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Weekly Republican Radio Address: School Safety Is Our Priority

Listen to the address here: https://youtu.be/i1n_KnBdA4E

I'm Wisconsin State Senator Dan Feyen from Fond du Lac and have the pleasure of representing the southern Fox Valley in the State Senate.

All Wisconsinites want schools to be a safe space for our children to learn and grow. However, with recent acts of violence across the nation, we have begun to question how best to ensure that our schools are secure.

This spring, the Wisconsin Legislature passed Act 143 which established the Office of School Safety at the Department of Justice and included 100 million dollars in grant funding for school safety improvements such as door locks, shatter proof window film, and specialized staff trainings.

The first grants were awarded on June 1st. In total, 723 schools and school districts completed applications and received awards totaling over 48 million dollars in the now completed first round.

The Department of Justice is opening a second round of funding opportunities with 48 million dollars available. The second round of grants will focus on supporting mental health programs, additional physical upgrades, further staff training, and collaborations between educators, counselors, and law enforcement. Wisconsin has taken strong steps forward to guarantee our schools are as equipped as possible to combat any threats to our children. Children are the future of our state and ensuring their safety should be our number one goal.

As our teachers and students begin a new school year, I'm proud that the legislature has and will continue to invest in the safety of our schools and students across the entire State of Wisconsin.