

Eliminate the Proposed \$127 Million Cut to Public Schools

Written by GBP Staff

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/back-to-school-s5.jpg>



Local Senator Dave Hansen calls on Joint Finance Committee to eliminate \$8.5 million in cuts to Green Bay Area schools proposed in Governor Walker's budget. Cuts threaten quality of area public schools.

MADISON - Our local State Senator Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) called on the members of the Joint Finance Committee Tuesday to eliminate the \$150 per pupil cut to public schools that is proposed in Governor Walker's budget.

"The single greatest investment we can make is in our children's education. Sadly, not everyone shares this view as we have seen from the relentless cuts that have been made to our public schools over the past several years," said Hansen. "Our kids deserve better than that and the JFC should do what's in our children's best interest and eliminate the \$127 million in cuts being proposed in the Governor's budget."

The proposed cuts could lead to larger class sizes and teacher layoffs as school districts struggle to find room in their budgets to absorb them. Senator Hansen said he is also concerned that new cuts will lead to the elimination of other important aspects of education, namely the teaching of art and music and the possible elimination of after school activities that provide children with an opportunity to find new interests whether they are in sports or academic-related activities.

Hansen says "At a time when other states are investing in their public schools Wisconsin is going the wrong way by continuing down a path of dangerous cuts that will cost us in our schools' ability to retain and attract the best teachers, incorporate smaller class sizes and continue to fund important activities like sports, art, music and other extra-curricular programs that help kids learn and grow."

Under the budget, area schools will see \$8.5 million in cuts:

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Algoma \$101,700

Ashwaubenon \$359,700

Coleman \$105,900

De Pere \$570,750

Denmark \$210,150

Green Bay \$3,234,975

Howard-Suamico \$838,825

Kewaunee \$145,650

Lena \$61,200

Luxemburg-Casco \$281,475

Marinette \$327,525

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Oconto \$168,800

Oconto Falls \$267,300

Peshtigo \$171,900

Pulaski \$558,900

Sturgeon Bay \$1,130,325

Hansen concludes “Members of the Joint Finance Committee should do what’s best for our kids and eliminate the proposed \$127 million cut to our public schools.”