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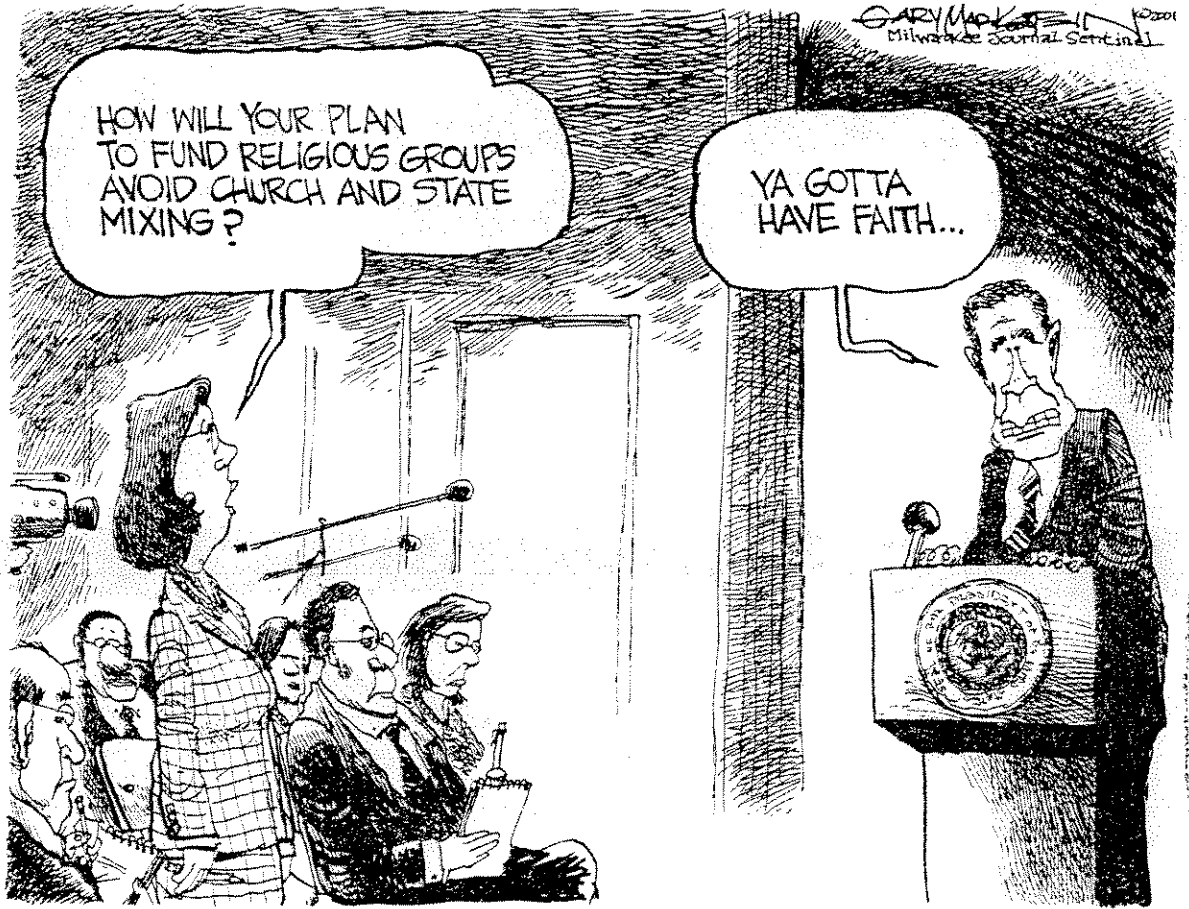
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# Rising costs pressure

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2001



MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

## School District

### Board weighing need for another referendum

By **AMY HETZNER**  
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Soaring utility and transportation costs combined with budget shortfalls could lead the Palmyra-Eagle School Board to seek a tax increase in its seventh referendum since 1996.

The board will hold a special meeting on Tuesday to vote on whether to schedule an April 3 referendum to consider two measures that would give the district as much as \$480,000 more in the 2001-'02 school year.

One proposed referendum question would seek a \$200,000 increase in the amount the district can collect in property taxes

annually to pay for the rising costs of salaries and benefits, insurance, utilities and transportation.

The second referendum question would ask voters for a one-year tax increase of \$280,000 in 2001-'02 to pay for roof replacement and the addition and replacement of ventilation units, items that could not be handled by recent budgets because of cut-backs.

"We're doing all that we possibly can, and so we're trying to

make it (the tax increase) as low as possible but yet be able to operate our district," board member Karen Olsen said.

School officials have projected that at the current rate, the district faces a \$355,000 shortfall in its operating budget for the 2001-'02 school year.

An early agenda, printed in preparation for the meeting and posted with a local newspaper, lists \$355,000 as the amount that could be sought in annual revenue cap increases. That agenda

made in the current school year's budget.

But district officials say they would be remiss if they didn't ask area taxpayers for help.

"As far as the current board, I think that we are all in agreement that we need to ask," Olsen said. "We need to continue to let people know what's happening."

School officials have blamed the budget reductions on state-imposed revenue caps and losses of aid as a result of open enrollment among public school districts.

Revenue caps have restricted

Please see **PALMYRA-EAGLE, 2W**

was printed before board members said at a Wednesday budget meeting that they preferred to trim some items from the annual budget and seek a tax increase of only \$200,000, Superintendent Jerry Rosso said.

Board members are contemplating staff cuts, including administrative losses, some of which can be taken out of the budget more easily than others because of enrollment declines. Those cuts come on top of about \$400,000 in reductions that were

# Opponents of revenue caps say schools suffer from lack of funds

CAPS, From 1B

It also found that while the number of special-education students has grown, federal and state reimbursement for their needs has shrunk as a percentage of total costs.

"Remaining special costs — such as medical equipment, additional teaching staff, equipment for the visually and hearing-impaired, and special transportation — must come from the regular school budget," the report says. And while school taxes dropped considerably after the state imposed revenue limits and agreed to pick up two-thirds of school costs, the institute report said other taxing entities not subject to the caps increased their budgets.

The Wisconsin Education Association Council, the state's largest teachers union, strongly opposes the caps. WEAC president Terry Craney said that as more districts face declining enrollment, political pressure will increase to lift the caps.

"The system cannot continue like this, or we will end up with an educational system like Mississippi's," Craney said.

"Revenue controls have had a cumulative effect over the years that puts our schools in jeopardy. I don't think the general public or politicians understand the devastating effect caps have had. It is a death by 1,000 cuts."

Jack Norman, research director for the institute, agreed that pressure on lawmakers will mount as more districts face stable or declining enrollments.

## COMING UP

**RALLY:** A protest sponsored by opponents of school revenue limits is planned for noon Wednesday on the steps of the state Capitol.

**HEARING:** Afterward, the state Senate Education Committee will hear testimony on the revenue caps at 1 p.m. in Room 411 South in the Capitol.

The report notes that declining enrollment is a factor in more than half of the districts in the state.

Todd Gray, business manager for the Appleton school district, said revenue limits and rising costs have diminished the ability to pay for essentials such as textbooks.

"School districts don't say they have to cut sports and some other programs for political reasons, so you chip away at things like the textbook budget," Gray said. "But we've reached the point where there's nothing left to chip away at."

Gray said two elementary schools on Appleton's north side have more than 700 children enrolled and, "There's just no more room for them."

Cynthia DiCamelli, a member of the Oregon School Board, said budget constraints forced one physical-education teacher to use PTA funds to buy baseball gloves at garage sales.

Page 6A/The Freeman • Monday, January 22, 2000

## Report highlights effect of spending caps on schools

MADISON (AP) — Spending limits placed on school districts to keep property taxes low make it difficult for schools to cover the rising costs of staff salaries, textbooks, technology and utilities, according to a report to be presented to a Senate committee this week.

For some school districts, a cold winter and high heating fuel prices are pinching already tight budgets, according to the Institute for Wisconsin's Future, a policy research center in Milwaukee.

The report was based on testimony from 260 teachers, school administrators, parents and students at six hearings held around the state last fall.

"If it could be possible, please just give us enough money to heat our building," Superior student Katie Heisel said during an Appleton forum.

The Senate Education Commit-

tee will hear testimony Wednesday on the effects of spending caps. Gov. Tommy Thompson's administration won legislative approval and implemented spending caps for public school districts starting with the 1993-95 state budget.

In his next budget request, state Superintendent John Benson proposed letting local school boards approve increasing what they can spend on each student by about \$75 each year — or about 1 percent — by a two-thirds vote and without going to a referendum.

The current rise in fuel costs — natural gas prices are double what they were a year ago — have increased school boards' concerns about revenue caps, said Greg Doyle, a spokesman for the state Department of Public Instruction. Many buildings are aging and have not been updated for energy efficiency.

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# Waukesha

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2001

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

## Soda contract could bail out schools

By AMY HETZNER  
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Waukesha — With the School District facing budget cuts and few financial solutions in sight, one School Board member says it may be time to re-examine allowing a soft drink company to pay for exclusive marketing rights in district schools.

"This is something that we looked at once before and declined," board member Roger Danielsen said. "But I'm getting dozens of phone calls to save the environmental program. And if we're going to save the environmental program, we're going to have to find the money some-

### Waukesha district reconsiders exclusive deal

where."

Elimination of the district's environmental education program is one of 21 cuts Waukesha district administrators have recommended to save more than \$1.4 million in the 2001-02 school year and balance the budget. It will be the third year the board will have made \$1 million or more in program cuts in the face of budget squeezes that district officials have blamed on state-imposed revenue caps.

Danielsen pointed to an agree-

ment the Racine Unified School District signed with Pepsi last year. In it, the soda company agreed to pay that 20,000-student district \$450,000 up front and an estimated \$200,000 a year for 10 years of exclusive sales in the district's schools.

Because of its relative size, Waukesha could probably get about half of what Racine got, Danielsen said.

"This is a sinking ship," he said of the district's financial prospects. "Either we lighten the

load or plug the holes."

Danielsen has mentioned his idea to district Superintendent David Schmidt, and Danielsen could suggest it to the full School Board during scheduled budget cut talks in the coming weeks.

The district considered signing an exclusive agreement with a soda company several years ago but abandoned the idea. It has allowed individual schools to reach such agreements on their own, however, said Robert Buchholz, the district's executive director

for business services.

