

January 15, 2007

Dear Governor Doyle:

On behalf of the Marinette School District we would like to thank you for your support of public education in Wisconsin. We applaud your efforts and commitment to making our schools and our children a priority.

We believe that quality public education system is critical to Wisconsin's future and that it is the State's responsibility to adequately fund the schools. The current system of funding is deeply flawed; since the revenue caps were imposed, we have seen drastic cuts in every area of the budget. The bottom line is that schools simply cannot continue to provide excellent education under these limits. Schools across the state have done their part in responding to what has asked of them and it is time for the State to do its part. We have endorsed the principles of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools which call for changing the funding system so that all schools have adequate funding to meet student needs. We need you to lead Wisconsin in accepting its responsibility to find the resources and to revise the funding system. Transportation, special education, bilingual programs, and SAGE are only a few of the issues that pose different problems for different districts; the funding system needs to allow for these differences.

We urge you to maintain the two-thirds state funding, increase special education, transportation and bilingual-bicultural categorical aids, improve declining enrollment adjustments and increase the annual inflation revenue limits. We encourage you to explore creative solutions to financially support these goals.

Sincerely,

Marinette Public Schools Board of Education

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Robert Gannon, President

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Scott VandeHe, Vice-Pres.

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Meg Philipps, Clerk

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Brian Ceranski, Treas.

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Joe Corry

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Marjorie Giese

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Stephen Paul

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Lee Kuntz

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