

1997-98 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Senate Committee on
Education(SC-Ed)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤ **

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ 97hr_SC-Ed_Misc_pt29a

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1997

31 MAR 97 10:43 AM
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MPS ANNOUNCES TWO-YEAR SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 1997-98 AND 1998-99

The Milwaukee Board of School Directors and the Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association (MTEA) have reached agreement on a new two-year calendar for the Milwaukee Public Schools. This is the first time in recent history that the union and the school district have agreed upon a two-year calendar.

"This two-year calendar provides a tremendous service to parents and the community," says MPS Superintendent Robert C. Jasna. "It provides parents and students with the opportunity to make long-term plans during nonschool times. Parents have requested that they would like a two-year calendar, and we are pleased to be able to provide this service," Jasna says.

MTEA Executive Director Sam Carmen agreed: "This allows faculties and families to engage in long-term planning."

The first day of school for students in the 1997-98 school year is Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1997. The last day of school for students in the 1997-98 school year is Thursday, June 11, 1998.

In the 1998-99 school year, school begins on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 1998. The last day of school will be Thursday, June 10, 1999.

The calendar was adopted by the Milwaukee Board of School Directors at its monthly meeting Wednesday, March 26, 1997.

For more information, contact Denise Callaway, director, MPS Communications & Public Affairs, 475-8274, or Pat O'Mahar, assistant executive director, MTEA, 259-1990.

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NEWS RELEASE

MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Communications
and Public Affairs

5225 W. Vliet St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208
P. O. Box 2181
Milwaukee, WI
53201-2181

Phone 475-8276
Fax 475-8430

Milwaukee Public Schools Calendar 1997-1998 School Year

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
AUGUST				
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
26 Organization day -- no student attendance				
27 First day of school for all students				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
JANUARY				
R26	27	28	29	30
26 Report Cards				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
SEPTEMBER				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			
1 Labor Day -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
FEBRUARY				
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
16 Mid-semester break -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
OCTOBER				
		1	2	3
6	7	8	R9	10
13	14	15	KC16	EMHC17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31
9 Report cards 16 Kindergarten conference day				
17 Elementary, middle, and high school conference day -- no student attendance				
30 & 31 WEAC Convention days - no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
MARCH				
2	3	4	5	6
9	R10	11	12	13
16	17	18	KC19	EMHC20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			
10 Report cards 19 Kindergarten conference day				
20 Elementary, middle and high school conference day -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
NOVEMBER				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
R24	25	26	27	28
24 Report Cards				
27 & 28 Thanksgiving recess -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
APRIL				
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	R30	
10 through 17 - Spring recess - no student attendance				
20 Classes resume				
30 Report cards				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
DECEMBER				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
22 through Jan. 2 winter recess - no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
MAY				
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
25 Memorial Day -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
JANUARY				
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	F20	F21	F22	23
5 Classes resume				
19 M.L.King Day -- no student attendance				
20, 21, 22 High school final exams				
23 Record day -- no student attendance				

<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>
JUNE				
1	2	3	4	5
8	F9	F10	F.R11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			
9, 10, 11 High school final exams				
11 Report cards, last day of student attendance				
12 Record day - no student attendance				
15 Emergency make-up day				

Shaded days have no student attendance. Individual schools may have additional non-attendance days which do not appear on this calendar. Also, methods and dates for distributing report cards may vary from school to school.

For additional copies of this calendar call the Office of Deputy Superintendent, 475-8268.

Approved -- 3/26/97

Milwaukee Public Schools Calendar 1998-1999 School Year

MON TUE WED THUR FRI

AUGUST

24	25	26	27	28
31				

25 Organization day - no student attendance
26 First day of school for all students

SEPTEMBER

	1	2	3	4
	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

7 Labor Day - no student attendance

OCTOBER

			1	2
5	6	7	R8	9
12	13	14	KC15	EMHC16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

8 Report cards 15 Kindergarten conference day
16 Elementary, middle, and high school conference day - no student attendance
29 & 30 WEAC Convention days - no student attendance