Waukesha West High School was one that chose to do so; school now receives \$1,000-\$2,000 each quarter from Pepsi return for allowing only vending machines in the building, West's Assistant Principal Randy Daut said.

Pepsi also has kicked in money for other improvements at the school, such as helping to pay for the school's roadside sign.

Such existing deals might ease the financial impact sign a districtwide deal would have, board member Daniel Wa-

Please see SODA

2B TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2001

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

## Educators still view state rule as harmful

By SAM SCHULHOFER-WOHL  
of the Journal Sentinel staff

School district superintendents continue to contend that state-set revenue limits are hurting the quality of education, according to an annual survey released Monday by Wisconsin's largest teachers union and an administrators group.

The Wisconsin Education Association Council and the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators have been surveying superintendents about the revenue caps since 1994. The groups want the caps eased or repealed.

In the latest survey, covering the 1999-2000 school year, 62% of superintendents responding said the revenue limits had a negative or very negative effect on education in their districts. Only 1% said the effect was positive or very positive; the rest said the limits made no difference.

In a survey released two years ago, 64% of superintendents said the revenue caps had a negative or somewhat negative effect, while 12% said the effect was positive or somewhat positive.

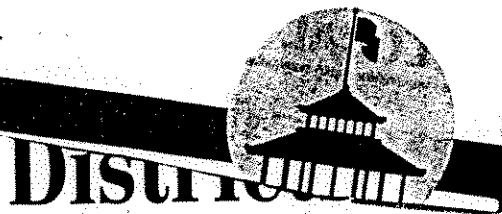
Superintendents in the latest survey, as in the past, said they had to delay or reduce spending on maintenance and technology, increase student fees and boost class sizes to cope with the revenue limits.

"It is time to end this destructive law," WEAC President Terry Craney said in a statement.

About 5% of superintendents surveyed said the state should keep the existing revenue caps law, down from 9.5% in 1997-'98. The others said the law should be modified to raise the caps or give school boards more flexibility, or called for its repeal.

Commenting on the findings, state Sen. Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) said that although school districts are having financial problems, lifting the revenue caps would not be a solution by itself. If the revenue caps are changed, the state should reconsider its commitment to paying two-thirds of school costs, she said. She said debate is needed on how to strike the right balance between good schools and low taxes.

**IN BRIEF**



# heating costs rise

## State couple among plane crash victims

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A Wisconsin couple enjoying a long-delayed honeymoon died when a tourist plane crashed into a shantytown near Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela.

Lee and Lisa Arbour, ages 36 and 34, of Milwaukee, were among 24 killed in Thursday's crash. They were the parents of Nicholas, 16, and Samantha, 13.

Lee's mother Karen Arbour said she received a call from the U.S. Embassy in Caracas, the Venezuelan capital.

"They said that my son and daughter-in-law were believed to have been on the plane," Arbour said. "They said there were

(of energy)," Goedheer said.

The New Berlin School Board has already authorized a transfer of \$100,000 from the general fund to accommodate the additional heating costs.

"We tried to budget for a typical year," Dave Ross, buildings and grounds director for the Elmbrook School District, said.

Even budgeting for a colder winter than Wisconsin has seen in the past few years was not enough to curb gas prices, Ross added.

"In October, we were paying 67 cents a therm (unit of natural gas sale). Last October the price was 37 cents a therm," he said.

## Some take from reserve accounts to keep warm

By SARA BANACH  
Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA COUNTY — With prices for natural gas rising to almost double last year's prices, area schools are having to make creative adjustments to keep their students warm this winter.

The Waukesha School District recently reported a need to turn down thermostats in schools from

70 to 68 degrees during daytime hours in order to stay ahead of the natural gas prices.

Other area schools have not had to go to such extremes, but creative financing was in order for most districts anticipating a budget crunch.

The New Berlin School District has not yet gone to the extreme of turning down thermostats while school is in session, but district facilities will be a little chilly after hours.

Tony Goedheer, director of business operations for the district, said that in some areas, the controls will be turned down to 55 degrees.

"Based on building codes, it's hard to do any other conservation

Still worried about natural gas prices, Ross said the district may be looking to buy gas on the spot market to get the best prices.

"We hope to stay on target," Ross said.

The Muskego-Norway School District also is having to dip into reserves to keep kids warm.

"There's been almost a 100 percent increase (in heating costs) from last year," Superintendent Richard Drury said.

"We are assuming that cost through our buildings and grounds budget," he added.

Because the money will come out of the budget for heating, any

future buildings and grounds projects that the district may need would have to wait until next year, Drury added.

At least one district has stayed ahead of the gas-prices game. Kettle Moraine schools locked in their utility prices in November.

"We buy gas through a third party and got some good advice," Roger Dickson, assistant superintendent for finance and operations, said.

None of the districts expressed the need to drop temperatures while students were in session.

(Sara Banach can be reached at [sbanach@conley.net](mailto:sbanach@conley.net))

A. VERNON JENSEN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1501 Sunnycrest Dr.  
New Berlin, WI 53151  
1-414-650-9889

State Education Committee  
Wisconsin Capital Building  
411 South  
Madison, WI

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

I'm Vernon Jensen of 1501 S. Sunnycrest Drive, New Berlin, WI. I'm a member of Save Our Public Schools. I'm a retired attorney and a former teacher.

I'm appearing to urge you to remove or increase State limits on school expenditures so they can do an effective and prudent operation in our public schools. In the past, our schools have been the best in the nation. Our public school students have consistently ranked either first or second on SAT and ACT scores. Now, with the school funding revenue caps, our schools will lose their ratings as the best in the nation.

They have been forced to cut or discontinue necessary programs and classes that have contributed to their top ratings. They have also been forced to lay off teachers and increase class sizes. Also, they have been forced to limit or postpone the purchase of textbooks and other educational materials that they need as learning tools. They are now down to a bare-bones budget and find it difficult or impossible to cut any more programs or dispose of any more teachers. A recent survey indicates that larger class sizes decrease the rate of learning in our schools. My wife, who is a retired public school teacher who had taught in Milwaukee for 32 years, and as a private school teacher in New Orleans for 8 years can testify to this.

Our public schools in Waukesha County have experienced shortfalls and budget decreases that have hurt public schools in our County.

We also urge you to discontinue the voucher program that is draining millions from our public schools. These vouchers have recently been declared unconstitutional by District Courts and the Court of Appeals in Ohio. They are unconstitutional because they use public funds to teach religious dogma and are used for proselytizing. Eighty percent of the private schools that receive these public funds are owned and operated by the worlds largest religious institutions. They are institutions of religious indoctrination and should not be using tax payers funds to pay for this religious indoctrination. In a pluralistic society, such as ours, it is a miscarriage of justice to force all taxpayers to pay for the religious indoctrination of a few.


A large majority of the citizens of the U.S. have indicated strong opposition for the use of public funds for vouchers for private and parochial schools. The most recent votes were taken in the past election in Michigan, California, and other States where they turned back voucher referendums by more than a 70% margin.

These schools don't need tax payers funds to pay for their schools. They are rich as Cresius and get hundreds of billion's in income. The Philip Morris Foundation alone provides billions since it is comprised of many of the largest corporations, including tobacco companies, breweries, distilleries, wineries, and food processing corporations.

Something is radically wrong when you provide millions for rich parochial and private education, while our public schools can't make ends meet because of declining funds. Public funds should only be used for public schools. This voucher plan has been declared unconstitutional by Federal Courts in Ohio. We urge you to introduce legislation to end this voucher plan before it spreads like an epidemic. Use these funds for public education so our public schools can have sufficient funding for decent schools and continue to be the best in the nation.

This 3 1/2% revenue cap is actually a concept that "one size fits all". This is not realistic to place one limit on all schools since some schools have greater needs than others, and should not be forced to a fixed limitation. This is the fallacy of a fixed limit. Let's remove that limit and let these schools provide for their children.

Don't accept the fallacy of failing schools and the false idea that private and parochial schools are superior. This fallacy has been used to gain public funds for catholic schools. It is based on the premise "tell a lie loud and long enough and people will believe it".



A. Vernon Jensen  
Retired Attorney and teacher

A. VERNON JENSEN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1501 Sunnycrest Dr.  
New Berlin, WI 53151  
1-414-650-9889

December 13, 1998

Representative Gerald Kleczka  
2301 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sirs:

Recently our religiously biased Governor and his puppet legislature enacted parochial legislation entitled "School Choice". This voucher bill enabled church schools to collect public funds to operate their institutes of religious indoctrination. Our religiously biased Supreme Court let it stand even though it was patently unconstitutional and our District Court and Circuit Court of Appeals had so ruled. Then the Federal Supreme Court refused to assume jurisdiction and rule on it's unjust consequences. Consequently, Wisconsin taxpayers are now taxed to support religious desemenation of religious doctrine and dogma.

We hope that our representatives in Congress will remedy this injustice by passing legislation to outlaw appropriations of public funds to finance religion that would include parochial schools and other religious institutions, since our State government has forced our taxpayers to pay for religious indoctrination , and have done it without impunity. This legislation should provide for a penalty and compel



those religious institutions to return these funds to the public treasury.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A. Vernon Jensen

A. Vernon Jensen  
Attorney at Law

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1999

# Non-rulings leave states with different school choice law

Religious school vouchers legal here, banned in Maine for lack of high court action

By ALAN J. BORSUK  
of the Journal Sentinel staff

## ANALYSIS

Tuesday: The Supreme Court says it won't consider an appeal of lower court ruling involving a Pennsylvania effect prohibiting the state from giving a tax break specifically for religious publications.

Oct. 4: The Supreme Court says it won't consider an appeal of lower court rulings in an Arizona law, in effect limiting a tax-break plan that would benefit religious schools.

Pressure surrounding the whole issue has been rising.

On the one hand, voucher plans have moved forward in several states as they have been proposed in many states. Vouchers have become a hot issue at a time when education as a whole is a hot subject.

On the other hand, the prevailing view is not in favor of vouchers in terms of both its immediate and its long-term effects. Please see VOUCHERS in effect allowing the state to provide direct support to religious schools. Nichols' appeal in Oklahoma bombing rejected by Supreme Court.

The nation's highest court has been sending decidedly mixed signals about its current views on the height and thickness of the wall between church and state. But again Tuesday it seemed to be sending clear signals that it's not in much of a hurry to change that.

To illustrate: Tuesday: The U.S. Supreme Court says it won't consider an appeal of lower courts' rulings limiting a voucher program covering expenses at private schools in Maine, in effect prohibiting the state from providing direct support to religious schools.

