

Public Schools Week Proclamation February 21 - 25, 2022

WHEREAS, Article X of the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin states "The legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of district schools, which shall be as nearly uniform as practicable; and such schools shall be free and without charge for tuition to all children between the ages of 4 and 20 years, and no sectarian instruction shall be allowed therein; but the legislature by law may, for the purpose of religious instruction outside the district schools, authorize the release of students during regular school hours"; and

WHEREAS, the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education, administrators, faculty, staff, parents, caregivers and community members of the Sun Prairie Area School District are united in our efforts to provide ALL children, regardless of where they live, with the highest quality public education opportunities and recognizes that what is best for our kids is what is best for our state; and

WHEREAS; recognized annually, Public Schools Week is a time to celebrate our public schools, honor those who work in our public schools, and promote the principle that public education is a pillar of our democracy and vital for our future; and

WHEREAS, in the continued stressful environment of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen our public schools step up to provide safe environments for all students and educators, and to meet the needs of students and families inside and outside of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, whether in person or virtually, our public schools have been open and educators continue to go above and beyond to ensure that all students have access to nutritious food, learning devices, internet access, and the tools they need to be successful, all of which are crucial to their ability to learn and grow; and

WHEREAS, our faculty, staff, and administrators are facing unprecedented challenges trying to balance student learning with behavior and mental health issues while simultaneously trying to manage their own health and mental well-being; and

WHEREAS, these same people are facing the possibility of tight budgets in the next couple of school years as the legislature has not adequately funded their school districts; and

WHEREAS, our public education system requires the support and investment of our state and local elected officials to provide adequate funding and foster strong educational outcomes for all of Wisconsin's students, and the need for quality public education is a nonpartisan issue;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sun Prairie Area School District Board of Education calls on all of our legislators across the state and country to support Public Schools Week by honoring and celebrating the success and achievements of students and educators in public schools across our state, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education calls on those same legislators to implement the Governor's proposal for some of the historical \$3.8 billion budget surplus which includes more funding for schools.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Proclamation was duly passed by the Board of Education of the Sun Prairie Area School District on the 14th of February, 2022.

Steve Schroeder, President on behalf of the Board of Education

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Carol Sue Albright, Clerk
Caren Diedrich, Member
Alwyn Foster, Member
Dave Hoekstra, Treasurer
Bryn Horton, Vice President
Sarah Rhoads, Member
Carson Schmoldt, Student Member
Tom Weber, Governance Officer/ Deputy Clerk