

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BREAKING: Schools Superintendent Candidate Jeff Wright Responds to WisDems
Insider Endorsement of Divisive Incumbent Jill Underly:
“I will restore leadership to the Department of Public Instruction
by being a nonpartisan problem solver.”**

[Plain,WI] – Sauk Prairie Schools Superintendent Jeff Wright, candidate for Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction, released the following statement responding to the Democratic Party of Wisconsin’s Administrative Committee endorsement Thursday of incumbent Jill Underly:

“Teachers, administrators, and key stakeholders in public education from all corners of Wisconsin, from districts large and small - including Democrats, Republicans and independents - have all recognized the failures of Jill Underly as State Superintendent and have cried out for new leadership.

“Democratic Party insiders decided to ignore those voices and go a different way, settling for the division and mismanagement that have marked Superintendent Underly’s tenure, ignoring failures that are isolating DPI from discussions about the future of Wisconsin’s public schools. Party leaders even ignored the voices of organized educators, a key member of the Democratic coalition, in making this endorsement.

“Underly has mismanaged the department’s internal budget and failed to address the exodus of critical and talented employees across the DPI. At a time where state governments are going to be asked to lead more effectively than ever, we cannot risk another term with an absent Jill Underly at the helm.

“It is my plan to return confidence and credibility to DPI. While it’s no secret that I’m a Democrat, my approach to restoring leadership to the Department of Public Instruction will be nonpartisan and centered on the needs of our students and our schools.

“My commitment lies with everyday Wisconsinites in all corners of the state – educators, principals, families, and community members who are dedicated to solving the pressing issues

facing K-12 education in our state.

“This race is about more than party politics—it’s about ensuring Wisconsin’s children have a leader who will put their education first.”

ABOUT JEFF:

Sauk Prairie Schools Superintendent Jeff Wright is a Stevens Point native and lifelong educator and son of educators. He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and Harvard University.

For more information about Jeff Wright’s campaign and his vision for Wisconsin’s education system, visit www.jeffwrightforwisconsin.com.

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