out on a total of \$106 million for special education. Schools in Senator Dan Feyen's district won't see a total of \$23 million in state aid for special education. Children in Senator Patrick Testin's district won't benefit from a total of \$26 million in state aid for special education proposed by Gov. Evers.

"Republicans should be ashamed of turning their backs on children and families in their own districts," added Iliff. "Wisconsinites aren't satisfied with the broken status quo that under-funds schools and special education instruction. They deserve a budget that makes the necessary investments in our state's future and children in every corner of our state."