

Education is our investment in the future.

February 15, 2007

Governor Jim Doyle
115 East, State Capitol
Madison WI 53702

Dear Governor Doyle:

The School District of Janesville appreciates and salutes your decision to commit to public education as your number one priority. We look forward to the discussions which will take place regarding your task force recommendations.

Just as you have faced at the state level, our district is currently facing a critical budget dilemma. For the second year in a row, our budget increase greatly outdistances our revenue cap increase. In order to stay under the revenue cap, we "reduced" from our "cost to continue budget" \$1.9 million. (Our annual budget is about \$100 million.)

This year our budget will increase 4.9% and our revenue cap 2.8%, thus, forcing "reductions" of \$1.9 million of our budget. Sadly, projections for the next two years, 2008-09 and 2009-10, are equally bleak. The lists are included.

We realize there are no magic solutions or sources of income. We believe the plan forwarded by Senator Luther Olson's group has some merit. We appreciate that (if media accounts are accurate) you did not dismiss the idea out of hand.

A second possible focus could be to restore the percent of handicapped categorical aides. We have heard previous ideas of funding for increased special education money from a narrow targeted sales tax or other approaches.

We believe we have a great district. Great districts require enough great staff working together to address the needs of our students.

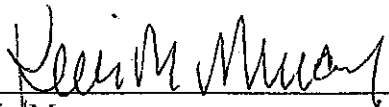
We have endorsed the efforts of Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES) and believe in their concerns and agenda for funding of Wisconsin's schools.

Governor Jim Doyle

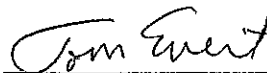
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You are Governor at a time of unprecedented change, demand, and opportunity. We wish you all the best as you apply the Wisdom of Solomon to the tough issue of education funding. We look forward to your next visit to the School District of Janesville. Thank you for all you do for the students of our state.

Very truly yours,



Kevin Murray
Board Member
Legislative Committee Chair



Thomas Evert
Superintendent

TE:dlw

Pc: School District of Janesville Board of Education
Ms. Amy Rashkin, Board Candidate
Mr. Peter Severson, Board Candidate
Mr. Tim Cullen, Board Candidate
Senator Judy Robson
Representative Mike Sheridan
Representative Kim Hixon
Senator Luther S. Olsen
Legislative Liaison John Eyster
Virginia Wyss, Wisconsin Alliance for Educational Services Member
Tom Beebe, Outreach Specialist, Institute for Wisconsin's Future