Nov. 9, 1998: The Supreme Court says it won't consider an appeal of a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling on Milwaukee's private school choice program in effect allowing the state to provide direct support to religious schools.

In The Morning Mail, William Lemsire asked, "Just why are these parents using these school choice vouchers to send their kids to religious schools?" ("Religious freedom. I bitterly resent it on reasons for school choices," Oct. 17). They do, so to indoctrinate their children in certain religious dogmas. To force me to pay taxes for such indoctrination is to trample on my religious freedom.

Scott L. Klitsley  
Shorewood

## No, it lets freedom be trampled

# School choice

12A MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1999 MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL



THE MILWAUKEE SENTINEL  
SOLOMON JUNEAU  
FOUNDER 1837

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1999

EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR  
ENNETH P. ROESSLEIN

DEPUTY EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR  
SUE RYON

# High court must review school choice

Last week's zigzag by a U.S. district judge in Cleveland illustrates the confusion and inconsistency that surround the use of parochial schools in school choice programs. Such uncertainty is unacceptable to children, their parents, educators and others, and for this reason is something the U.S. Supreme Court should, and probably will be forced to, clarify.

Last Tuesday, the day before classes resumed, the judge blocked Cleveland's 4-year-old school voucher program, preventing several thousand students from attending private non-sectarian and sectarian schools at taxpayer expense. He said there was probable cause to believe the program violated the constitutional separation of church and state.

The ruling created enormous turmoil — no surprise — so on Fri-

day the judge said the program could, after all, continue until the end of the semester or until a final judgment on it is made. But no one should feel confident that the judge will endorse the program

after taking a longer look at it; last Tuesday he warned, in fact, that there was "no substantial possibility" he would do that.

Milwaukee has engaged in the same sort of program for two years now. More than 8,000 children attend almost 100 private schools, most of them religious, that are supported by public money.

But the courts have not shut down Milwaukee's school choice program; on the contrary, in June 1998, the Wisconsin Supreme Court found it constitutional, and the U.S. Supreme Court refused a few months later to review that finding.

In other words, what's constitutional in Wisconsin may not be constitutional in Ohio. Contradictory rulings on religious school choice also have been made in Florida and Maine. Even in Ohio, the state Supreme Court — while holding the Cleveland program unconstitutional on procedural grounds — said it didn't violate the church-state doctrine.

So there is really no final verdict on whether the U.S. Constitution forbids the Milwaukee program, the Cleveland initiative or religious school experiments in other cities. In this legal limbo, where nobody knows what's constitutional, it is very difficult for parents, teachers and others to make plans.

We are all Americans, no matter what state or city we live in, and we all need to abide by the same interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. It's the U.S. Supreme Court's job to make that interpretation for us.

Clarity needed:

In other words, what's  
constitutional in Wisconsin  
may not be constitutional  
in Ohio.

# Judge strikes down one of nation's oldest school voucher efforts

## Vouchers for religious schools unconstitutional

A federal district court in Ohio last Tuesday issued an injunction blocking a Cleveland voucher program that gave low-income families up to \$2,500 per child in public money to pay for tuition at private and parochial schools. To minimize turmoil, in Friday Judge Solomon Oliver Jr. allowed students who participated in the program last year to receive the vouchers for one more semester or until a final judgment in the case is issued. But no new children will be allowed into the program. The injunction is the most recent in a spate of litigation on the constitutionality of using taxpayer-financed vouchers for parochial schools. The legal confusion surrounding these important cases should compel the Supreme Court to resolve this national controversy.

Oliver in issuing the injunction said it is likely that the Cleveland program violates the constitutional mandate of separation of church and state. He noted that the schools participating in the Cleveland program, which provides vouchers to about 4,000 students, were overwhelmingly religious, some with pervasive religious missions. The judge found that the program has the primary effect of advancing religion. The ruling is of broad national interest because many cities, including New York, are debating similar voucher proposals that will face the same constitutional challenges.

Oliver took an opportunity last year to clarify the constitutional question in a case in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee voucher program, which also finances students in religious schools, was upheld by the Wisconsin Supreme Court. The court's refusal to review that case means that parochial schools in Milwaukee continue to benefit from public tuition vouchers. By contrast, a federal appeals court ruled in May that Maine families are not entitled to public subsidies for religious school tuition.

Until the Supreme Court reasserts itself in this arena, conflicting rulings among various courts will continue. The law has grown more complicated as the Supreme Court, in recent decades, has allowed limited types of public aid to religious educational institutions. But the court has never overruled its 1973 decision that a New York program giving tuition reimbursement grants to low-income parochial school students violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment. The Cleveland program in effect is practically indistinguishable from the banned New York scheme.

Oliver's injunction properly relied on that 1973 decision. The Supreme Court should reaffirm its earlier ruling and declare voucher plans supporting religious education unconstitutional.

- The New York Times

## Cleveland public schools brace for onslaught of parochial students

CLEVELAND (AP) - A federal judge has struck down one of the nation's oldest school voucher programs, one that allowed Cleveland students to attend private or parochial schools at taxpayer expense.

With many city schools opening today, district officials braced for the possibility of having to absorb thousands of children cut off from private schools.

"We're recommending that students call their voucher program schools to find out how their institution wants to handle things now," said William Wendling, spokesman for the 77,000-student Cleveland public schools.

Supporters plan to appeal Tuesday's ruling by U.S. District Judge Solomon Oliver Jr., whose injunction halted the voucher program until a trial determines whether it violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

The state-funded program covers up to \$2,500 in tuition costs per child for poor families so they can attend private schools. It is being conducted on an experimental basis in Cleveland, the state's second-largest city.

This year, 4,003 students from kindergarten through fifth grade have signed up.

However, the judge said the program appeared to have the "primary effect of advancing religion," because most of the 56 participating schools are religious institutions.

Sister Carol Anne Smith, superintendent of schools in the Cleveland Catholic Diocese, urged parents to keep their children in voucher schools pending the appeal.

Johannieta McGrady, whose two children enrolled at St. Thomas Aquinas School with the help of



Associated Press

Dave Zanotti, president of the Ohio Roundtable and chairman of the School Choice Committee, talks to reporters outside U.S. District Court in Cleveland, holding a copy of the ruling U.S. District Judge Solomon Oliver Jr. issued that says the tax-supported school voucher program cannot resume this year.

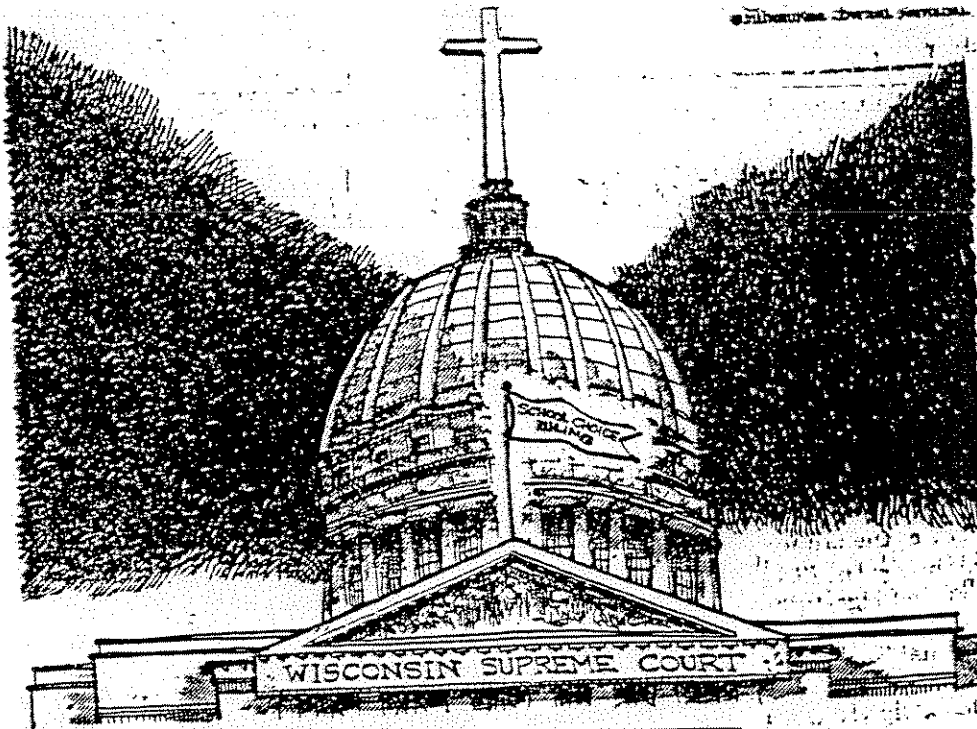
vouchers, said she was "terrified" by the ruling.

"I really can't afford the private school now," she said. "The kids will have to go to public school this year. There's no other way."

Oliver said that allowing the program to go forward could "cause an even greater harm to the children by setting them up for greater disruption at a later time."

Gov. Bob Taft, who supports the program, said the ruling "disrupts at the 11th hour the plans of those who utilize Cleveland's school choice program."

"What possible harm would result from allowing these children to attend school where they have been enrolled pending the resolution of this court case?" he asked.