NOVEMBER

2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	R24	25	26	27
30				

24 Report cards
26 & 27 Thanksgiving recess -- no student attendance

DECEMBER

	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

21 through Jan. 1 Winter recess - no student attendance

JANUARY

4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	F19	F20	F21	22

4 Classes resume
18 M.L.King Day -- no student attendance
19, 20, 21 High school final exams
22 Record day -- no student attendance

MON TUE WED THUR FRI

JANUARY

R25	26	27	28	29
-----	----	----	----	----

25 Report Cards

FEBRUARY

1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

15 Mid-semester break - no student attendance

MARCH

1	2	3	4	5
8	R9	10	11	12
15	16	17	KC18	EMHC19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

9 Report cards 18 Kindergarten conference day
19 Elementary, middle and high school conference day - no student attendance

APRIL

			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	R29	30

2 through 9 Spring recess - no student attendance
12 Classes resume
29 Report cards

MAY

3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

31 Memorial Day - no student attendance

JUNE

	1	2	3	4
7	F8	F9	F,R10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

8, 9, 10 High school final exams
10 Report cards, last day of student attendance
11 Record day - no student attendance
14 Emergency make-up day

Shaded days have no student attendance. Individual schools may have additional non-attendance days which do not appear on this calendar. Also, methods and dates for distributing report cards may vary from school to school.

For additional copies of this calendar call the Office of Deputy Superintendent, 475-3268.

Approved - 3/26/97



**WISCONSIN
TOURISM
FEDERATION**

President

Chet Gerlach
Association of Wisconsin
Tourism Attractions
44 E. Mifflin, Suite 301
Madison, WI 53701
608/255-9337

Lobbyist

Tom Coenen
Coenen/Swandby Associates
P.O. Box 2157
Madison, WI 53701
608/283-2588

Members

American Automobile Assoc.
Assoc. of Wisconsin Tourism
Attractions
Golf Course Owners of
Wisconsin
Hayward Lakes Resort
Association
Outdoor Advertising Assoc.
of Wisconsin
Tavern League of Wisconsin
Wisconsin Association of
Campground Owners
Wisc. Assoc. of Convention
& Visitors Bureaus
Wisconsin Dells Visitors &
Convention Bureau
Wisconsin Grocers Assoc.
Wisconsin Innkeepers
Association
Wisconsin Manufacturers &
Commerce
Wisconsin Out-of-State Land
Owners Association
Wisconsin Restaurant
Association
Wisconsin Wholesale Beer
Distributors Association

To: Members, Senate Committee on Education
From: Tom Coenen, W.T.F Lobbyist
Re: Support of Senate Bill 90
Date: April 23, 1997

The Wisconsin Tourism Federation consists primarily of state-wide associations who have a vested interest in a strong tourism economy for Wisconsin. It is on their behalf I am urging you to favorably advance SB 90 out the the Education Committee.

The tourism businesses have felt the financial hardship of K thru 12 schools starting classes days or weeks before Labor Day. They not only are losing a percentage of their consumers, do to an early school start, but they also lose their student help to serve the tourism business that continues to come from neighboring states of Illinois & Minnesota that start schools after Labor Day.

In an effort to prove it was just not the tourism industry that was concerned about school opening, the Wisconsin Tourism Federation funded a state-wide survey of 406 adults to find out their views on schools opening Labor Day. Attached is a copy of the 1993 survey conducted by Carl Fredrickson & Associates of Middleton, WI. You will see the citizens of the state also prefer an after Labor Day start of schools.

An unsolicited survey was done very recently by Fox Channel Six of Milwaukee. Those results are also attached. These more recent numbers indicate very strongly that Wisconsinites prefer school to start after Labor Day.

It would seem to me that a very strong messages is being sent: citizens and tourism businesses want a later starting date for schools.

W.T.F. is requesting that you respond in a positive manner to this message.

