

Governor Jim Doyle
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

January 12, 2007

Dear Governor Doyle:

Education is the foundation of a representative democracy. Government's fundamental responsibility must be to provide our country with educated and informed citizens. The Crandon Board of Education continues to struggle with financial challenges that affect the degree and depth of programs needed by our students.

As Crandon's District Administrator, I encourage you to address the Wisconsin Association of School Boards' (WASB) four (4) priorities in your budget:

1. Maintain the annual inflation revenue limit increase;
2. Maintain two-thirds state funding of schools;
3. Increase special education, transportation, and bilingual-bicultural categorical aids;
4. Improve declining enrollment adjustments.

Crandon School District is also a member of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES) which is a statewide coalition of school districts, teacher unions, parent groups and civic and faith-based organizations. WAES members are committed to working for increased state support for transportation, special education, bilingual programs, SAGE (including re-opening a window for new membership in SAGE) and for small, rural school districts. Our schools need immediate help and I ask you to find the money to increase aid for these important/urgent needs.

Crandon has a diverse student population. Students from two Native American tribes (the Forest County Potawatomi and the Sokaogon Chippewa) make up one third of our total student body. We need extra help to address the learning challenges of all students from our diverse population.

I look forward to your hard work on behalf of education as you move through the budget allocation process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Peters, District Administrator