

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILLIPS

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Dr. Jerry Trochinski, Superintendent

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Proposed WASB Resolution

Aid to Districts with Significant Sparsity Issues

Whereas school districts exist to serve all children and young adults within the geographic boundaries of the District, and

Whereas school districts with large geographic boundaries may serve a relatively limited population. Sparsity of per pupil per square mile is less than three students per square mile. Extreme sparsity is less than two students per square mile, and

Whereas small population school districts with large geographical areas are necessary to serve all students in our state, and

Whereas small rural school districts lack economy of scale,* but are required to provide instruction to all levels of student and all subject areas, and

Whereas many of the state's small, rural districts face a similar set of issues that included rapidly rising transportation costs, declining enrollment, rapidly rising property values, low median income, and large geographic boundaries,

Therefore, be it resolved that WASB support legislation that would create a state aid for a sparsity factor, for school districts who serve children in a geographic area of more than 300 square miles, equaling:

- five percent (5%) of a district's cost per member for district's with a density of five to three students per square mile
- ten percent (10%) of a district's cost per member for district's with a density less than three students per square mile

*Smaller schools do not have economy of scale even though students from small schools achieve at comparable levels to suburban schools. However, the cost of a section of 10 students in physics cost more per pupil than sections of 24 students in a suburban school. Enrollment by grade may cause inefficiencies – 34 students for two sections of 17 each, 250 students for 10 sections of 25. Add in specialty classes of arts, foreign language, vocational and cost per pupil escalates rapidly – yet small schools are necessary to serve the large geographic area served by small northern and western school districts.

The following school districts signed a postcard indicating support of the proposed WASB resolution regarding categorical aid for sparsity as presented by the School District of Phillips:

Adams Friendship School District
Alma School District
Antigo School District
Athens School District
Bayfield School District
Birchwood School District
Black River Falls School District
Boyceville School District
Bruce School District
Butternut School District
Cameron School District
Chetek School District
Colby School District
Crandon School District
Cumberland School District
Drummond School District
Durand School District
Elcho School District
Ellsworth Community School District
Fall Creek School District
Flambeau School District
Florence School District
Gilman School District
Granton Area School District
Grantsburg School District
Hayward Community School District
Hurley School District
Independence School District

LaFarge School District
Lakeland Union High School
Maple School District
Medford Area School District
Mellen School District
Menomonie Area School District
Mercer School District
Merrill Area School District
Neillsville School District
Northland Pines School District
Northwood School District
Park Falls School District
Pepin Area School District
Phillips School District
Pittsville School District
Prentice School District
Rhineland School District*
Rib Lake School District
Solon Springs School District
Spooner School District
St. Croix Falls School District
Stratford School District
Suring School District
Three Lakes School District
Tomahawk School District
Wabeno School District
Wausaukee School District
Winter School District

* Rhineland passed a version stating 10 students per square mile

Wisconsin Unified and Secondary School Districts, Area

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, TIGER Program, 2000 Census release

as compiled and edited by Office of Land Information Services

For further information, see metadata file:

