



# Sun Prairie Area School District

Futures depend on us...every child, every day.

## **RESOLUTION ON JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE 2021-2023 EDUCATION BUDGET PROPOSAL**

**WHEREAS**, the Sun Prairie Board of Education, administrators, faculty, staff, parents and community members are united in our efforts to provide all children with the highest quality educational opportunities possible; and

**WHEREAS**, school districts throughout Wisconsin and the nation have worked hard before and during the COVID-19 pandemic to fulfill the needs of our students no matter the circumstances, and will continue to do so post-pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the nonpartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau released a memo announcing revenue projections are \$4.4 billion higher than had previously been estimated in January and the state now has \$5.8 billion available to budget for the 2021-23 biennium; and

**WHEREAS**, the budget-writing committee of the Legislature (Joint Finance Committee) crafted a K-12 education funding plan that did not meet basic inflationary benchmarks of state support for K-12 education and put vital federal relief funding at risk in the process; and

**WHEREAS**, investing in the post-pandemic recovery of our school children needs to be a top priority and we can do more than the bare minimum necessary to qualify for federal funds;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education calls upon lawmakers to take advantage of the excellent opportunity presented by \$4.4 billion in new revenue to rework and pass a state budget bill that provides the following investments in public education:

- Increase revenue limits/general aid and/or per pupil aid to meet the inflationary needs and maintain the operating budgets of school districts as well as ensuring adequate facilities for students;
- Increase Special Education Reimbursement to at least 50%;
- Support Broadband for all to close the Homework Gap and ensure that every student in the state has an equal opportunity to access online resources;
- Increase mental health aid and grants to address the current and future social and emotional impacts of the pandemic on school-age children; and
- Pupil count mitigation to address the unprecedented impact of the pandemic on student enrollment and in turn, the resources and opportunities available to schools.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District on the 14th day of June, 2021.

Steve Schroeder, President

Bryn Horton, Vice President

Dave Hoekstra, Treasurer

Carol Sue Albright, Clerk

Tom Weber, Governance Officer/Deputy Clerk

Caren Diedrich, Member

Alwyn Foster, Member

Sarah Rhoads, Student Representative

Carson Schmoldt, Student Representative