THE MILWAUKEE SENTINEL

SOLOMON JUNEAU  
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 3,

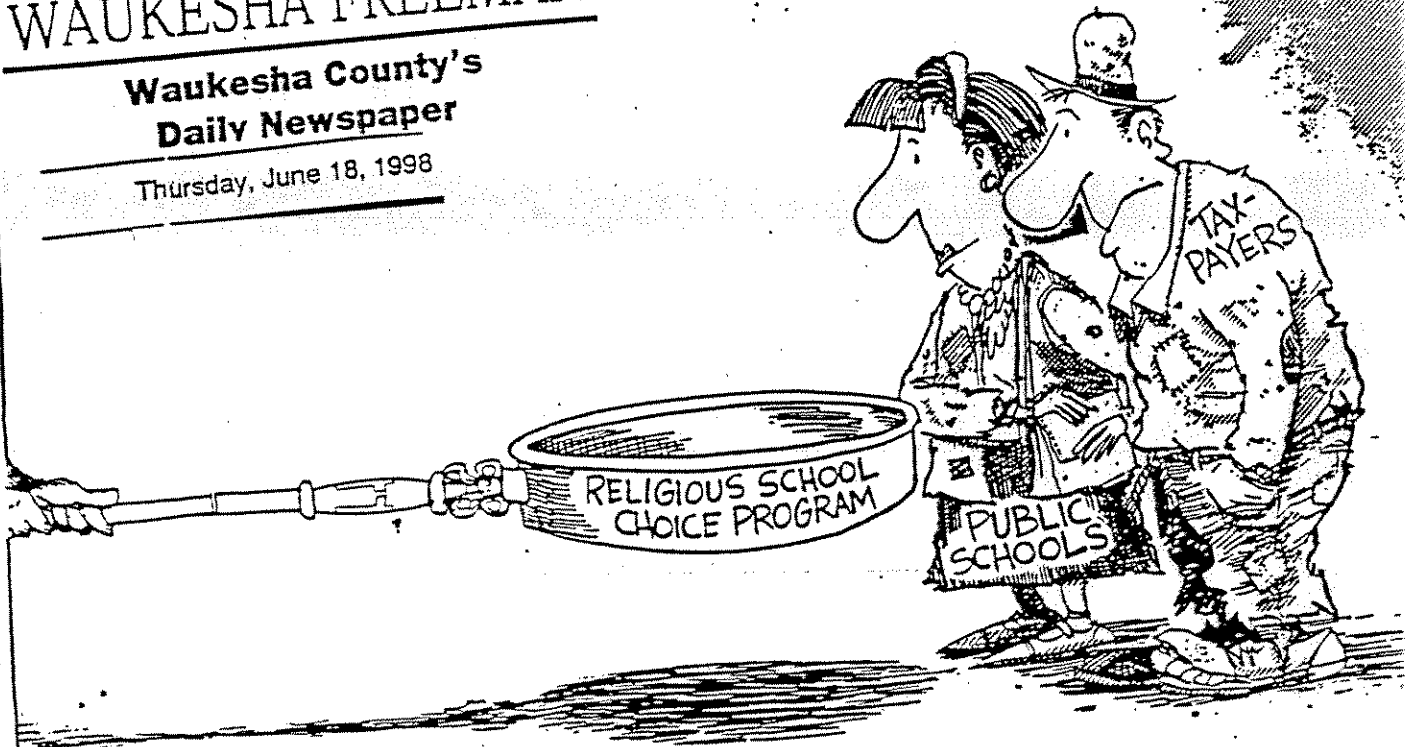
DEPUTY EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR  
SUE RYON  
Thursday, June 18, 1998



WAUKESHA FREEMAN

Waukesha County's  
Daily Newspaper

Thursday, June 18, 1998



# quietly lives with choice

Milwaukee's second year in national education spotlight marked by little fanfare

## Choice

From page 1

The Florida effort is slated to be statewide. It is just beginning and involves only a handful of students and payments up to \$389 this year. The Maine program involved a few students in more areas.

But if Milwaukee merits the national spotlight on school vouchers, it hasn't been doing much to put razzle-dazzle in the arguments of either side of the heated debate over public funding of private education.

### A Cautious Approach

By ALAN J. BORSUK  
of the Journal Sentinel staff

More than 8,000 Milwaukee children are doing one of the most controversial things in America this week and next, and no one's going to stop them.

In Cleveland, a federal judge has halted conduct like this.

In Florida, it's just starting to occur on a small scale, but court challenges are under way.

In Maine, a federal court decision put a brake on years of this kind of activity.

The urge has popped up in New York, California, Texas, Michigan, Pennsylvania and other states. But so far, it's been talk and not action.

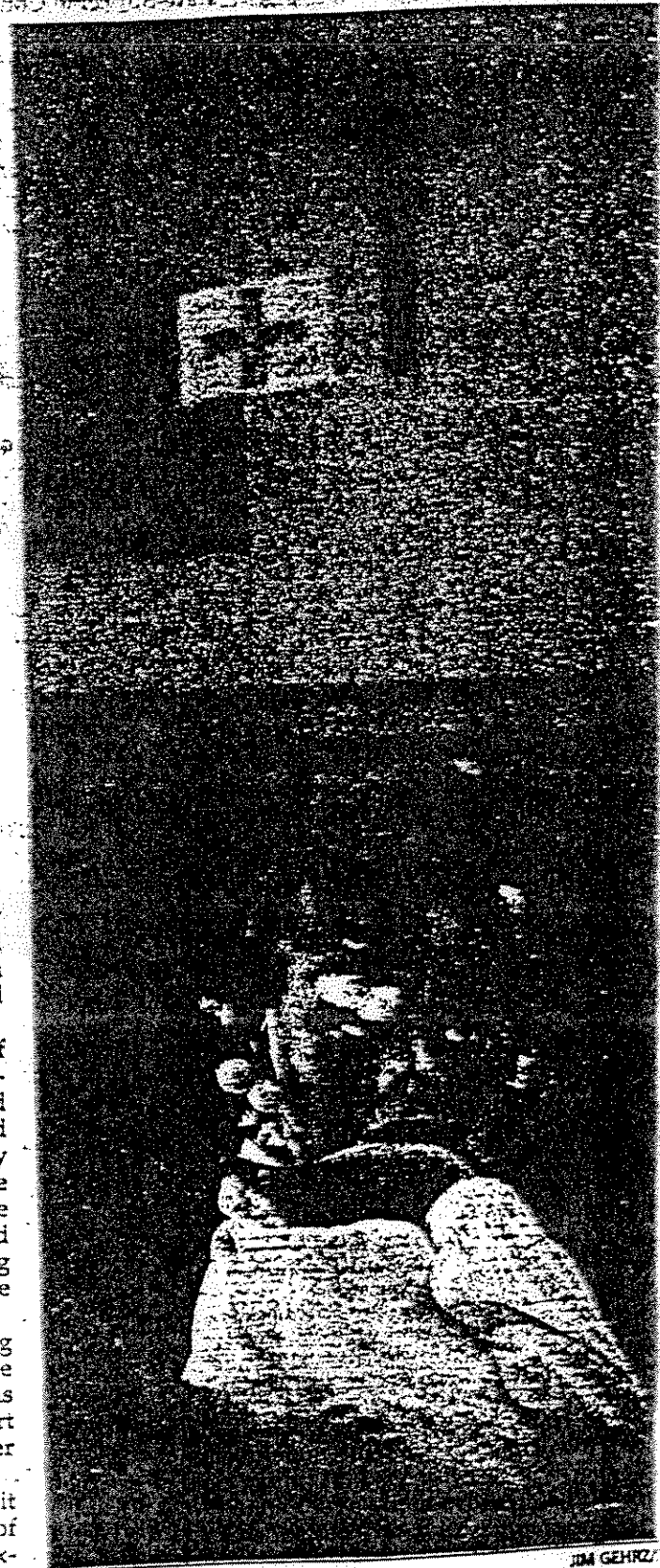
However, in Milwaukee, there's action — action that, in many ways, seems to have become pretty routine.

Almost 100 private schools, the large majority of them religious, are welcoming for a new school year children who will have the costs of their education — up to about \$5,100 per child — paid for by the state.

It will be the second year of the expanded Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, expanded so that children can attend schools run to teach not only secular subjects but a wide range of religious knowledge and tradition. The expected 8,000 to 8,500 students receiving choice benefits will be up more than 2,000 from last year.

Even before Tuesday's ruling in Cleveland, the Milwaukee program stood out nationally as the most comprehensive effort to implement a school voucher program.

Unlike any other program, it has survived the full gamut of legal challenges to its basic existence. It is bigger and more generous (in terms of the amount schools receive) than any other program. Although



Jasmine Moore, 6, listens Wednesday to instructions of grade teacher during class at St. Rose Catholic Academy. Almost 100 private schools, the large majority of them, are welcoming children for a new school year who will have costs up to about \$5,100 per child paid by the state.

Please see CHOICE page 18

# Founding fathers very specific about religion in new nation

Once again religious conservatives claim erroneously that America was founded on Christian principles. Todd Hesselberg's June 7 letter stating that "the Constitution is biblically based" is another attempt to rewrite history.

Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Paine considered themselves deists, not Christians, and were integral in the founding of this country. The intellectual climate in which the Constitution was written was Enlightenment Deism, which emphasized rationality, not faith.

Paine, author of "The Rights of Man," penned lengthy tirade titled "The Age of Reason" against the Bible as a source of laws or public policy. He called it "such a book of lies and contradictions there is no knowing which part to believe."

Jefferson waived his authorship of the Statute of Religious Freedom listed on his tombstone, even though his presidency is not mentioned there. He wrote, "No man shall be

compelled to frequent or support any religious worship... all men shall be free to profess... their opinions in matters of religion."

We should also not need a reminder of the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Does this, as Gregory Forster claimed in his June 7 letter, prove "beyond any shadow of doubt that the United States was founded as a Christian nation?" I disagree. Several of the founding fathers would, also.

Lindsay King  
Waukesha

## People in United States free to believe or not

Gregory Forster argued that the United States was founded as a Christian nation! (The Morning Mail, June 7). Nothing could be further from the truth.

Many of our founding fathers were not even Christian them-

selves. James Madison, the father of the Constitution, Thomas Jefferson and Chief Justice James Wilson considered themselves deists.

Another flaw in Forster's assessment is that we must look at the Constitution in relation to the Declaration of Independence. Not so. The Constitution is the only governing document.

The First Amendment states that the government "should not establish a religion and enforce the legal observation of it by law, nor compel men to worship God in any manner contrary to their conscience" — James Madison, Annals of Congress, 1789. Madison often reworded the religious clause to say, "Congress shall make no law respecting a religious establishment," which dictates that the United States government would not respect any religious institution in any way.

The U.S. is a free nation, in which people can follow their own consciences and believe or not believe in any god they desire.

Brian Matthews  
Waukesha

# WISCONSIN

## Democrats call for separation of church, s

Convention addition to state party platform comes despite school choice ruling

Associated Press

Madison — Democrats should push to keep church and state separate, despite a court ruling that allows poor children to attend religious schools at taxpayer expense, state party members decided during their

tution's ban against government involvement in religion was included in the party's platform, which delegates approved at the state Democratic Party convention on Saturday.

The separation of church and state was a statewide issue last week when the state Supreme Court ruled that a Milwaukee program to use taxpayer money to send poor children to religious schools was constitutional.

"What the Supreme Court did this week was an abomination," said Sen. Joe Wineke, a Verona

Many candidates during the two-day convention expressed disapproval of the ruling, and their stance drew applause from hundreds of delegates.

