

a **CLOSER** **LOOK** at the *2015-17 State Budget*



K-12 Education

- Increases state support for K-12 education by more than \$300 million over the biennium
 - Restores per pupil funding in the first year to \$150 per pupil and increases it in the second and subsequent years to \$250 per pupil
- Increases high cost special education aid by \$5 million in 2016-17
- Modifies the formula for school report cards to better measure pupil achievement and growth, and requires a school's performance and level of improvement to be demonstrated using a scale of one to five stars
- Provides an additional \$2.5 million annually for High Cost Transportation Aid
- Enables school districts to opt out of participating in CESAs
- Enables a school district to choose their own reading readiness assessment for students in 4K through second grade
- Creates an Opportunity Schools and Partnership Program within the Milwaukee Public School District to manage public schools transferred under this program and utilize wraparound services
- Prohibits the State Superintendent from requiring a school board to adopt or implement academic standards developed by the Commason Core State Standards Initiative
 - Requires a school district to notify parents and guardians of academic standards adopted by the school board for that school year on their website
- Creates two new methods to obtain an initial teaching license as alternatives to current law:
 - For Tech Ed subjects only, DPI will now utilize a point system that requires both personal experience within a technical field and pedagogical experience
 - DPI shall license a teacher or administrator licensed in another state with at least one year of experience in that state if they have received a job offer in Wisconsin prior to their licensure request and received satisfactory performance evaluations
- Requires a school district to allow a homeschool student to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities on the same basis as other students