

Underfunding, Vouchers Threaten Rural Wisconsin Schools

Written by GBP Staff

Wednesday, 29 October 2014 10:24 -



GREEN BAY - Wisconsin's rural public schools are facing increasingly difficult decisions as funding disparities between high and low wealth districts continue under a broken funding system and the increased risk of the potential removal of the cap to statewide vouchers.

"Recent state policy and budget actions are creating significant challenges for public schools, especially in rural areas," said Dave Polashek, District Administrator for Oconto Falls School District and Immediate Past President of the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators (WASDA).

Public schools are the bedrock of small communities, and it is beyond time to have a discussion about a funding model that treats all Wisconsin children equitably, regardless of their zip code before the state provides funding for two school systems through tax payer subsidizes," said Peter Ross, District Administrator at Seymour School District.

In order to meet the growing crisis, a news conference and forum has been scheduled by the Northeast and Central Wisconsin rural public school districts for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 30th at the CESA 7 offices in Green Bay. The profound impacts of the current funding formula and the potential lifting of the statewide voucher cap will be discussed. Administrators and public education officials will be available for interviews.

Administrators will describe the current state of funding in their rural schools and the impact on students at the event. They will also discuss the role of rural education in producing workers with the skills to master new technologies in a global economy, in order to keep Wisconsin's rural communities strong for generations to come.

What: Panel discussion on the impact of underfunding public schools on rural communities and the increased risk of removal of the voucher cap.

Where: CESA 7 offices: 595 Baeten Road, Green Bay

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When: 10:00 a.m. Thursday, October 30, 2014

Moderated by: WASDA (Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators) Immediate Past President Dave Polashek- DA at Oconto Falls School District