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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Troy Gunderson statement in response to passage of 2021 Senate Joint Resolution 3 ending COVID-19 public health emergency order

West Salem, WI – In response to the Wisconsin State Legislature ending Wisconsin’s public health emergency order, including ending the state’s mask mandate, Troy Gunderson, candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, issued the following statement:

“For nearly 300 days and counting, the State Legislature has abdicated its responsibility to lead our state through the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 400 school districts have been left to fend for themselves in lieu of guidance and support from legislative leadership. Today, in the face of bipartisan opposition, partisan politicians in Madison took away one of the few tools our schools have immediately at their disposal to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and made it more difficult to safely re-open our schools and serve our students. It’s a slap in the face to over 400 superintendents, school boards, and their teachers and staff across Wisconsin.”

Troy Gunderson grew up in Colfax, WI attending kindergarten through twelfth grade at Colfax Public Schools. Gunderson has had a 35-year career in public education including seven years as a classroom teacher at Melrose-Mindoro High School, and 16 years as a high school principal - one year in Princeton, WI and 15 years in West Salem, WI. He then served 12 years as a school superintendent including two years at Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District in Galesville, WI, and ten years for the School District of West Salem. Troy and his wife Jill, a retired middle school science teacher, live in West Salem with their two dogs and have two daughters, Kelsey and Kirstin, who are both graduates of West Salem High School.
