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# BARBARA DITTRICH

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
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## MPS Scandal Hurts All Wisconsin Students

**Madison** – Representative Barbara Dittrich (*R – Oconomowoc*) issued the following statement regarding the MPS fiscal scandal and its impact on local school districts:

“Aside from the fact that the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) leadership have deceived the public and hurt some of Wisconsin’s most underprivileged students, there is an enormous ripple effect this scandal has on every one of the state’s students.

“As a result of the MPS referendum, the school districts in the area I serve see reductions in annual state aid as follows:

- Arrowhead -\$175,282
- Hartland-Lakeside -\$197,495
- Herman-Neosho-Rubicon -\$56,721
- Oconomowoc Area -\$503,617

“For those who aren’t acquainted with our complex school funding formula, there is an inverse relationship between property values and state aid, in an attempt to ‘equalize’ funding for underprivileged districts. Yet, as MPS students get disproportionately more money, educational outcomes in that district are far worse.

“If ever there were a case for fixing Wisconsin’s convoluted funding formula, this is it. All students in the state must not be dragged down by the irresponsibility of adults who failed to file statutorily required reports and hide relevant information from voting taxpayers. If the educational bureaucracy wants to know why school choice is so popular in this state, they need only look in the mirror.

“I stand with the area public schools I serve as well as the taxpayers, and will not support any sort of a bailout for MPS. Neither will I support handing the district to local government that has not been able to prove itself any more fiscally prudent.”

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