



May 15, 2020

Dear Local Leader,

We are asking you to **contact your Board of Education and District Administrator and urge them to pass a Board resolution supporting the adequate funding of public education** in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, as detailed below. The [Wauwatosa](#), [Sun Prairie](#), and [Superior](#) School Districts have already passed such resolutions, which can be used as templates.

Coming off Teacher Appreciation Week, it is clear that parents overwhelming [support public educators'](#) handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the pandemic's effect on the economy, and the resulting expected declines in tax collections, threatens [school district funding](#) at both the [state and local level](#). A 15 percent reduction in state education funding could lead to the [loss of more than 300,000 teaching positions](#) nationwide. The \$13.5 billion dollars allocated to K-12 funding as part of the CARES Act falls far short of what is needed to adequately support public schools. Recognizing that fact, a coalition of nonpartisan organizations, including National Education Association and the National School Boards Association, have [signed on to a letter requesting](#) the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House allocate at least an additional \$200 billion in K-12 emergency relief funding, including the following:

- At least \$175 billion: Provision of emergency funding directly to state governments to support local school districts
- At least \$25 billion: \$13 billion to support IDEA and \$12 billion to support Title I
- At least \$2 billion: Funding technology to further enable home-based learning and close inequities in broadband Internet access

In addition, if your district falls within the area represented by one of the State Representatives or State Senators that signed on to a [letter to Wisconsin's Congressional delegation](#), asking them to reject additional Federal funding packages for the states, please call on your School Board and Administrators to **contact those legislators and question their commitment to public education**. While you are at it, ask your fellow educators to do so as well. The reality is any future CARES Act must contain a dedicated funding stream for public K-12 education. By calling on Congress to reject such funding, the below legislators are directly waging an attack on public education.

Legislators who signed letter urging Congress to reject further Federal funding to states:

[State Representatives](#): Shae Sortwell (AD2), Ron Tussler (AD3), Dave Steffen (AD4), Gary Tauchen (AD6), Paul Tittl (AD25), Terry Katsma (AD26), Tyler Vorpapel (AD27), Rob Swearingen (AD34), Mike Rohrkaste (AD55), Bob Brooks (AD60), John Macco (AD88)

[State Senators](#): Tom Tiffany (SD12), Dan Feyen (SD18), Roger Roth (SD19), Duey Stroebel (SD20)