



# Project ABC

## Advocating on Behalf of Children

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January 3, 2007

Governor Jim Doyle  
PO Boc 7863  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Doyle,

Project ABC, *Advocating on Behalf of Children*, is a community advocacy group based in Waukesha, WI. We believe our quality of life, our property values, and especially our children's future are intrinsically linked to the quality of Waukesha's educational system.

Project ABC hosted over 20 local education seminars in fall of 2006. A vast majority of meeting and survey participants selected "**Change state law regarding funding**" as their number one solution to the problems facing our local schools. Most everyone agreed that cutting \$3-4 million every year in successful programs is not sustainable and puts our children and our community at risk.

Project ABC is a partner in the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools. Project ABC represents more than 500 parents and community members in advocating for excellence in the School District of Waukesha. My members know that the future of children in our community and elsewhere in Wisconsin is in great jeopardy because of the punishing school funding system. We must do something now – the future trend is unsustainable! We expect you to stand up for our children as you have in the past. People in Waukesha are looking to you to fix the education funding system and to provide short-term relief for this year.

Waukesha takes pride in their award-winning environmental ed program, the top marching bands in the state, a national champion of Academic Decathlon. We have tremendous successes in our elementary schools and our bilingual program. These are all at risk. Too many programs have already been cut, too much has been lost. A school cut down to the basics will not educate our children for their future or for the future of this state.

As a partner in WAES, Project ABC is committed to fighting for increased categorical aid to address the critical short-term needs in all school districts. At the same time, we urge you to work with us, other education stakeholders, and the Legislature to begin comprehensive reform of the school-funding system in 2007.

If we cannot adequately invest in our children, what kind of future can we expect for our state?

Thank You

Sincerely,  
Ruth Page Jones  
President  
Project ABC, *Advocating on Behalf of Children*