Wisconsin Secondary School Districts

SDSECKEY	SDS_NAME	AreaSqMtrs	AreaSqMI
09630	Lakeland	1,941,746,831.94	749.71
03810	Drummond	1,743,076,868.58	673.01
16860	Winter	1,710,573,477.17	660.46
06270	Hayward Community	1,586,744,277.87	612.65
11730	Phillips	1,541,460,988.94	595.16
09210	Merrill Area	1,478,059,450.73	570.68
00360	Antigo	1,403,557,917.93	541.92
02910	Crandon	1,372,168,268.99	529.80
14220	Spooner	1,352,031,937.08	522.02
04650	Florence	1,287,876,776.74	497.25
16230	Webster	1,267,089,500.00	489.23
00060	Adams-Friendship Area	1,249,204,992.49	482.32
06750	Hurley	1,245,744,501.80	480.98
03860	Northland Pines	1,227,434,869.80	473.92
14910	Tomah Area	1,213,146,771.82	468.40
01260	Black River Falls	1,197,152,594.07	462.22
11430	Park Falls	1,165,017,263.83	449.82
08640	Maple	1,153,548,949.76	445.39
14940	Tomahawk	1,100,890,382.34	425.06
15930	Wausaukee	1,089,492,810.73	420.66
09720	Northwood	1,084,787,379.54	418.84
12210	Prentice	1,084,235,382.48	418.63
00510	Ashland	1,059,328,084.88	409.01
14670	Superior	1,038,046,181.30	400.79
12720	Rhineland	1,003,990,201.92	387.64
14490	Stevens Point Area	994,742,194.73	384.07
09070	Menominee Indian	951,071,902.71	367.21
11790	Pittsville	942,831,029.36	364.03
08940	Medford	908,658,085.14	350.83
05280	Gilman	869,843,586.54	335.85
15390	Wabeno Area	848,098,037.31	327.45
04170	Elcho	834,133,517.48	322.06
14700	Suring	814,020,821.20	314.30
14970	Flambeau	800,565,973.92	309.10
14850	Three Lakes	786,626,457.16	303.72
14250	River Valley	766,179,360.69	295.82
03840	Durand	760,796,292.45	293.75
11220	Osseo-Fairchild	757,114,716.82	292.32
12030	South Shore	753,990,436.99	291.12
05550	Glidden	753,210,688.24	290.82
16440	Westfield	747,218,086.46	288.50
02970	Crivitz	740,108,080.25	285.76
14160	Sparta Area	733,802,401.18	283.32
12780	Rib Lake	733,406,709.05	283.17

10350	Neillsville	724,601,374.97	279.77
01830	Bruce	701,665,186.16	270.91
05670	Grantsburg	687,469,731.08	265.43
12960	Richland	675,925,351.69	260.98
15900	Wausau	669,925,566.50	258.66
17100	Wittenberg-Birnamwood	652,077,847.58	251.77
09090	Menomonie Area	651,453,714.90	251.53
07830	Laona	627,370,310.15	242.23
12810	Rice Lake Area	627,265,264.77	242.19
12660	Reedsburg	621,559,523.09	239.99
10230	Necedah Area	612,809,306.55	236.61
17070	Wisconsin Rapids	610,083,604.67	235.55
09960	Mosinee	607,245,188.18	234.46
13410	Sauk Prairie	603,227,227.41	232.91
01920	Butternut	598,842,238.44	231.21
04320	Ellsworth Community	596,463,635.44	230.30
02550	Chippewa Falls Area	588,990,851.82	227.41
11550	Beecher-Dunbar-Pembine	574,592,519.49	221.85
01410	River Ridge	567,249,489.14	219.02
11820	Tri-County Area	566,449,181.21	218.71
13620	Shawano-Gresham	554,871,068.66	214.24
12060	Portage Community	546,619,796.43	211.05
08850	Mauston	538,256,240.17	207.82
01140	Berlin Area	535,524,215.49	206.77
16590	White Lake	523,614,719.62	202.17
08970	Mellen	522,704,929.19	201.82
00420	Arcadia	522,595,338.48	201.78
10140	Riverdale	513,143,778.44	198.13
14130	Southern Door	509,876,632.47	196.86
04050	Eau Claire Area	508,651,280.24	196.39
01170	Birchwood	504,515,038.19	194.79
09000	Melrose-Mindoro	502,997,911.70	194.21
03240	DeSoto Area	499,818,931.06	192.98
02760	Coleman	496,438,670.83	191.68
15360	Viroqua Area	496,411,740.44	191.67
07590	Ladysmith-Hawkins	496,131,425.99	191.56
03690	Dodgeville	496,093,975.16	191.54
08760	Markesan	495,328,419.44	191.25
04960	Galesville-Ettrick-Trempe	488,117,093.04	188.46
03090	Cumberland	486,367,803.23	187.79
08820	Marshfield	484,709,431.51	187.15
17040	Wisconsin Dells	483,626,244.53	186.73
15540	Washburn	482,192,334.69	186.18
09780	Mondovi	482,105,930.60	186.14
09150	Mercer	478,129,648.86	184.61
02790	Colfax	476,843,562.61	184.11
12330	Pulaski Community	474,907,853.08	183.36
07680	Lake Holcombe	472,018,286.76	182.25
14430	Stanley-Boyd Area	471,479,338.83	182.04