Attachments: Fox Survey Results
Carl Fredrickson & Associates Survey Results

The Federation of Wisconsin Hospitality/Tourism/Recreation Groups

44 East Mifflin Street, Suite 104, P.O. Box 2157, Madison, WI 53701



WITI-MILWAUKEE

8001 N. Green Bay Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53208-1297
(414) 355-6666

To: <u>Jodi Weimer</u>	From: <u>Paul B. Williams</u>
Company: <u>Wisc. Innkeepers</u>	Department: <u>News</u>
FAX#: <u>271-3050</u>	FAX#: <u>362-2141</u>

Date: 4-1-1997 Number of pages (including cover page): 1
 Comments: Results from news poll on Wednesday, March 26. "Should the state require all public schools to start after labor day?"
Yes: 1,098 (82%) - No: 248 (18%)

Here's the Latest:

FOX SIX POSTS MAJOR GAINS JAN96 TO JAN97

Day	Time	Program	% Difference Shares
M-F	7-8A	WAKEUP NEWS	+18%
M-F	8-9A	WAKEUP NEWS	+21%
M-F	9A-12N	AM ROS	+13%
M-F	12N-3P	PM ROS	+27%
M-F	3-4P	DATE/NEWLYWED	+13%
M-F	4-5P	ROSE	+133%
M-F	5-530P	NEWS-5	+18%
M-F	530-6P	NEWS-530	+38%
M-F	6-630P	NEWS-6	+38%
M-SU	7-9P	PRIME ROS	+15%
M-SU	9-10P	NEWS PRIMETIME	+25%
M-SU	10-1030P	NEWS-10	+14%
SAT	8-930A	WAKEUP NEWS	+33%
SAT	10-1030P	ASK GUS	+15%
SUN	9-530P	SUNDAY REPORT	+78%

Source: Nsi Jan96, Jan97

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PAGE	ANCHOR SLUG		TAPE	FORM	WTR	AUDIO	VIDEO	TRT	BACKTIME
wG3	JOANNE POLL RESULTS		x	ESS	TN 6	0:12	0:00	0:12	
DATE: 970327W	COMMENTS:								STATUS: READY

 ESS FULL NEWS POLL QUESTION
 SUPER: SHOULD THE STATE REQUIRE ALL
 PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO START AFTER LABOR
 DAY?

----- (JOANNE) -----
 >> WHAT DID OUR VIEWERS THINK?

THIS QUESTION WAS THE TOPIC OF THE FOX
 SIX NEWS POLL.

OUR QUESTION: SHOULD THE STATE REQUIRE
 ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO START AFTER LABOR
 DAY?

CALLERS VOTED 82 PERCENT YES, 18
 PERCENT NO.

CHAGNE CG SUPER:
 82% YES
 18% NO
 ESS OUT

nazario

Thu Mar 27 08:18 page 1

PAGE	ANCHOR	SLUG		TAPE	FORM	WTR	AUDIO	VIDEO	TRT	BACKTIME
wg2	JW/MC	SCHOOL	START	x 2328	INTRO	R/T 6	0:21	0:00	0:21	
DATE: 970327W	COMMENTS:			LK	JG					STATUS: READY

2-SHOT

 {JOANNE}
 >> IT'S BARELY SPRING -- BUT ALREADY,
 PEOPLE ARE THINKING ABOUT SUMMER
 VACATION.

AND WHEN IT WILL END!
 {MARK}

TIGHT ON CAM

>> THERE'S A NEW PUSH TO START THE
 SCHOOL YEAR AFTER LABOR DAY, BY THE
 STATE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM.

IT WANTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LAST
 FEW WEEKS OF SUMMER.

BUT EVERY ISSUE HAS MORE THAN ONE SIDE.

ROBIN TAYLOR LOOKED AT BOTH SIDES OF
 THE ISSUE.
 ---- {PKG}

VTR SOT FULL

:24
 *cg supw
 Bill Hanbury
 MILW. CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

:45
 *CG SUPW
 Robin Taylor
 REPORTING

:54
 *CG SUPW
 John Box
 MEQUON SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

1:40
 OC: STD

PAGE ANCHOR SLUG

WG2-a ----- SCHOOL START

DATE: 970327W

TAPE	FORM	WTR	AUDIO	VIDEO	TRT	BACKTIME
2328	TRACK	RT	1:35	0:00	1:35	

COMMENTS:
 =====
 LK STATUS: READY
 =====

>> THESE STUDENTS, AT HOMESTEAD HIGH IN MEQUON, STARTED THE SCHOOL YEAR AUGUST 29TH -- A COUPLE DAYS BEFORE LABOR DAY.

BUT IF SOME STATE LAWMAKERS HAVE THEIR WAY -- THE SCHOOL YEAR WOULDN'T START UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAY.

THAT'S BECAUSE BUSINESSES, LIKE THESE IN THE WISCONSIN DELLS, RELY HEAVILY ON TEENAGERS DURING THE SUMMER.

BILL HANBURY TAPE 2 21:51

>> "Many kids that are working part-time jobs in the tourism industry have to go back to school so these businesses are left holding the bag at the end of the tourism season."

>> RIGHT NOW, ONLY 17 OF WISCONSIN'S 426 SCHOOL DISTRICTS START AFTER LABOR DAY.

AND IF THAT WERE TO CHANGE -- ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WOULD HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL LONGER IN JUNE.

STAND-UP TAPE 1 19:27

>> SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS SAY THE DECISION ABOUT WHEN SCHOOL STARTS SHOULD BE MADE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL BECAUSE WHAT MAKES SENSE IN THE DELLS DOESN'T NECESSARILY MAKE SENSE IN MEQUON.

SUPERINTENDENT TAPE 1 1:02

>> "We start a couple of days before labor day for a reason because it gives everyone a chance to settle in before a long weekend."

>> AND IT GIVES SCHOOLS A CHANCE TO BALANCE CLASS SIZES AND MAKE OTHER ADJUSTMENTS.

BUT, THE TOURIST INDUSTRY POINTS OUT, LABOR DAY IS THE LAST CHANCE FOR MANY WORKING FAMILIES TO TAKE A VACATION.

HANBURY TAPE 2 21:27

>> "The vacation season, particularly in Wisconsin, starts very slow in June, so let's keep the kids in school and later on when the weather's still great in August let's keep them out of school so that they can go on vacation."

nazario

Thu Mar 27 08:18 page 2

COVER WITH KIDS IN SCHOOL FROM TAPE 1 >> GOVERNOR THOMPSON SAYS IF THE BILL
PASSES -- HE'LL SIGN IT -- BUT HE ISN'T
LOBBYING FOR SCHOOLS TO BE FORCED TO
START AFTER LABOR DAY.

SIG OUT

03/27/87 THU 08:18 FAX 414 362 2141

SIX IS NEWS

005

nazario

Thu Mar 27 08:18 page 1

PAGE	ANCHOR	SLUG	TAPE	FORM	WTR	AUDIO	VIDEO	TRT	BACKTIME
WG2-b	MARK	SCHOOL START	x 2328	RDR	R/F 6	0:16	0:00	0:16	
DATE: 970327W	COMMENTS:			JG					

STATUS: READY

>> THE ISSUE'S COME UP BEFORE -- BUT
THERE HAVE NEVER BEEN ENOUGH VOTES TO
PASS A LAW REQUIRING SCHOOLS TO START
AFTER LABOR DAY.

THIS YEAR, THERE SEEMS TO BE MORE
SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA, BUT IT'S STILL
TOO EARLY TO TELL IF THE BILL HAS
ENOUGH VOTES TO PASS.



WISCONSIN TOURISM FEDERATION

125 W. Doty St., Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703

The Federation of Wisconsin Hospitality/Tourism/Recreation Groups

School Year Starting Date - Opinion Study of Wisconsin Citizens*

Selected Survey Results

1. Respondents were asked to choose their preferred date for the start of their local public schools. The choices were before September 1, between September 1 and Labor Day, or after Labor Day.

a) After Labor Day	59%
b) Before September 1	24%
c) Between September 1 and Labor Day	17%

2. Respondents were asked for their preferred fall starting date for the University of Wisconsin system campuses and the state technical schools, from the same three choices.

a) After Labor Day	66%
b) Between September 1 and Labor Day	19%
c) Before September 1	15%

3. Respondents were asked if they thought all school systems in Wisconsin, including the public schools, University system, and Technical Colleges, should begin at the same time.

a) strongly agree	42%	}	76%
b) probably agree	34%		
c) probably disagree	16%	}	24%
d) strongly disagree	8%		

4. Respondents were asked if they thought that starting school before Labor Day penalizes businesses that employ students or seasonal employees.

a) strongly agree	24%	}	66%
b) probably agree	42%		
c) probably disagree	26%	}	34%
d) strongly disagree	8%		

5. 14% of respondents said the current public school starting date makes it harder to plan summer vacations. This represents 700,000 Wisconsinites.
 22% of respondents said they would have been more likely to have taken a vacation or longer vacation, if their schools had started after Labor Day. This represents 1.1 million Wisconsinites.

* Conducted in 1993 by Carl Fredrickson & Associates, Middleton, WI

PRESIDENT

Ed Lump
Wisconsin Restaurant Assoc.
Madison, WI 53703
608/251-3663

LOBBYIST

Tom Coenen
P.O. Box 6
McFarland, WI 53553
608/283-2588

MEMBERS

Assoc. of Wisconsin
Tourism Attractions

Greyhound Racing Owners
of Wisconsin

Liquid Waste Carriers of
Wisconsin

Outdoor Advertising Assoc.
of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Assoc. of
Convention & Visitors
Bureaus

Wisconsin Delta Visitors and
Convention Bureau

Wisconsin Grocers Assoc.

Wisconsin Innkeepers Assoc.

Wisconsin Manufacturers &
Commerce

Wisconsin Restaurant Assoc.

Wisconsin Retail Gasoline &
Automotive Trade Assoc.



TO: Members of the Senate Education Committee
Senator Potter, Chair

FROM: Ed Lump
CEO, Executive Vice President

DATE: April 18, 1997

RE: Wisconsin Restaurant Association's support for SB 90 - school
start after Labor Day

~~~~~

A post-Labor Day school start date for K-12 schools is a top legislative priority for the Wisconsin Restaurant Association. Our 7,000 members from all over Wisconsin have told us that they lose business starting in the middle of August due to cottage closings and reduced tourist numbers due to early school starts throughout Wisconsin. If their own school district starts early as well, and most do, they lose employees necessary to serve the remaining tourists including many from the Chicago area where school starts after Labor Day by tradition or from Minnesota where there is a law establishing a post-Labor Day school start.

Testimony will be heard here today from opponents of this legislation decrying loss of local control and the damage done to education if everyone is forced to start school after Labor Day. We heard these same arguments in 1985 from the UW system when a law was passed that starts the UW system after Sept. 1. The UW system has not imploded. The Minnesota experience also tells us that public schools have not been damaged by a post-Labor Day school start. Minnesota continues to have a terrific public school system. If

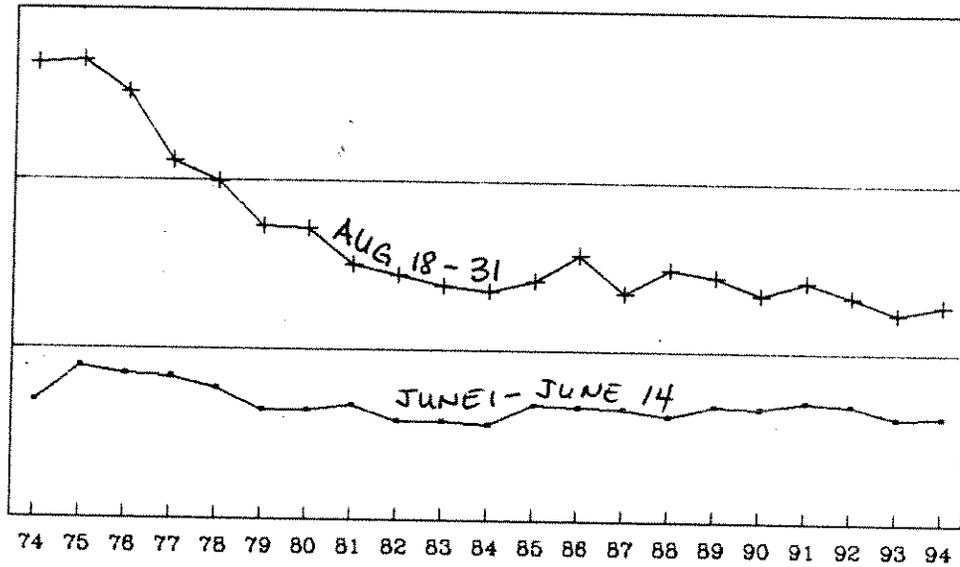
Finally, we would urge the Committee and the opponents of this legislation to consider that there is a significant opportunity here - an opportunity for partnering with business to build better schools. In every local community restaurants are willing to be involved in virtually any way possible to support their schools. This ranges from scholarships, to jobs, to community spirit, to fundraisers. However, the opposition to starting school after Labor Day by the schools when the real argument is over turf not educational concerns gets in the way of what could be a very positive relationship. It makes us adversaries when we should be partners.

We urge the committee to vote favorably on SB 90.

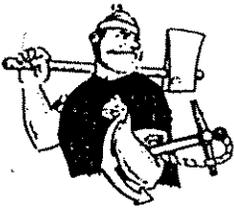
Thank you for your consideration.

# SUMMER VISITATION COMPARISON LAST 2 WEEKS AUG AND FIRST 2 WEEKS JUN

Thousands



1974 - 1994



The Rivermen

# Alma Area Schools

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ALMA

(608) 685-4416

51618 STATE RD. 35 ALMA, WI 54610-8301

## ADMINISTRATION

STEVEN N. SEDLMAYR  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

BERT PLUCKER  
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BARBARA ABRAHAM  
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

DAWN MEIER  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

MICHAEL ABTS  
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GREGORY S. GREEN  
CLERK

BARRY RITSCHER  
TREASURER

KAY MILLER  
DIRECTOR

April 10, 1997

Senate Education Committee  
Sen. Cal Potter, Chair  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Senator Potter and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in opposition to SB90, the bill that requires all school districts to begin the fall semester after Labor Day. In my opinion, this bill is the most blatant attack on the concept of "local control" in public schools. What works in some communities, doesn't in others.

In Alma, over 60% of the high school students participate in fall athletics. Football begins practice on August 12, volleyball begins practice on August 18. The first games for football and volleyball are August 29, and August 25, respectively. If we started school after Labor Day this next year, we would start on September 2, the earliest possible date we could ever start school, yet we would have had 60% of our kids here for 13-20 days.

In Alma we also have a successful summer school program. We currently are able to give students a break the week after Memorial Day, with summer school starting the first week of June, culminating after 4 weeks. This program would also be split-up by putting summer school into late June through mid-July. The temperatures in our building would make summer school impossible.

I have been an educator for 20 years, even though I am a superintendent, I continue to remain an active classroom teacher (on a limited basis). Kids are anxious about school and do their best work in the fall. It is always difficult for them to stay on task in April and May when the sun is shining and spring is in bloom.

Iowa enacted a similar law several years ago. It is so popular that in the 1996-97 school year, 390 of 397 schools filed waivers (which is allowed by Iowa law) to exempt them from this ridiculous law. All 390 were granted. The executive director of the Iowa School Boards Association, Mr. Rice, told me that he expects this unpopular legislation to be repealed during this legislative session. Incidentally, a request for a waiver is only

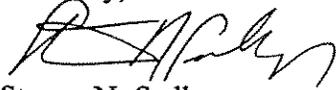
April 10, 1997  
Senate Education Committee  
Page 2

accomplished by board action.

On behalf of myself and the patrons of the Alma School District, I ask for your help in seeing this special interest legislation doesn't get out of committee.

Thank you for your time and assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Sedlmayr", written over a horizontal line.

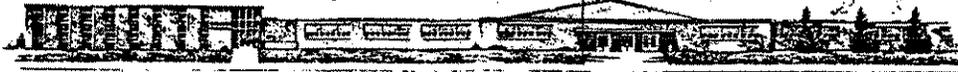
Steven N. Sedlmayr  
Superintendent of Schools

# SPENCER PUBLIC SCHOOL

300 School Street  
SPENCER, WISCONSIN 54479

Fax: 715 659-5470

Phone: 715 659-5347



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Larry E. Stordahl  
Supt. of Schools

04/07/97

Representative Eugene Hahn  
Chair - Assembly Committee on Tourism and Recreation  
15 West  
State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53708

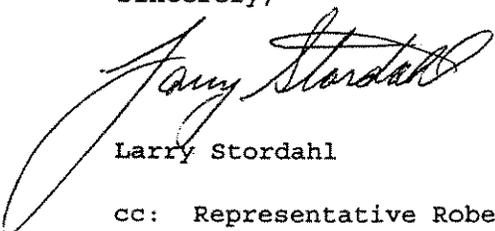
re: "After Labor Day Start for Public Schools"  
Assembly Bill 159

Dear Mr. Hahn:

The Board of Education here at Spencer Public Schools is opposed to the Legislature establishing starting and ending dates for education. The feeling is that this is a matter of local control, and this is a decision that should be made locally in the best interests of the students of the local community.

Enclosed, please find a cartoon that pretty well sums up my attitude (as superintendent) toward this proposed legislation (AB 159).

Sincerely,



Larry Stordahl

cc: Representative Robert Zukowski  
Senator David Zien  
Members, Spencer Board of Education  
Bill Cosh, WASB

Joe Keller ©1997  
GREEN BAY PRESS GAZETTE

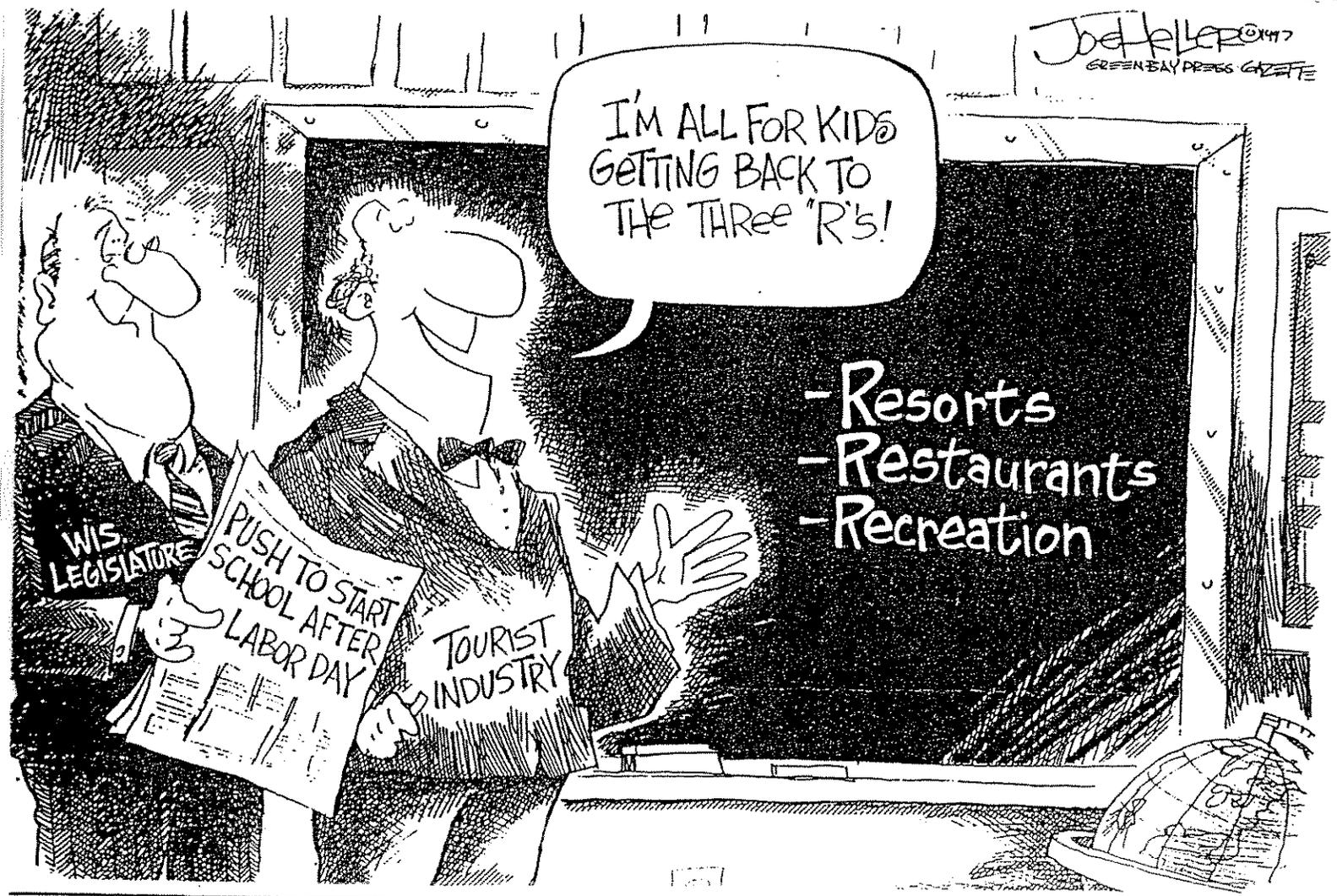
I'M ALL FOR KIDS  
GETTING BACK TO  
THE THREE 'R'S!

- Resorts
- Restaurants
- Recreation

WIS.  
LEGISLATURE

PUSH TO START  
SCHOOL AFTER  
LABOR DAY

TOURIST  
INDUSTRY



# Waunakee Community School District



*Committed to Children*

*Committed to Excellence*

April 7, 1997

Representative Spencer Black  
219 N. State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

RE: SB90/AB159  
SB69/AB37

Dear Representative Black,

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel recently published an editorial regarding SB90/AB159 that would require school to start after Labor Day. The editorial did an excellent job of responding to those that favor the bills.

School calendars should be a local decision, left to the Board of Education, not to the teacher's union or the tourist industry. I wonder how the tourist industry would respond to educators proposing legislation that would require them to keep their attractions or services closed until July 1st. They would tell us to stay out of their business. I believe the reverse is true.

The tourist industry sees school age children as an abundant source of cheap labor. Educators see them as children in need of learning skills and knowledge for the future. Industry will be one of the first to complain if the state's test scores decline in comparison to other states.

