



**Public Schools Week Proclamation
February 26 - March 1, 2024**

WHEREAS, Article X of the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin states “The legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of district schools, which shall be as nearly uniform as practicable; and such schools shall be free and without charge for tuition to all children between the ages of 4 and 20 years, and no sectarian instruction shall be allowed therein; but the legislature by law may, for the purpose of religious instruction outside the district schools, authorize the release of students during regular school hours”; and

WHEREAS, the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education, administrators, faculty, staff, parents, caregivers, and community members of the Sun Prairie Area School District are united in our efforts to provide ALL children, regardless of where they live, with the highest quality public education opportunities and recognizes that what is best for our kids is what is best for our state; and

WHEREAS; recognized annually, Public Schools Week is a time to celebrate our public schools, honor those who work in our public schools, and promote the principle that public education is the cornerstone of our democracy and vital for our future by supporting an educated populace; and

WHEREAS, our public schools and educators continue to go above and beyond to provide safe environments for all students and educators, to ensure that all students have access to nutritious food, learning devices, internet access, and the tools they need to be successful and to meet the needs of students and families inside and outside of the classroom which allows them to grow and learn every day; and

WHEREAS, our faculty, staff, and administrators are facing unprecedented challenges trying to balance student learning with behavior and mental health issues while simultaneously trying to manage their own health and mental well-being; and

WHEREAS, these same people are also dealing with the stress and consequences of tight budgets and budget cuts due to record-high inflation,

unfunded mandates, and grossly inadequate funding from the state legislature;
and

WHEREAS, our public education system requires the support and investment of our state and local elected officials to provide adequate funding and foster strong educational outcomes for all of Wisconsin's students, and the need for quality public education is a nonpartisan issue; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education calls on all of our legislators across the state and country to support Public Schools Week by honoring and celebrating the success and achievements of students and educators in public schools across our state, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education calls on those same legislators to commit to truly making "historic investments" in our public schools by increasing revenue limits at an inflationary rate and increasing spendable state funds in the next biennium.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Proclamation was duly passed by the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District on the 26th day of February, 2024.



Diana McFarland, President
on behalf of Board of Education

Latoya Holiday, Vice President
Lisa Goldsberry, Clerk/Treasurer
Alwyn Foster, Member
Bryn Horton, Member
Katey Kamoku, Member
Dr. Steve Schroeder, Member
Eli Gillitzer, Student Member
Jojo Knauss, Student Member
Mrinank Panda, Student Member
Isabella Roberts, Student Member