

# WISCONSIN BUDGET PROPOSAL

## School Finance Reform

### Fair, Sustainable, Transparent

Our schools deserve a funding system that supports **all students**, regardless of where they live. For too long, rural, urban, and suburban schools have been pitted against each other for funding needs. The Fair Funding for our Future plan benefits **all kids**.



### Fair Funding Elements

We do not need to choose between funding our schools or holding the line on property taxes. Fair Funding accomplishes both by guaranteeing state funding for **every student**. The plan accounts for family income and poverty as a factor in educating students. Finally, it ensures no district receives less aid than they previously did.

### Revenue Limits and Two-Thirds Funding

While the original funding formula has seen changes across all critical components, districts are still locked into revenue limits based on spending in the 1993-94 school year. To make revenue limits fair, the department is proposing to **index limits** over time, bringing spending closer to the state average. The proposal will also return the state to its commitment to **fund two-thirds of all school costs**.

**2/3**  
school costs



### Additional Programs to Help Close Gaps

Early childhood and out-of-school learning opportunities are **critical to closing gaps**. The department's budget will allow districts to count 4-year-old kindergarten students for a full school day. The budget also creates a new state program to support out-of-school programming for students and families.



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent