



**RESOLUTION**  
**Governor Walker's Proposed Budget Proposal 2017-19**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long tradition of providing a high-quality public education system and investing in public education is an investment not only in our students' capacity for success beyond high school but an investment in economic development and the future of Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, since the 1993-94 school year, school districts have been operating under state imposed revenue limits that cap the amount that schools can collect in state aid and local property taxes combined, and thus serve to limit school spending; and,

WHEREAS, the School District has implemented several non-traditional financial approaches in an effort to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars; and,

WHEREAS, the School District has been committed to funding as many capital expenditures out of available resources versus going to the taxpayers for additional funds through referendum; and,

WHEREAS, the School District has fully implemented the tools made available through ACT 10 which has resulted in millions of dollars in recurring annual savings and more importantly, have allowed the School District to truly focus on students and their learning with minimal distractions; and,

WHEREAS, the School District has expanded 'Career Readiness' programming (career awareness, exposure, and preparation; dual enrollment; entrepreneurship; work based learning; Career and Technical Student Organizations; etc.) for the benefit of students as well as the regional and state economy; and,

WHEREAS, 'Career Readiness' programming is more expensive to deliver than traditional academic programming; and,

WHEREAS, 'Career Readiness' programming is in alignment with the State's Education for Employment legislation which was passed without any additional appropriation of state funds directly to K12 institutions; and,

WHEREAS, 'Career Readiness' programming is meant for ALL students not just those who might not be planning to attend college/university; and,

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education (CTE) is intended to provide a combination of rigorous academic coursework and the development of career ready skills through a progression of coursework that extends into a variety of post-secondary education alternatives (including university); and,

WHEREAS, the Public Policy Forum's report 'Building Bridges' released on 2/9/17 has highlighted that the lack of state funding for CTE is a gap which needs to be addressed to support shared objectives; and,

WHEREAS, implementing the prior Youth Options/Course Options legislation as well as a wide variety of Dual Enrollment strategies to help expedite student's time to degree requires a collective commitment and investment for all parties involved; and,

WHEREAS, the majority of additional state dollars for K-12 education general aid continues to be directed to reducing property taxes and will not be available to support programs and services that directly impact student learning; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed budget directs aid through a 'Reform Dividend' to districts who have shown a commitment to implementing the tools available through ACT 10 as that is how the additional funding was made possible in the proposed budget; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides a 'Reform Dividend' that will result in categorical aid in the amount of \$1,985,850 in 2017-18 and \$2,886,102 in 2018-19 specifically for the School District of New Berlin; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides a new 'Early College Credit' program which is intended to make it easier and less expensive for students and their families to earn post-secondary credit (in addition to AP) while in high school; and,

WHEREAS, tuition for the 'Early College Credit' program will be reduced from current levels through a tuition cap of  $\frac{1}{3}$  the institution's regular in-state tuition and subsidized, at least in part, by the State; and,

WHEREAS, the tuition cap will result in a higher per-pupil cost for districts leveraging on-site "college in high school" programs that require the district certify and staff the class in comparison to dual enrollment programs where the Institution of Higher Education (IHE) provides the space and professor; and,

WHEREAS, it is assumed that the 'zero net cost' transcribed and advanced standing courses offered through the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) are unaffected by the 'Early College Credit' program; and,

WHEREAS, work based learning includes youth apprenticeships, internships, mentorships, Career and Technical Student Organizations, simulated work experiences embedded in CTE courses, etc.; however, the proposed budget limits additional funding to the State's Youth Apprenticeship program; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed budget specifically supports our most needy students, those students in special education and students with mental health issues, which must be addressed if we want all students to be prepared for life after high school; and,

WHEREAS, our state accountability system has an impact how district's prioritize their resources; and,

WHEREAS, our state accountability system does not currently indicate a value for 'Career Readiness' programming; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides additional measures of College and Career Readiness that lends credibility to 'Career Readiness' programming; and,

WHEREAS, it is unclear if the State plans to continue to invest in ACT WorkKeys given it has not yet achieved its original objectives nor appears to have the collective commitment of all required parties to implement with fidelity; and,

WHEREAS, in the long term, education is the state's economic engine,

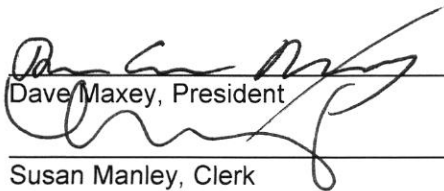
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the School District of New Berlin Board of Education:

- supports those aspects of the Governor's budget proposal that will continue to provide tax relief for our local constituents and allow us to sustain and improve programming to support our student's post-secondary success as well as our regional and state economy; and,
- supports a direction to apply the 'Reform Dividend' to those institutions that implemented ACT 10 since that is, at least in part, how the funding was made possible; and,
- is concerned that the proposed cost structure of the Early College Credit program does not adequately take into account the different early college models across the State which could inadvertently reduce the number of opportunities for students; and,

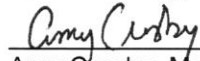
- questions whether the State might consider targeting available 'Early College Credit' subsidies to support the attainment of 2 and 4 year post-secondary credentials in high demand fields (i.e., Education, Healthcare, Computing, Manufacturing, Finance, etc.); and,
- questions whether or not the State's investment in the administration of ACT WorkKeys is worthwhile given National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) predictors are included on the ACT Assessment and we have not yet seen a shared value for the NCRC on the industry side; and,
- asks for the continued support of our local and state legislators to continue to find ways to support the implementation of Education for Employment legislation for ALL STUDENTS in a manner determined by local Boards of Education in alignment with their constituencies.


This is our collective work.

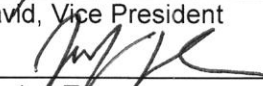
Approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017, by a unanimous vote of the School Board.

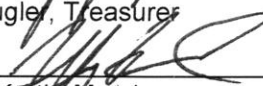
  
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 Dave Maxey, President

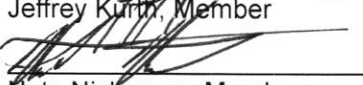
Susan Manley, Clerk

  
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