



Shorewood School Board

Resolution Urging Investment in Our Public Schools Through the 2025-27 Wisconsin State Budget

Whereas, the school board, administrators, teachers, staff, parents and community members of the Shorewood School District work together to to grow leaders who challenge themselves to grow and achieve academically, pursue their passions, navigate change, learn continuously and contribute to the common good;

Whereas, in the absence of additional revenue limit authority, nearly every school district across Wisconsin has had to turn to voter referendums to ask local taxpayers to fill the gap between state funding and the amount we need to deliver the education guaranteed to our students under the state constitution; and

Whereas, the state is in the fifth year of budget surplus now estimated at \$4.6 billion, in addition to a "Rainy Day Fund" of \$2 billion; and

Whereas, inflationary costs have impacted all areas of school funding from utilities to staff compensation; and

Whereas, the decision not to increase per-pupil funding on pace with inflation over the last 15 years has already harmed students, families and communities across the state;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Shorewood School District joins with fellow member districts of the Southeastern Wisconsin Schools Alliance in calling on the Committee of Joint Finance to support the following investments in public education:

- **Provide an increase in special education funding to cover at least 60% reimbursement in years one and two with the long term goal of reaching 90% reimbursement over several budget cycles. This funding should be guaranteed and will not be prorated if costs are higher than anticipated (sum sufficient funding).Increases in special education funding provide more predictable, stable funding that supports all students due to less of a transfer from district's general fund.**
- **A goal to reach 90% Special Education reimbursement for public school students over time.**
- **An increase to the revenue limit by \$415 in year one and \$430 in year two of the next biennium in order to keep pace with inflation, designed to provide general, flexible, spendable revenue for school districts.**

Emily Berry, Board President

Becky Freer, Vice President

Nathan Hammons, Treasurer

Ellen Eckman, Member

Abby Fowler, Clerk