

## **LETTER TO THE EDITOR - Jan. 26, 2015**

On February 3, Governor Walker will present his proposed state budget to the legislature. I would like to highlight some top priorities that I hope to see funded.

Public education: Strong public schools are essential to our children's futures and the safety and economic prosperity of our communities. Instead of sending more tax-payer money to private schools, Wisconsin should move toward the Fair Funding for Our Schools plan, increasing funding for public education statewide, particularly in rural and high need urban districts

Higher Education and Workforce Training: Restoring economic opportunity must be a top priority for Wisconsin. We must fund the UW and technical college systems, as well as worker training programs, in order to encourage business growth and provide people of all ages access to new opportunities.

Funding for Local Communities: Cities, villages, towns, and counties require state funding to provide services we use every day. Police and fire protection, road maintenance, snow removal, trash collection, parks, health and senior services, and more are provided at the local level with state funding.

Transportation: Quality transportation infrastructure is necessary for our economy to grow. We must find sustainable, long-term funding solutions for our interstates, highways, local roads and public transit.

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