

February 1, 2010

Board President Arlene Silveira
Madison Metropolitan School District
545 Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53703



Wisconsin Alliance
for Excellent Schools

Dear Board President Silveira:

When it comes to fair and adequate school funding, the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES) has been in the front lines of reform and standing strong for you, your schools and children, and your communities.

The Madison Metropolitan School District has been a partner in this effort—an effort that has brought us a long, long way. We are getting closer to a fair and adequate funding system, but there is work left to do. It is that time to renew your membership so we can see the cause of school-finance reform through to the finish.

WAES has a singular mission, and that is to bring change to the way Wisconsin funds its public schools. Toward that goal, we are willing take approaches other groups can't or won't to make sure school-funding reform is at the top of the public's agenda. That's why it is worth the time, effort, and money of the Madison Metropolitan School District to be a member of this coalition.

So, what has WAES done lately that is unique and effective?

Most recently, your coalition has been the only public voice for a plan to address the crisis created by the last state budget, when the state actually cut real-dollar aid to schools for the first time in history. WAES came forward with a plan, "A Penny for Kids." Your coalition started a campaign and a petition drive to convince legislators to raise the sales tax one penny for K-12 schools. That campaign is picking up signatures and steam, but success depends in large part on your renewal.

"A Penny for Kids" is just to stop the bleeding. WAES hasn't forgotten its core mission, however. We continue to be a voice in Madison and around the state for long-term, comprehensive reform of the school funding system.

Our best tool is information, and WAES has been on the road taking the reform discussion to communities all over the state. We talk about how districts got to where they are today, about the future, and about what these communities, working with others and their legislators, can do to bring about change. Recent presentations have been held in 50 locations for 2,000 individuals. Again, this is something only WAES does. Other groups talk to their members. Your coalition makes the effort to bring diverse groups together and continually grow its base of support.

And, that's not all you get when you belong to WAES:

- Working with the Institute for Wisconsin's Future, we publish research and fiscal analysis on how the finance system impacts children and their communities.
- WAES lobbies the Legislature but we know that isn't the only way to reach elected officials. We coordinate grassroots outreach to lawmakers locally, regionally, and statewide. We'll help you build a reform coalition in your community and then put you in contact with other organizations around the state, building a strong and effective base of support for changing the state's school-funding system.
- The coalition publishes a regular e-mail newsletter that reaches thousands of educators, students, parents, taxpayers, and the public ... bringing new people to the cause every month.
- WAES's website ... and the website of "A Penny for Kids" ... are packed with information, research, up-to-the-minute news, and advice on how to get your community involved in the reform effort.
- WAES works with its partners. For example, with Price County Citizens Who CARE and the Northern Tier Uniserv—both coalition members—we helped bring hundreds of school-funding reformers to Madison this past summer for the 10th anniversary of the *Walk on the Child's Side*. We are also part of the School Finance Network, along with the state's major public school stakeholders.

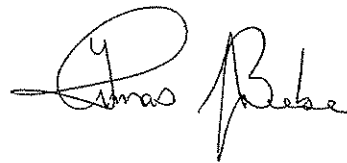
WAES has made large gains toward adequate and equitable school funding. WAES needs the time, talent, and financial backing of the Madison Metropolitan School District to continue on this mission.

This packet contains information about the coalition, including your membership renewal form. It's all you need to make sure the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools continues working for your community, your schools, and your children.

Thank you.



Ruth Page Jones, President
Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools



Thomas S. Beebe, Executive Director
Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools

Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools Membership Renewal Statement



Wisconsin Alliance
for Excellent Schools

The **Madison Metropolitan School District** agrees with the following core principles of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools:

- ❖ Wisconsin's public schools need a system of funding that provides all children resources for the opportunity for a top-quality education.
- ❖ A new funding system must guarantee additional resources to meet the needs of children and school districts with special circumstances.
- ❖ New resources for public schools must come from statewide rather than local tax sources.
- ❖ A new school-funding system must build on Wisconsin's tradition of local control.

By agreeing with these core principles and paying the dues set out below, **Madison Metropolitan School District** renews its membership in the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools.

Legal name of organization: Madison Metropolitan School District

Street address: 545 W. Dayton St.

City: Madison State: WI Zip code: 53703

Contact #1: Steve Hartley

Contact #2: Erik Kass

Title: Chief of Staff

Title: Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

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Dues: School districts = \$200 + \$.25/member (FY07-08 revenue limit membership)

Madison Metropolitan School District dues = \$200 + (24907 X \$.25) = \$6426.75

Send a check for the dues amount listed above and this Membership Renewal Statement to the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools at 315 Maple Street, Fort Atkinson, 53538. Please make a copy of this document for your records.

Thank you for your support of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools and the public schools and school children of the state.

