## Democratic Radio "Wisconsin Students Head Back-to-School"

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MADISON – Senator Chris Larson offered the Democratic Weekly Radio address as children across Wisconsin head back to school.



"This time of year serves as a reminder that equal opportunity and access to a quality education are cornerstone American principles, because we all believe that every child should have the freedom to live a successful life." - Sen. Chris Larson

The audio file of this week's address can be found here: <a href="http://media2.legis.wisconsin.gov/multimedia/Sen07/larsonradio090816.mp3">http://media2.legis.wisconsin.gov/multimedia/Sen07/larsonradio090816.mp3</a>

A written transcript of the address is below:

"Hello. This is Senator Chris Larson. Children across Wisconsin are returning to school. As a parent, I have felt firsthand the joys of watching my kids learn, grow, and overcome challenges. This time of year serves as a reminder that equal opportunity and access to a quality education are cornerstone American principles, because we all believe that every child should have the freedom to live a successful life.

"Under Walker and legislative Republicans, our schools have been intentionally underinvested in. Wisconsin must begin focusing on creating school environments that will help students reach their full potential.

"We can do this through proposals like the Community Schools Act, which would invest in a holistic approach to education, addressing the complex factors contributing to student learning – like hunger, homelessness, and health care. Just picture schools being the center of a community the way they were meant to be.

"Further, a poorly crafted funding formula has created inequity between low and high revenue school districts. The quality of your child's education should not depend on your geographic location, and fixing this reality should be a priority for state leaders.

"The future of Wisconsin is on the line. We must reinvest in our local, neighborhood schools to ensure a bright future for all Wisconsin children. Thank you for listening and good luck to the students, parents, and educators – I hope this school year is a successful one!"