

Three Lakes School District Board of Education Resolution On Changing the School Start Date

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin by State Statute has usurped the local authority of Public School District Boards of Education by requiring them to start school no earlier than September 1; and

WHEREAS, the tourism rationale for this legislation is not valid since public schools in Wisconsin begin their extra-curricular programs in early August and neighboring states begin their school year prior to September 1, to better coincide with their extra-curricular schedules; and

WHEREAS, local control over the start date would allow for additional days of instruction for students prior to administering mandated state and local assessments, and additional preparation for the ACT and Advanced Placement; and

WHEREAS, local control over the start date would allow districts to align their calendars with post-secondary institutions to better meet the needs of their Youth Options students; and

WHEREAS, charter and voucher schools have the flexibility to start prior to September 1, while still receiving public funding from the State of Wisconsin; and

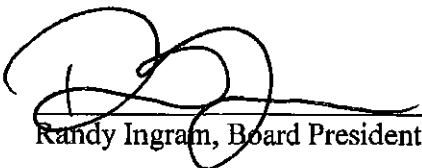
WHEREAS, allowing districts to extend the calendar would enable them to schedule breaks during the school year that would be more conducive to the needs of families, especially those with employment tied to tourism throughout the summer months; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Three Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Information Bureau supports the Three Lakes Board of Education, as well as other districts throughout the State of Wisconsin, having local control over when their school year begins; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent is recommending in his 2017-2019 biennial budget to give the Milwaukee Public School District an exception to this provision in state law to allow the district to maximize learning opportunities, and this opportunity should be granted to all school districts in the State of Wisconsin.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Three Lakes School District Board of Education supports a change in legislation that returns local control to Public School Boards of Education that enables them to choose a start date that is best for their particular district and communities.

Dated this 11th day of January, 2017.



Randy Ingram, Board President



Tom Rulsech, Board Clerk