Please oppose SB90/AB159 and support local school board flexibility in setting the calendar (SB69/AB37). Those in tourist areas could respond to local needs and concerns while those outside those areas could respond to a different set of needs and concerns.

Sincerely,

Gene Hamele  
Superintendent, Waunakee Community School District

GH:jas

cc: Senn Brown, WASB  
Jim Lynch, SAA

**School District of  
Cochrane-Fountain City**

P.O. Box 517

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**FOUNTAIN CITY, WI 54629**

District Office: 608-687-7771  
High School: 608-687-4391  
Elementary: 608-687-4171

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Gene Wellman, Superintendent  
Kenneth Jackson, Jr - Sr H.S. Principal  
James Bugge, Elementary Principal

April 14, 1997

Senate Education Committee  
Wisconsin State Senate  
Capitol Building  
Madison, WI 53707

Committee Members:

Please allow this communication to serve as a strong plea for your opposition to SB 90.

I have been in education for 36 years. In that time I have learned much. One important thing I have learned is that educational interests are not served best by holding students into the late spring or summer. They want out when good weather arrives. Bringing them back earlier in the fall however serves them very well. Most students are ready to come back and certainly most parents are ready for them to return to school. More and better education occurs in the fall than in the late spring!!!. That in itself should be reason enough for SB 90's defeat.

There are those who would argue that an "after Labor Day start" would benefit the tourist industry. First of all, what does that have to do with sound educational practice? Secondly, those districts who want to start after Labor Day are certainly free to do so without dragging the entire state with them. LOCAL CONTROL needs to be the center of this issue.

Thank you for your consideration for the sake of the students of Wisconsin and their education rather than an interest group.

Sincerely,



Gene R. Wellman  
Superintendent of Schools

Racine Unified School District  
Board of Education Resolution

WHEREAS, the Racine Unified School District believes it important to go on record as taking a position on potential legislation affecting the school district; and

WHEREAS, the school district calendar is very sensitive to local conditions such as demographics, economics and the characteristics of the school district organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Racine Unified School District Board of Education again unanimously **opposes** the adoption of Assembly Bill 159 and Senate Bill 90 mandating that no public school may commence the school term until after Labor Day.

Approved this 7th day of April, 1997.

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Linda C. Flashinski, President  
Racine Unified School District  
Board of Education