Resolution 16-01: Revenue Limit Flexibility and Time to Adjust to State Law Changes
Create: When changes are made in state law that significantly modify school operations or require changes in board policies, the WASB supports allowing school districts to increase their revenue limit by an amount needed to implement such law changes. The WASB also urges state lawmakers to provide for delayed effective dates or delayed implementation dates for those statutory changes.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to let WASB members decide whether to support allowing school districts to increase their revenue limit by an amount necessary to make changes directed by new provisions in state law and to support urging state lawmakers to provide for delayed effective/implementation dates to give school districts additional time to adjust to and implement changes directed by such new provisions.

Resolution 16-02: Referendum Approval to Transfer Public Schools to Private School Operators
Create: The WASB supports legislation to require that a school district’s voters must give their approval at a referendum vote before the operation, management and/or control of any district school may be transferred to any entity other than by the locally elected school board of the district.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution, in response to provisions in the 2015-17 state budget act (2015 Wisconsin Act 55) that created an Opportunity School Partnership Program in the Milwaukee Public Schools, in order to provide WASB members a chance to express their position on support for legislation to require voter approval at a referendum before any district public school may be transferred to a private school operator or entity other than by the locally elected school board.

Resolution 16-03: Private Schools’ Eligibility to Participate in the Statewide Voucher Program
Create 2.70 (j): Private schools may only be eligible to participate in the statewide voucher program if they have been in existence for five years.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support legislation to require that private schools are only eligible to participate in the statewide voucher program if they have been in existence for five years and have established a track record.
When the statewide voucher program was created the only private schools that were eligible to participate in that program were those that had been in existence prior to May 2013. That legal requirement for eligibility to participate in the statewide voucher program applied for the 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years, but no longer applies under current law.

Resolution 16-04: Maintenance of Effort

Create: The WASB supports a change in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to allow a local school district to reduce spending attributable to maintenance of effort (MOE) without penalty when it reduces its spending on employment-related benefits provided to school personnel, including but not limited to pay, retirement contributions, annual and sick leave, and health and life insurance, so long as the district maintains the same level of services to students with disabilities.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to vote on whether to support a change in federal law to allow a local school district to reduce spending attributable to maintenance of effort (MOE) without penalty when it reduces its spending on employment-related benefits provided to school personnel, so long as the district maintains the same level of services to students with disabilities.

Resolution 16-05: Creation of a Statutory Mechanism to Allow Districts to Set Aside Funds in Trust for the Purchase of Long-Term Fixed Assets

Create: The WASB supports creating a statutory mechanism to allow school districts to place into a trust for future use a portion of their general funds that would be counted as shared costs for state aid purposes in the year the funds are placed in trust. Such a trust would be used for the purchase of long-term fixed assets, including but not limited to, school busses, vans, snowplows, phone systems, or other technology items with a useful life of more than one year when purchased in bulk, and such trust funds must be spent pursuant to a long-range plan adopted by the school board of the district.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support legislation to allow school districts to place into a trust for future use a portion of their general funds. The funds placed into such a trust would be considered shared costs for state aid purposes in the year they are placed in trust and would be used for the future purchase of long-term fixed assets as described in the resolution. It is understood that such a trust would be set up pursuant to a board resolution and purchases made with funds from such a trust would be made according to a long-range plan adopted by the school board.
Resolution 16-06: Increase Special Education Categorical Aid Reimbursement to 33 Percent

Amend existing Resolution 2.31 as follows:

The WASB supports increasing the special education categorical aid reimbursement level to not less than 33 percent of prior year eligible costs and maintaining funding at not less than this percentage each year thereafter. The WASB further supports the following provisions related to funding for children with disabilities:

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to let WASB members decide whether they support increasing the level of prior year eligible costs reimbursed by special education categorical aid to 33 percent and maintaining the reimbursement level at not less than 33 percent each year thereafter.

Currently, special education categorical aid reimburses between 26 and 27 percent of prior year eligible costs.

Resolution 16-07: Restore Two-Thirds State Funding and Increase Primary Guarantee Value per Member

Create: The WASB supports increasing the primary guaranteed value per member in the general aid funding formula to $3 million each year and restoring a statutory commitment to fund two thirds of school costs each year.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB membership an opportunity to vote on whether to support restoring a state commitment to provide two-thirds state funding of statewide school costs each year as well as changes to the general equalization aid formula that would restore state aid to a number of school districts that have fallen out of the general equalization aid formula because their property value per student is too high and thus no longer receive such aid.

From 1996-97 until 2002-03, a statutory commitment was in place to fund two thirds of “partial school revenues” (as defined by law) each year.