Ed Garvey, a Democrat running against three-term Republican Gov. Tommy Thompson, said the Milwaukee program takes needed money from public schools.

Garvey, who attended parochial school, criticized Thompson for backing the plan, which he called the governor's attempt

ing some kids to parochial schools will solve the problem of education haven't thought it through," he told delegates.

Delegate Joe Gruber, of Fond du Lac, said a minority of party delegates disagree with the platform issue.

"Many are active in their church, but the state party believes it's unconstitutional," Gruber said.

A more controversial issue was a party initiative to legalize marijuana. Party members tabled the measure because they

down the mid. Mark Cummings, said.

Many delegates couldn't support of marijuana because of strong conviction abuse.

Delegate Scott successfully tried to get to support jail terms for druggies.

"It's insane to in jail," Woods should have the r

# An appalling expansion of school choice

In blessing the use of public funds for religious schools, the Wisconsin Supreme Court smashed a gaping hole in the fire wall that's supposed to separate church and state in America. This horrible ruling must be appealed to the federal judiciary.

The court's novel interpretation of the U.S. and Wisconsin constitutions takes the nation and the state into uncharted terrain, where danger lurks. The ruling discards the important principle that taxpayers — of any religious stripe or of none — must not be compelled to support a religious institution. This tenet has served the state and the nation well, enabling the United States to avoid the sort of sectarian strife that has divided many other countries.

Appallingly, the court put its imprimatur on the money-laundering scheme at the heart of the state law that expanded Milwaukee's school choice program to sectarian schools. Crafty lawmakers counted on getting around the church-state wall by passing the money to religious schools through parents.

Lower courts had recognized this scheme for what it was: a ruse. But the high court bought it. It's no sham, the court declared straightforwardly.

The Wisconsin Constitution seems more adamant about the separation of church and state than does the federal document, which nonetheless is clear about the matter. The relevant Wisconsin clause: "... nor shall any money be drawn from the treasury for the benefit of religious societies, or religious or theological seminaries."

That clause used to carry more weight than



choice expansion on it. But with much fancy footwork, the present Supreme Court danced around the proscription.

The primary intent and effect of the program are *not* to benefit a religious organization, so the expansion's OK, the majority ruled, playing

public funds through choice expansion so the can remain solvent.

And pray, as well as proselytize, is what religious schools do a lot of — which is fine, long as government doesn't support that activity. Thanks to the state Supreme Court, govern

GABRIEL GREEN  
APPROPRIATE SCHOOL CHOICE

Send letters to: The Morning Mail

# Public schools need support from officials

On Sept. 1, the Journal Sentinel ran a picture of Gov. Tommy Thompson and Mayor John Norquist, whicoping it up for a parochial school funded by me and a lot of other people who feel that their religious liberty has been trodden upon.

I wonder: When will we see their support of public education, which is owned, operated and controlled by the American people?

Scott L. Kittsley  
Shorewood

# Families shouldn't have to pay twice for private schools

The way we see it, private schools are no longer private with the new school choice program.

Our son has attended private schools since third grade, and we've always paid our own way. Through hard work and sacrifice, we've paid for tuitions, registration and book fees, fund-raisers and for whatever else that came along without help from any outside organizations. And, of course, no breaks from the tax man.

And now we're also paying for other people's children? Yes, we're mad, and we feel we don't

have a choice anymore. Give us hard-working, tuition-paying families a break!

Oh, yeah, tuition went up again this year.

Anita Truitt  
Milwaukee

## School choice may cost us our religious freedom

The once-progressive state of Wisconsin has the only state Supreme Court voting for religious school vouchers. Our state Supreme Court is packed with judges of Gov. Tommy Thompson's religion, which has the

largest parochial schools in the state, plus one Met. judge who is a close friend of the governor. A conflict of interest?

Parochial school parents rolled in the choice program government check a school. Is this money laundering? What can't be done directly cannot be done indirectly, makes a mockery of our and U.S. constitutions.

Our nation was founded by people who fled here for civil and religious freedom. We lose this priceless freedom.

June Pe  
N

Send letters to: The Morning Mail, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

# Money should be spent on public schools

Milwaukee County has spent more than a billion dollars on Chapter 220 since its inception, and the number of students who were bused was minuscule compared to the number that will be bused to charter and choice schools.

Therefore, the billion dollars wasted on busing Chapter 220 students will be multiplied by untold numbers. Gov. Thompson, after this tax boondoggle, please don't tell us how you are using the taxpayers money.

The idea, we are told, is to get more parents involved in their kids' schools. After choice and charter schools are fully in operation, the same kids will walk out of the same doors, of the same houses, from the same dysfunctional families, skipping school by hanging out on the same street corners.

Furthermore, the same parents, of the same students, will care not whether their children go to school.

So what will we have accom-

plished except spending more of our tax dollars for another expensive, wasted effort? There's an old saying that goes, "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink." In this instance, you can offer an education to students, but if they don't want to learn, they won't.

We should put all this choice and charter money back into public schools, where it belongs, and use the money to build new schools. Then, we should install

modern equipment in the schools, so all of our kids can have an equal education offered to them, "offered" being the operative word. I, hope, the U.S. Supreme Court does the taxpayers a favor and rules choice and charter schools unconstitutional. And our elected officials should be ashamed of themselves for offering to spend our tax money foolishly.

Casper T. Green  
Franklin



New York  
Times

EDITORIAL

11-11-97  
MYT

## Vouchers for Parochial Schools

The United States Supreme Court's decision not to review a Milwaukee case involving taxpayer-paid vouchers for religious schools sidesteps one of the most contentious political issues of the day. The Court's refusal to take up the case does not signal approval of the Milwaukee scheme. But the Court's silence leaves in place a plan that will directly harm the vast majority of the city's schoolchildren, namely those left in Milwaukee's public schools while others flee to the voucher program. The Court's denial of review will also embolden voucher supporters elsewhere to adopt similar plans that would funnel public money into religious and private education.

The question of what kinds of public support for parochial education violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment remains a murky area of constitutional law. Some recent Supreme Court cases have upheld limited types of public aid to students in church-run schools, but the Court has never overturned its 1973 decision that banned publicly financed tuition rebates to religious-school students. That decision remains a bulwark against religious-school vouchers. The Court could have done the nation an important service by reaffirming that ruling and striking down the Milwaukee voucher scheme as unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court will not be able to dodge the question for long. Other voucher cases are pending in several states, including Ohio, Vermont and Arizona. This summer a Federal judge in Maine rejected the public financing of religious-school vouchers. The high court will have to reconcile these conflicting rulings eventually.

Even aside from the First Amendment problem, the Milwaukee plan is deeply flawed. Many city schools are doing a poor job, but the voucher plan will do little to improve them. Indeed, it transfers

funds out of desperate public schools for the benefit of private education. This year 5,300 low-income students out of 100,000 students in Milwaukee got vouchers worth \$4,900 per student to attend private and parochial schools. That money came from funds that would have gone to the public system. Worse, more than a third of the students getting vouchers were already enrolled in private or parochial schools. The vouchers merely gave them a subsidy at the expense of public schools.

The vouchers may well help some students, but at the expense of the majority. The Milwaukee program is capped at roughly 15,000 students, or about 15 percent of the public school enrollment. That means that even if parochial and private schools could expand to take the maximum number of voucher-bearing students, 85,000 students would still be left in a troubled and even weaker public system. The potential loss to Milwaukee public schools in money siphoned off by vouchers could be more than \$70 million a year. It would be far better to increase public school funding to improve education for all the students.

Vouchers are passionately defended by many who do not support or have given up on the ideals of public education. But the fact remains that public schools will continue to educate most Americans well into the next generation and probably beyond. It is absurd to argue that public education can be improved by diverting huge amounts of tax revenue into parochial and private schools. A voucher plan, such as Milwaukee's, does not reform anything. It is a funding mechanism that forces taxpayers to underwrite religious and private education. Improving education for all students, not just the few who manage to get vouchers, requires sustained community commitment and leadership. Vouchers are a convenient political diversion from that task.

page 31

# In My Opinion

## Aid to Parochial Schools Runs Contrary to America's Constitutional Ideals

IN HIS syndicated column, on Oct. 15, 1974, James Kilpatrick made another attempt to get tax money for the authoritarian church by advocating tax money for parochial schools. He proposed this even though the majority of the people in our democratic society have consistently indicated that they do not wish to be taxed to support the institutions of indoctrination of a militant minority.

Hundreds of pieces of parochial aid legislation have been defeated by our State Legislatures and Congress.

*A. Vernon Jensen, who lives in New Berlin, is a lawyer and a member of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.*

The few pieces that have been permitted to pass through religiously biased legislatures have been set aside by the courts because they were unconstitutional.

The majority of voters in many states have repeatedly voted against aid to parochial schools by the democratic process of the referendum. Still, Kilpatrick and his friends are demanding a share of the pie, which he calls the education fund.

It is neither a pie nor a grab bag of goodies that everyone can take at will. It constitutes a fund that the general taxpayer has been forced to pay by the taxing authority of the federal, state and local governments. These governments have no constitutional authority to turn this money over to private interests to finance their business enterprises or institutions. They can use these public funds for public institutions only.

### Wealthiest Church Has Own Schools

The largest and wealthiest church has insisted on maintaining its own schools so its children can be indoctrinated in church oriented institutions. Materials, books and teaching methods are church oriented and give the

The church has maintained that all of its children should be educated in these church schools. They participated in the attempts to ban prayers and Bible reading in public schools which were generally considered to be influenced by the religious views of the majority. This effort was finally culminated in the early 1960s with the Engle and Schempp-Murray cases.

After these decisions, by the United States Supreme Court, the hierarchy and clergy criticized the public schools as being Godless. This has been used as a basis, by the church, for withdrawing its children from the public schools. However, this drive has never been completely successful because many parents preferred to send their children to public schools.

In the 1960s attempts were made to merge the parochial schools with the public schools in Cincinnati, Ohio, but the church vetoed the idea of civil control over its schools.

After building a large, expensive, denominational school system, neither the church nor its members now want to maintain the cost of operation and are now demanding public funds to defray the costs. Canon Law 1974 has not been practical. In the United States, since parents have not chosen the high costs of sending their children to denominational schools. Consequently, they are now seeking tax monies to maintain and support these religiously oriented schools.

Costs of operation have increased and there are fewer teaching nuns available, since many of them are shedding their habit and are going into the public schools and other endeavors. As a result, pressure for tax money has been gradually increasing.

### More Pressure for Federal Aid

During the 1960s and 1970s a drive has been made for extensive federal aid to education that would include parochial schools. In addition to pressure for federal aid, the church has also been exerting constant pressure at the state and local levels



Jensen  
—Journal Sketch

demanding money for tuition grants, books, special services and other benefits, even though the courts have consistently held that such aid is unconstitutional.

The courts have ruled consistently that aid to parochial schools is unconstitutional and the majority of the voters have registered their opposition to it. Our state and federal legislators have taken oaths of office to uphold our state and federal constitutions. Let's hope that they do this by refusing to consider any more parochial aid legislation in any form. Their decisions should be based on their better judgment, not their religious bias.

A. V. JENSEN

### William Safire

child a slanted view.

magic happen

WTT

# Choice law's shortcomings

When parents send their children to school — any school — they have an absolute right to expect that the youngsters will be in the hands of loving, caring teachers and administrators. Unfortunately, the law governing Wisconsin's school choice program makes it difficult to guarantee that right.

The consequences of the law's shortcomings were demonstrated Wednesday in Milwaukee County Circuit Court, where James A. Mitchell, the chief executive officer of a Milwaukee choice school, was sentenced to six months in jail for tax fraud. What was brought out in court was that Mitchell had been convicted of rape in 1971.

The principal of the school, Alex's Academic of Excellence, said he had no idea that Mitchell's criminal record included a rape conviction. Indeed, the likelihood that the principal might know of such a record is slight; the state statute governing school choice contains no requirement for background checks of private school operators or employees. That omission is outra-

geous and unacceptable.

Judge Elsa Lameias, noting that she had "concerns about some aspects of the school choice program," said, "It seems that it is easy pickings for some people who are not inclined to be honest."

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has supported such background checks in the past, and Mitchell's case is a good illustration of the reason they are needed. At a time when so much information is readily available electronically, even a superficial records check would probably have revealed Mitchell's 1971 conviction.

The Milwaukee school choice program is under a national spotlight; it is the largest and most far-reaching voucher initiative in the country.

That is just another reason that people connected with choice schools — especially those who come in contact with children — should be men and women of good character. Wisconsin law needs to be changed so that those chosen for choice are the best.

A. VERNON JENSEN  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1501 Sunnycrest Dr.  
New Berlin, WI 53151  
1-414-650-9889

Why are we giving our tax money to

Why are we giving our tax money to the parochial and private schools when they are so badly needed by our public schools? They are being forced to eliminate essential programs, increase class sizes and to get rid of needed teachers?

Please ~~introduce~~ <sup>introduce</sup> legislation to correct this serious problem.

Sincerely yours,  
*A. Vernon Jensen*  
A. Vernon Jensen

# Report: \$322 billion needed to fix, build nation's schoolhouses

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 40 million school children nationwide attend schools that are falling apart or ill-equipped for classroom computers, the nation's largest teachers union says in a report released on states to pony up their get surpluses. The report says that right now states need \$322 billion for school construction — only 10 times what they currently spend and nearly three times what the federal government estimated they need, the National Education Association said in a report to be released today.

General Accounting Office, investigative arm of Congress, estimated that the nation's schools need \$112 billion for repair and update of buildings, 74 percent of which were built before 1970, the Association of School Administrators says.

President Clinton and congressional Democrats are pushing increased federal funds for school repair and construction. But states most of the responsibility for the costs, and they have been spending more than ever, the report says.

where our students learn can have a dramatic effect on what they learn."

Individual state needs, the union's report said, vary widely because some states are more populated or have higher costs for land and building materials. New York tops the list, needing \$51 billion. Vermont, a much smaller state, needs about \$33 million.

Meanwhile, the report said, states had a \$31 billion surplus in fiscal 1999. States such as Alaska, Indiana and Delaware have the highest portion of budget surpluses, the report said.

The union's estimates are based on 1998 and 1999 data that include school enrollments, age and condition of existing buildings, and construction costs, spokesman Steve Wollmer said.

Since 1995, Pennsylvania has spent \$1.2 billion on reimbursements for building and repair in its 501 school districts, said Al Bowman, spokesman for the state's Education Department.

"There hasn't been a great call from school districts for more assistance because we have provided an adequate level," Bowman noted. "School districts make the decision to go through with a construction project. It's locally controlled and locally decided."

As a crisis is eclipsing their effort, said Bob Chase, president of the finance data for the report, often fail to recognize that

# Look more closely at choice schools

### Taxpayers need to see more accountability

A May 4 Journal Sentinel article told me the CEO of one of the schemes that participate in Milwaukee's school choice program, James Mitchell of Choice for Excellence, was convicted of a brutal knife-wielding rape. He has now been convicted and sentenced for tax fraud as well. (Judge sentences choice school's CEO, a convicted rapist, for tax fraud.)

Previous reports have told how numerous choice schools, including Marquette High and St. Joan Antida, have isolated choice program rules, and how neither choice school has a principal who was fired by Milwaukee Public Schools for possessing drug paraphernalia.

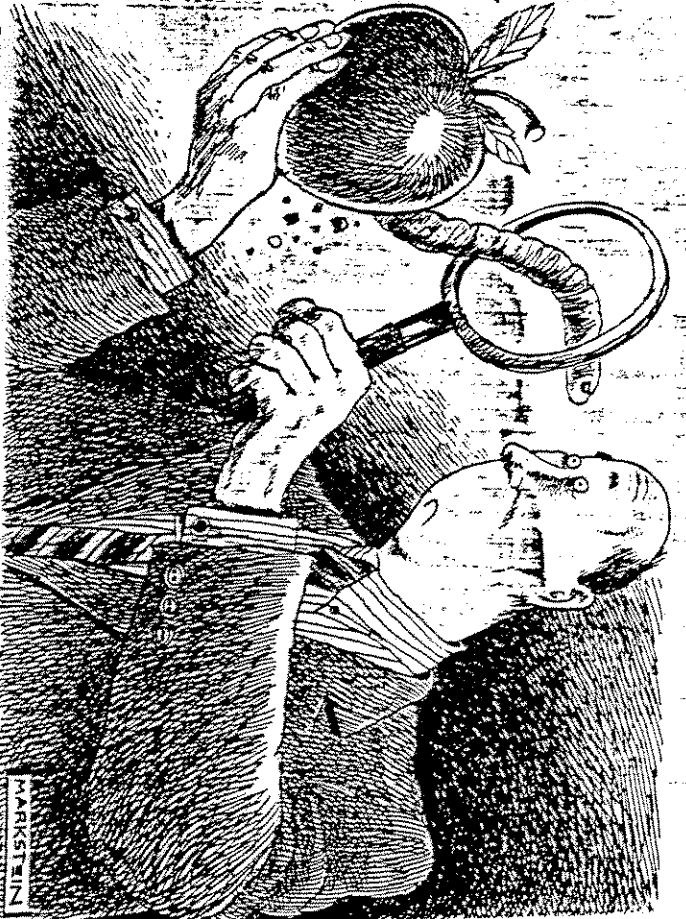
When will there finally be some public accountability at these schools? Our income and property tax money is being handed to them without the most elementary standards of public oversight and accountability. This is intolerable.

It amounts to taxation, for those schools, without representation, as to the use of the funds. If these schools cannot abide public accountability in such basic matters as criminal background checks and the application of the program's rules, they should not be in a program to receive tax money from the public funds.

The governor and legislature must take action to amend the choice program to provide for basic accountability.

**Non-choice schools have troubles, too**  
The May 5 anti-choice editorial cited the criminality of a private school administrator ("Choice law's shortcomings"). I guess from the editorial we are to believe that public schools never have wrongdoers in their employ.

**Latest case can be held up as example**  
As a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher of 26 years and a parent of two MFS children, I was appalled and angered to read the May 4 article about James A. Mitchell, the convicted rapist and CEO of Choice for Excellence. Here is just one example of what can happen



over our network. I have worked in schools that are considered to be in the most economically deprived areas of the city with the highest crime rates. Last school year, two of our teachers who had played late were robbed at gunpoint, and our school security aide was grazed by a bullet trying to defend several others from the same fate. I was fortunate not to have been faced with this frightening experience. I was in my classroom vacuuming the floor because we were having difficulty finding regular cleaning staff to work in our school. I am well aware of the difficult lives people have in these areas. I am also well aware of the challenges facing the teachers.

Contrary to public opinion, some of the most dedicated, caring and professional teachers in our system work in these troubled areas. And they do so because they love what they do and are striving to guide their students to reach their potential and find their way out of the poverty and devastation that is their lives now. And these teachers do this in spite of the overwhelming odds including bad public opinion, lack of funding and constant scrutiny by the public and

**Ask tough questions about participants**  
Choice school programs definitely need a great deal more in-depth and important spot checking in order to be sure that the children and taxpayers are protected from those individuals who are first looking to profit themselves.

The front-page article on May 4 in the second example I have heard about this spring of very serious allegations of

I love my students, and I am proud of my school system and my colleagues. I am also completely happy with the excellent education my children are receiving in MFS.

I believe that our public schools will continue to serve our children better than schools in the private sector. But only if the government, the mayor and Milwaukee residents wake up and support the efforts our public schools are making to create a better future for those children.

**What are school officials' personal salaries?** Can officials count every adult in the building, even the person who comes in to unlock the room where the computer is kept and then leaves, in their school's teacher-student ratio?

There are questions we need to ask before spending our most precious people and our tax money to them.

**TO SUBSCRIBE CALL CUSTO**

Page 12A The Freeman  
Wednesday, May 3, 2000

# Chmura

From Page 1A

how the nickname of their club "The Sexy Bitches," would likely end up in the media.

"I've been with all my friends but I haven't talked about testimony," Flannery said.

"Did you talk about the case?" Boyle asked.

"We talked about what people are saying on the radio and how it felt to testify," the woman replied.

Witnesses in court trials are instructed to avoid discussing their testimony with others before taking the witness stand.

## Assault discussed

But other details of the alleged assault painted a grim picture. Jeanne Flannery, Flannery's mother, said as she heard accounts of the party from her daughter's friends the morning after, it seemed like "things were getting out of control."