WAES outreach presentations

Group	Location	Attendance	Date
Riverdale	Avoca		
Mequon-Thiensville	Mequon		
Plymouth	Plymouth		
Stevens Point Retired Educators Association	Stevens Point		5/10/2010
Racine West Rotary Club	Racine		4/26/2010
Northern Lakes Conference School Boards	Goodman		4/14/2010
West Bend School District	West Bend		3/18/2010
United We Stand for Markesan Schools	Markesan		3/16/2010
South Milwaukee Band Parents	South Milwaukee		3/15/2010
Four Corners Elementary School PTA	Superior		3/10/2010
Education Leadership and Policy Analysis Class	Madison		3/9/2010
La Crosse Area Retired Educators Association	La Crosse	75	3/1/2010
Southside Sunday Group	Oak Creek	15	2/28/2010
National-Louis University School Finance Class	Janesville	12	2/16/2010
Nekoosa School District	Nekoosa	160	2/15/2010
Menomonee Falls PTA/PTSA Council	Menomonee Falls	50	2/11/2010
Sauk County Leadership Institute	Baraboo	20	2/11/2010
German Immersion Schoool PTA	Milwaukee	85	2/3/2010
Dane County Grassroots Network	Middleton	35	1/28/2010
Wisconsin Association of School Boards Convention	Milwaukee	100	1/20/2010
South Milwaukee School District	South Milwaukee	30	12/14/2009
Paris School District	Kenosha	30	12/1/2009
School District of Greenfield Board	Greenfield	20	11/23/2009
Wisconsin Association of School Councils (Region II)	Wausau	40	11/20/2009
Wisconsin Association of School Councils (Region IV)	Brookfield	60	11/19/2009
Wisconsin Association of Retired Educators (board)	Baraboo	55	11/18/2009

WAES outreach presentations

Wisconsin Association of School Councils (Region VI)	Wisconsin Dells	30	11/17/2009
Wisconsin Association of School Councils (Region V)	Madison	10	11/16/2009
Democratic Party of Door County	Sturgeon Bay	20	11/12/2009
Madison Elementary School (Wauwatosa)PTA	Wauwatosa	10	11/5/09
Chequamegon School District	Park Falls	30	10/28/09
Wisconsin PTA Board of Directors	La Crosse	20	10/18/09
Richland County forumforward	Richland Center	20	10/13/09
League of Women Voters Education Fund Board	Madison	20	10/13/09
Hartland AAUW	Hartland	20	10/8/09
Marathon County Retired Educators Association	Wausau	80	9/15/09
Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin	Dodgeville	20	9/1/09
Graduate Class at DC Everest	Weston	12	6/20/09
Dane County Citizens Advocacy Project	Madison	30	5/18/09
Cedar Lake United Educators Assembly	West Bend	80	5/11/09
National Assoc School Social Workers Lobby Day	Madison	210	4/1/09
UWM School Social Workers Graduate Class	Milwaukee	20	3/31/09
Central Wisconsin School Board Consortium	Stevens Point	80	3/30/09
Multiple VieUUs Forum	Racine	80	3/22/09
Dunn Co Retired Educators Association	Menomonie	50	3/16/09
Champions for Excellence	Wales	50	2/13/09
Sauk County Leadership Institute	Baraboo	25	2/12/09
Northern Tier UniServ Conference	Minocqua	55	1/24/09
German Immersion Schoool PTA	Milwaukee	30	11/20/08
WI School Social Workers Association	Green Lake	50	11/14/08
AFT-Wisconsin	Milwaukee	50	10/30/08
Wisconsin Association of School Councils	Wisconsin Dells	40	10/20/08
Neshkoro School Vision Committee	Neshkoro	20	10/14/08
WI Association for Talented and Gifted	Sheboygan	30	10/2/08
West Central Education Association Octoberfest	Menomonie	150	10/1/08

WAES outreach presentations

Oconomowoc Democrats Breakfast Group	Oconomowoc	30	10/1/08
Democratic Party of Jefferson County	Jefferson	30	9/4/08
West Allis/West Milwaukee PTA Council	West Allis	30	9/3/08
Montello School District	Montello	20	8/27/08
School Law and Politics, Marion University	Wausau	20	7/29/08
Edgewood College School Finance Class	Weston	10	6/20/08
Northwoods Alliance for School Funding Reform	Minocqua	50	6/19/08
Elkhorn School District Board	Elkhorn	15	5/12/08
Benton School District Community Meeting	Benton	75	5/7/08
Wisconsin PTA Convention	Green Bay	20	4/25/08
Edgewood College Education Leadership Class	Madison	20	4/19/08
Sauk County Institute of Leadership	Baraboo	30	2/14/08
Democratic Party of Door County	Egg Harbor	50	1/24/08
		2,529	
		68	