Resolution 16-08: Sparsity Aid

Create: The WASB supports legislation creating a separate allotment, regardless of membership, within the sparsity aid program for districts with fewer than five members per square mile with per pupil aid amounts to be paid on a sliding scale such that lower enrollment districts would receive greater amounts per pupil than higher enrollment districts.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB membership to decide whether to support making changes to the sparsity aid program to allow all districts with fewer than five students per square mile to receive per pupil sparsity aid payments in such a manner that lower enrollment districts would receive greater amounts per pupil than higher enrollment districts.
Resolution 16-09: Sliding Scale Funding Formula Adjustment
Create: The WASB supports legislation to implement a sliding scale formula factor multiplier to increase the membership of districts for revenue limit purposes.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to let WASB members decide whether to support legislation to implement a sliding scale formula factor multiplier in revenue limit calculations in order to increase the applicable revenue limit authority of districts. A sliding scale formula factor multiplier would give greater weight to students beneath certain enrollment (membership) numbers/levels than it would students above those levels.

Resolution 16-10: Student Assessments
Create: The WASB supports statewide implementation of a uniform, reliable statewide assessment that would not be modified for a period of years sufficient to effectively evaluate the performance of all publicly-funded students in the state, regardless of whether those students attend a public school, charter school or private voucher school.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support statewide implementation of a uniform (i.e., single, common) statewide assessment for all publicly funded students that would be in place without modification for a period of years sufficient to effectively evaluate student achievement. All students in the state who receive public funding would take this assessment, whether they attend a public school, charter school or private voucher school.

Resolution 16-11: State-Mandated Graduation Requirements
Create: The WASB supports local school board control for determining high school graduation standards and the assessments that will be used to issue a high school diploma. If the state requires assessments for graduation, those assessments should be fully funded by the state.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support: a) local school board control for determining high school graduation standards and the assessments that will be used to issue a high school diploma; and b) the position that if the state requires assessments for graduation, those state-required assessments should be fully funded by the state.

Resolution 16-12: Use of Electronic Communication to Notify Parent of Child's Truancy
Create: The WASB supports legislation to allow school attendance officials to notify a parent or guardian of their child’s truancy that does not qualify as habitual truancy using modern electronic communication mediums, including but not limited to email or text messages in lieu of existing notification requirements.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support legislation to allow schools to notify a parent or guardian of their child’s truancy that does not qualify as habitual truancy using electronic communication mediums, instead of current notification requirements.
**Resolution 16-13: Elimination/Reduction of Newspaper Notice/Publishing Requirements**
Create: The WASB supports legislation allowing school districts to publish statutorily-required notices electronically on the school district website and other social media maintained by the school district in lieu of publishing these notices in newspapers.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members to decide whether to support allowing school districts to publish statutorily-required notices electronically on the school’s website and its other social media instead of in newspapers.

**Resolution 16-14: Mental Health Supports**
Create: The WASB supports the provision of state funding adequate to: address the shortage of mental health professionals in our state qualified to address the needs of school age children and young adults; provide adequate professional mental health supports in our schools and our communities; and permit schools to enter into effective partnerships with agencies that are involved with mental health to provide for school-based mental health programs, that could provide services, including but not limited to, the following:

- Comprehensive student screening in every school;
- Professional development for classroom teachers on recognition and appropriate classroom response to support affected students;
- Professional mental health counselors and or services;
- Professional education and training to expand availability of mental health professionals; and
- Public information programs related to mental health.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB membership to decide whether to support the provision of state funding adequate to address the shortage of mental health professionals in our state qualified to address the needs of school age children and young adults as well as provide adequate professional mental health supports in our schools and our communities. This would include permitting schools to enter into partnerships with county and community agencies that are involved with mental health to provide for school-based mental health programs, to provide the services, as outlined in the resolution.
**Resolution 16-15: Transfer of Territory from One District to Another**

Create: The WASB supports the following changes to statutes relating to and governing transfers of territory from one school district to another:

- Reduce the current threshold for a transfer of parcels to be considered a transfer of a large territory from seven percent to one percent so that any petitions that exceed a property value or student count of one percent of the donor district would require approval by public binding referendum held in both affected districts, assuming that one or both of the affected school boards deny the petition;

- Require that all the property values and student counts presented via petition(s) to transfer a small territory in a given annual petition period be aggregated, and that if the aggregated property values or student counts in those petitions exceed the threshold for a transfer of parcels to be considered a transfer of a large territory, treat them as a transfer of a large territory;

- Clarify the standards to be used to determine the asset transfer calculation in both the large and small parcel detachment-reattachment process.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to allow WASB members decide whether to support various changes to the statutes governing transfers of territory from one school district to another to broaden the ability of voters in the affected districts to approve or disapprove of such transfer(s) via referendum and to clarify the standards to be used to determine the asset transfer calculation when territory is transferred. These changes are intended to deter owners from presenting multiple small parcel detachments in an attempt to circumvent a public referendum vote on the transfers.

**Resolution 16-16: Prevailing Wage**

Create: The WASB supports legislation to allow a school board to reinstate the state prevailing wage law through local board policy.

Rationale: The Policy & Resolutions Committee advanced this resolution to give the WASB membership an opportunity to vote on whether to support allowing a local school board the option to reinstate, through the adoption of a local board policy, the prevailing wage law applicable to local school district public works projects.

The 2015-17 State Budget Act (2015 Wisconsin Act 55) repealed the state prevailing wage law that applies to local projects of public works, effective for any contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2017. Local governmental units affected by this repeal include counties, villages, towns, cities, school districts, municipal utilities and technical colleges.