As Chmura's alleged victim and her friends told Jeanne Flannery about the events of the party, the alleged victim sat sul- lenly at a table with her head in her arms, saying "My life is over," the elder Flannery said.

She also discussed what she heard about the hot tub incident where another woman said she was assaulted by Gessert.

"(Chmura's accuser) proceeded to say when she got out of the hot tub after (Gessert's accuser) and went upstairs to change clothes and get into her jeans, she was walking down the stairs and Mark Chmura motioned to

her and said 'Come here,'" while making a similar hand gesture, Jeanne Flannery said. "She walked into the bathroom and Mark Chmura closed the door and locked it behind her. He proceeded to fondle her breasts, he pulled her pants and panties down and he pulled her onto the floor."

"She did say she saw his genitalia. She didn't say 'genitalia,' she said 'I saw it,'" Jeanne Flannery said.

"Meaning his penis?" Bucher asked.

"Yes," she replied. "She said he put it in me and I felt this pain and pressure." She said "I was so drunk and it happened so quickly."

"That's what she told you?" Bucher asked.

"There is no doubt in my mind," Jeanne Flannery said. She recounted how she encouraged the girls to get sexual assault examinations and inform their parents of what happened. Flannery drove the girls to a Milwaukee where they both received examinations. Afterward, they went to the home of Chmura's alleged victim to tell her par- ents. Although her father lis- tened somberly, the girl's moth- er started screaming, Flannery said.

Chmura sat expressionless as another witness, Kate Les, described how her friends called her early in the morning at her boyfriend's house to get her help after the alleged assaults.

"(Chmura's accuser) told me that Mark Chmura had pulled her into the bathroom and she

was walking down the stairs and Mark Chmura motioned to

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# Witness talks of agonizing night

## But Chmura's defense says his accuser had hatred for ex-player

By LISA SINK and MARK JOHNSON of the Journal Sentinel staff

Waukegan — On a dramatic first day of testimony in Mark Chmura's sexual assault trial, lawyers for both sides sketched opposing versions of a drunken post-prom party that a witness said ended in a fearful night.

The 18-year-old, a friend of Chmura's accuser's, said the party progressed from a game of "drinking ping-pong" to a hot tub to the bathroom where her friend said she was assaulted by the former Green Bay Packer.

The woman, who also has accused a friend of Chmura's of assaulting her, said the events of that night led her and her friend to an agonizing question: whether they would tell anyone about the assaults.

"We were going to tell that day or we weren't going to tell at all," she said. When asked why they hesitated, she said, "Because reputations would be ruined, and there would be a situation similar to the one before us."

In questioning the woman and in his opening statement to the jury Thursday, District Attorney Paul Bucher hammered on themes related to irresponsible adults who drank with rather than supervised teens at a party after the April 8 Catholic Memorial High School prom. He frequently reminded the jury that Chmura's accuser, who is expected to testify today, had baby sat for the former Packer's children.

"She was a mess. I've never seen her as upset as I saw her that day," Friend of accuser in Mark Chmura case

port of undergoing a sexual assault exam, as Chmura's accuser did after the party.

Chmura's attorney, Gerald Boyle, countered with themes of his own that teens at the party weren't children but young adults; that despite

Please see CHMURA, 5A

Tim Cupprisin: Ads fly as trial opens, 8B

Attached are press reports about the seamy affair between drunken students from Catholic Memorial High and a drunken NFL player who was a former Catholic alter boy and a graduate of Boston College, a Jesuit University.

Last fall a half dozen boys from Catholic Memorial High went on a destructive vandalism spree and destroyed thousands of dollars in property (damage), and joked about it later, even returning

They made photos of the damage to the scene of their crime and laughing at the owners. A few years ago students from Piquette High School, at a post-prom party at Hotel near Brookfield Square, engaged in a drunken

party at Hotel near Brookfield Square, engaged in a drunken

## Joint Finance Hearing

My name is Robert Budgins and I am here to speak in support of the Wisconsin Academy Staff Development Initiative (WASDI). I was a teacher for the Glendale-River Hills schools and a 1997 WASDI Lead Teacher. I currently have my own educational consulting business. I want to thank Senator Shibilski for introducing a motion to add WASDI to the state budget to provide funding for the continuation of this very worthwhile statewide program.

WASDI has developed 365 Wisconsin teacher leaders who can help schools and students meet increasingly higher standards. All four of Wisconsin's Presidential Award winners this year are WASDI Lead Teachers. WASDI has just selected the 7th group who will begin their training in April of 2001. They are geographically distributed throughout Wisconsin leading and serving the schools and communities you represent.

The Wisconsin Academy Staff Development Initiative has been highly successful for the last six years in providing teachers throughout the Wisconsin with state of the art professional development in science, mathematics, and technology education.

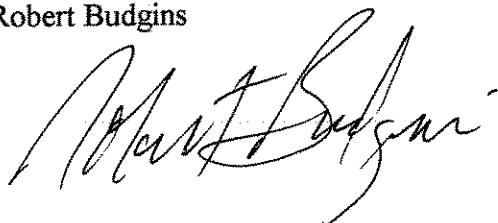
WASDI received a six million-dollar National Science Foundation grant six years ago to develop teaching centers or Academies in up to ten sites around the state. This professional development program was modeled after the successful Cray Academy in Chippewa Falls, WI. This summer there will be 16 such Academies offered in Wisconsin.

Since 1995, these academies have provided one-week professional development opportunities (30 hours of instruction) for more than 12,000 Wisconsin teachers who affect the lives of more than a million Wisconsin children. I have had the opportunity to increase the skills of teachers attending the academies. The feedback from participants has echoed the praise of WASDI involvement and the professional growth it provides participants to better serve their students.

Math, science, and technology are the backbone of many occupations and the type of staff development WASDI provides helps teachers help students solve real world problems collaboratively. In the Lead Teacher component outstanding teachers receive training to be providers of staff development to their colleagues and to provide leadership in implementing standards based education. I can attest to the professional growth it has offered me and can candidly state that there is no better program in the United State.

The program has been federally funded for the past seven years because it meets both critical national and state needs. Federal funding is ending so in order to keep this successful program operating in Wisconsin it is necessary to seek state funding. Please help support the Shibilski motion to continue this critical program. Your support will be greatly appreciated, but more importantly it will effect positively every student in Wisconsin.

Robert Budgins

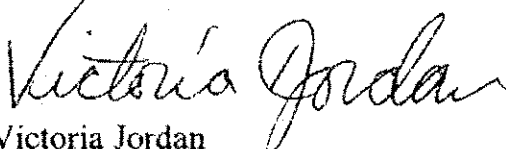


Early View Academy of Excellence  
4300 N Green Bay Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209 n the teaching process and

I have been a teacher in the MPS and have experienced both public and private (choice) schools.  
The cooperation and involvement of the parents/grandparents and other relatives in the teaching process *and*  
And their support in all school functions is phenomenal.

Our school is open for visitations at alltimes, so the parents are aware of the goals, purpose and functioning  
Of Early View.

We have a great, supportive staff and the retraining of these transfer students from public education, larger classes, fights and disrespect for authority is a large part of our teaching tasks.  
At this point in my career, I choose to be here as I compare both types of education for our African American students.

  
Victoria Jordan  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

## Testimony

I am a parent and teacher, and I believe choice is the only tool we have left to fight the ever growing illiteracy epidemic. Without choice parents will not be able to effectively plan their children's educational future. I had an experience with my oldest son who attended a school in the Franklin district, my wife and I thought this school would be the best place for our son, but in fact it turn out to be the worst school for him, he was failing in every subject, we didn't why all the teacher liked him, he liked all the teachers. He was in an environment in which he could not focus, because of choice we were able to choose a school where he could focus and not fail, without the right choose he would most defiantly would have been lost. **"If we can't choose, we loose"**.

*Christopher F. Mattin*

Christopher Mattin

5709 N 73<sup>rd</sup> Street

Milwaukee, WI. 53218

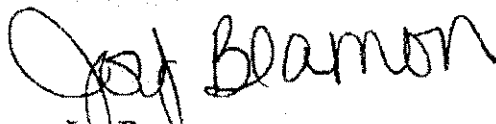
414-438-2424



Dear Senator Burke,

I am a mother of three children. I have a son who is in the third grade, a daughter in the first grade, and a one year old. The choice program has been a blessing to my family. I have been able to choose a school that is church oriented. Early View Academy of Excellence is truly a school of excellence. The staff is willing and determined to help children that are not able to work up to their ability. The choice program has allowed families to come in and be helped to improve their standards of learning. Early View has challenged my children minds to another level. They have developed new ways of learning. They have tremendously improved their work efforts. It has also helped me to become more involved with my children. I was first a volunteer, and now I am a full time employee. I don't have to worry about how the teachers are treating my children, or how will my children treat the teachers. I respect the leadership that I have valued over the years being at Mt. Zion where I attend church. I want my children to be installed my the values that I grew up with. I want them to treasure what they have learned and look back and say, "This is where I came from, and look what I have achieved."

Sincerely,



Joy Beamon

Joy Beamon

April 2, 2001

Dear Senator Burke

My name is Rosalind Kyles. I ~~have~~ am writing in support of budget provisions for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. I have seen great improvement in my two grand children since they have entered this wonderful program. My grandchildren attend Early View Academy of Excellence. I have noticed the teachers are qualified and dedicated to the improvement of education. This particular choice school has many different programs that they have implemented. One particular student I noticed was a very troubled student and was well below grade average. His year, which would be one and a half years, this student is very well behaved and on the honor roll. They never gave up. Many teachers at this school were instrumental in this change. So, Please support the Parental Choice Program There are many other stories, but I just wanted to mention this particular one. Thankyou in advance,

Dear Senator Burke,

My name is Lynn Hawkins I am a parent of children involved in the choice program. I believe that the choice program is an excellent way for parents and teachers to work together to improve the quality of education. It gives me an opportunity to be a part of what values I want for my children to learn. In this day many schools do not support the values that many parents desire for their children to understand, but I feel that through the choice program the that I have chosen will uphold values that I am for. P  
to keep the door of the open for all the par looking for quality education system.

Thank

Lynn

April 9th 2001  
Ms Beverly K. Laske  
2422 So 20th St  
Milw WI 53215

Dear Members of the Joint Finance Committee:

I am very much in support of providing protection for parents with children in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Programme. I would like you to pass the proposals for removing penalties related to increased income and to raise the lower limit for admission into the choice programme from 175% of poverty to 185%.

