



School District of River Falls

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

852 East Division Street, River Falls WI 54022

715-425-1800 phone / 715-425-1804 fax

www.rfsd.k12.wi.us

April 15, 2019

I am Stacy Johnson Myers and I serve as the President of the River Falls School Board. Welcome to our community! As Representative Zimmerman knows firsthand, the River Falls community values education for many reasons including that it supports economic development in our growing area of the state.

I will highlight four of our greatest needs. I ask you to consider:

1. Increasing per student aid. While we would always like more, I think a minimum increase of \$200 per student in each year of the biennium is reasonable. We stretch every dollar you give us, but our needs are out pacing our financial resources. We maintain that investment in education drives economic development through a well-prepared work force.
2. Increasing mental health support for students. The number of students suffering from mental stress is staggering and growing. We need to hire more professionals to support our students. Our need is urgent.
3. Increasing aid for special education students. Special education students are among our most vulnerable. Responding effectively to their needs requires money; more than we currently have available to us.
4. Raising the legal age to buy and possess vaping equipment. 25 years is my first choice but I will settle for 21. Vaping is at an epidemic level in our high school. Please help by raising the legal age and by providing funds for anti-vaping education programs.

In my estimation these four issues are not partisan but realistic and reflect the values of my school board and community. I have outlined a modest request that has the potential to significantly impact the River Falls School District in a positive way. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Stacy Johnson Myers
School Board President
School District of River Falls
stacy.johnsonmyers@rfsd.k12.wi.us