

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

Dear Governor Doyle,

I am a Wisconsin resident, taxpayer, voter, mother and school district administrator and I am writing to urge you to increase funding for education in your proposed budget.

Our public schools in Markesan, WI have eliminated 1.51 million dollars from our budget within the past six years. This has been done to live within our state mandated revenue limits. Reductions of this magnitude have created an impossible situation as there is nothing reasonable in the way in which the revenue limit formula forces a low spending, declining enrollment district to either pass an operational referendum or dissolve. Leaders of districts such as Markesan are forced to redirect their energies to educating community members rather than children. Legislators may believe that this is democracy in action, but this process is extremely hurtful to children and communities.

The Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES) is a broad-based, statewide, diverse coalition that is committed to working for increased spending for transportation, special education bilingual programs, SAGE, and small rural districts. I support their work as our schools need proper levels of aid and relief from revenue limits immediately.

Most importantly, I am asking that you take the lead in making certain that all schools have adequate funding to meet student needs. Markesan students should not be forced to give up foreign language, art, music and GT programs when these programs are present in most other districts. If we can't adequately invest in our children, our state's future is in jeopardy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Alexander  
41 N. Margaret St.  
Markesan, WI 53946  
1-920-398-1544