Neither proposal will cost more in the long run because there is a cap on the number of participants who may take advantage of the MPCP. Both proposals make sense because they encourage parents to improve both their financial situation and the education of their children. Both proposals encourages parents to move up the economic ladder by ensuring that they will be able to choose the best school for their children and the job that pays the best.

Thank you very much for considering my opinion. I will be eagerly watching the outcome of this debate.

Sincerely  
Ms. Beverly K. Laske

My name is Bridget Robinson. I am currently a senior at Marquette University majoring in Sociology and Human Resource Management. Being the first in my family to attend college was probably my goal from birth. I always remember my mother and grandmother saying that, "Bridget was going to make it – she was going to be something". But unfortunately when it came time to applying for college and thinking about the expenses of college there was no trust fund, no savings, no money set aside to actually finance my college education.

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant allowed me to deal with the financial obligations of a higher education. Being a resident of Wisconsin I felt good knowing that the state had set aside money to fund the education of its children – this proves that we are valued. It's not simply a loan that we are obligated to pay back but it is an investment in our future. I think this says a lot about Wisconsin.

Many critics will say that working through college is the best way to pay for the expense of college. But in my personal situation, both my husband and I were attending college full time and trying to take care of our family. So any work outside of school was not only necessary but also essential for the care of our children. Therefore we greatly depended on student loans and grants to help us in the expense of our education.

It is my belief that students work harder when they know that someone or some entity is investing in them. It is such a privilege to know that there is somebody that believes in you and will continue to encourage you to do your best even when others have given up hope. The Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University had faith in our dreams and believed that everything that we wanted in life were possible if we worked hard and were dedicated to our goals. The financial advisor has been very helpful in educating students about the options available when college expenses arise. I feel very confident that I was always directed to the option that best fit my individual situation. When the Wisconsin Tuition Grant was identified as another form of financial assistance my goal of being the first in my family to graduate from college was that much more attainable. I think that eliminating the grant would take away the dreams of many students in my situation.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my story and to let my voice be heard.

*Bridget Robinson*

## SALLY RIDE ACADEMY

### Joint Finance Hearing Testimony

My name is Dr. Melinda DeCoriolis and I am here to speak in support of the Wisconsin Academy Staff Development Initiative (WASDI). I am the Sally Ride Academy Director which is part of the WASDI Academy Structure to provide up to date workshops for K-12 teachers in two sites in the Milwaukee Area. I want to thank Senator Shibilski for introducing a motion to add WASDI to the state budget to provide funding for the continuation of this very worthwhile statewide program.

WASDI has developed 365 Wisconsin teacher leaders who can help schools and students meet increasingly higher standards. All four of Wisconsin's Presidential Award winners this year are WASDI Lead Teachers. WASDI has just selected the 7th group who will begin their training in April of 2001. They are geographically distributed throughout Wisconsin leading and serving the schools and communities you represent.

The Wisconsin Academy Staff Development Initiative has been highly successful for the last six years in providing teachers throughout the Wisconsin with state of the art professional development in science, mathematics, and technology education.

WASDI received a six million-dollar National Science Foundation grant six years ago to develop teaching centers or Academies in up to ten sites around the state. This professional development program was modeled after the successful Cray Academy in Chippewa Falls, WI. This summer there will be 16 such Academies offered in Wisconsin.

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The program has been federally funded for the past seven years because it meets both critical national and state needs. Federal funding is ending so in order to keep this successful program operating in Wisconsin it is necessary to seek state funding. Please help support the Shibilski motion to continue this critical program. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

*Director: Melinda deCoriolis*

*Program Assistant: Jill Purvis*

**WISCONSIN  
ACADEMY**

*of Science, Arts & Letters*

Hello, my name is Kangbao Yang and I'm from Hmong American Friendship Association, Inc. I want to share with you the importance of the TANF budget towards our programs. We have over 15 programs serving over 400 Southeast Asian youth on an annual basis. These programs are crucial for the growth and success of Southeast Asian youth in our community.

It is an everyday challenge to adapt to a different culture. These programs provide our youth with an ease of transition while promoting pride in their culture and heritage. These programs are designed to create a healthy balance between the mainstream culture and the Hmong culture. Hmong children, like many other minorities, experience identity crisis. Although they look and were raised as a Hmong, they don't feel that they are Hmong because they couldn't be Hmong outside their home. When these issues don't get addressed, behavioral problems arises. And once that happens, everyone suffers from it. For example, tax is increased due to building new correctional facilities, car and home insurance

Dear Legislators:

We the undersigned, encourage you to support the proposals regarding the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. Two issues about which we are most concerned are raising the income limit from 175% to 185% of poverty for incoming families and; allowing families to remain in the program even if they receive slight increases in income.

Slight income changes occur that knock people out of the program and end up incurring a net loss of income and force children to bounce from one school to another, which all in education know is not good for a child's academic or social development.

Approving the budget the proposal before you today, and working to pass it at the time of a final vote will raise you as champions of parents' rights.

We are eagerly waiting for the final vote on these issues and hope that, "We can count on your vote."

Thank you for taking the time to consider our thoughts.

**Name**

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Jean Arnold 5445 W Forest Home Rd Milwaukee 53220

Lore Miles 728 North 116<sup>th</sup> Wauwatosa 53226

Jacy Bandkowski 2847 S 12<sup>th</sup> St Milwaukee WI 53215

Mary Mutza 566 W 24845 Diane Dr., Waukesha, WI 53189

Eileen Timm 3319 S 99<sup>th</sup> Ct Milw. WI 53227

Nancy Ann Behr 6330 W. Boehlke Ave Milw 53223

Joseph J Behr 6330 W. Boehlke Ave Milwaukee 53223

Alvin C. Peterson 40020 N. Hidden Barken Ct. 60002



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Lynn A. Berg 3270 So 85<sup>th</sup> St Milwaukee WI 53227

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Tim Labroda 491 Northgate St. Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Cretchen Bjork W149 N8235 Norman Dr. Menomonie Falls, WI 53051

Stella Ryz W149 N8235 Norman Dr. Menomonie Falls, WI 53051

Marge Melton 711 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St Milwaukee WI 53233

William Sawicki 3329 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St Milwaukee 53215

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Ken Hart 1117 Adrian Blvd, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Howard Bergat W184 S8536 Dean of Muskego WI 53150

PETER DREES 858 LAUREATE DR PEWAUKEE, WI 53072

William Kelly P.O. Box 344 OCONOMOC, WI 53066

Rich Caputo 4245 N. 83rd Milwaukee 53222

John Enders 2368 W. 88th Wauwatosa 53226

Joann Stevenson 2857 N 25th m.l. 53206

Dear Legislators:

We the undersigned, encourage you to support the budget proposals regarding the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. Although we are not residents of your state, we admire the courage of your legislature and educational leaders for taking the lead on an important issue of social justice and educational freedom. Children of parents with less income than others should not be held hostage to the bureaucratic decisions of displaced administrators when it comes to educational placement.

The election of President Bush, the implementation of choice programs in Florida and Cleveland, and the emergence of the Black Alliance for Educational Options are indications that the choice movement is gaining ground nationally. Your program affects education nationally and we eagerly watch your movements.

Approving the budget proposal before you today, and working to pass it at the time of a final vote will enshrine you as champions of parents and children exercising their choice of educational placements.

We eagerly await the final vote on the issue of school choice in your budget proposal and hope that the children and poor parents of Milwaukee and your state, "can count on your vote."

Thank you for taking the time to consider our thoughts.

**Name**

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Charles McCauley 7906 Yorktown Fort Sumner, FL AR 72903

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Bruce Moran - 317 E. Russett Way - Palatine, IL 60067

Michael Jones - 4437 Linden Rd. - Rockford, IL 61109

Barry Jeerghlin 879 Payne Ave St Paul MN 55101



7

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**Address**

- Michael James                      3221 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Chevy Chase, MD 20785
- Bruce Spahr                        300 North State Street, Chicago IL 60610
- Bruce Deane                        1624 Prospect Ave. Plainfield, NJ 07060
- S. Joan Ferruggiano                135 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Roselle, NJ 07068
- Mary Molliver                      4420-A Brigantine Blvd. Brigantine, NJ 08203
- Paul Galetto                         611 Center Ave. Richton, NJ 08350
- Helen Crawford                    7701 Cadet Rd. Machesney Park IL 61115

**Wisconsin PTA urges legislators to amend Governor McCallum's budget proposal to provide adequate funding for sound public education.**

### **Revenue Limits**

Wisconsin PTA opposes any freeze in the annual revenue cap adjustment.

Legislators need to make comprehensive school funding reform a priority in this legislative session to provide adequate funding for public education.

Immediate adjustments to revenue caps are needed in the interim.

### **SAGE**

PTA opposes the proposal to scale-back the SAGE program.

Wisconsin PTA believes that plans to reduce class size should continue to be implemented as originally planned, allowing all schools now participating to have small classes (15:1 student teacher ratio) in kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

PTA recommends that the \$36.3 million proposed increase vouchers and charter programs be invested in public schools to fully fund the proven SAGE program.

### **Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (Vouchers)**

PTA believes that public funds should be used to support public schools, where 90% of children are educated. We do not support any increase in funding for the MPCP Voucher program.

PTA recommends that the \$36.3 million slated increase for the voucher and charter programs be invested in public schools to fully fund the proven SAGE program.

If the state continues experimenting with the voucher model ALL schools receiving public tax dollars should be held to the same standards, student assessment requirements, hiring practices and data reporting. In addition, the funds for this should be taken from the state's General Purpose Revenue and not deducted from state school aids to local districts.

## **Special Education**

WI PTA recommends that the state budget proposal be amended to include sufficient funds to reimburse school districts for 50% of special education costs.

In addition, WI PTA recommends that local school districts receive an additional reimbursement when they have children whose special education costs are extraordinary. For these "high-cost" students the additional reimbursement should be 90% of the costs of services that exceed \$25,000 (three times the state average per pupil spending).

## **Students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)**

WI PTA recommends that the budget include funds to increase reimbursement for English as a Second Language Programs from 17% to 60% of costs incurred for all students with limited English proficiency.

## **Teacher Licensure**

Wisconsin PTA opposes changes to the current teacher licensure law. Wisconsin PTA advocates for the maintenance of high quality teacher education and certification requirements that include: subject matter preparation, design of instruction, the art of teaching and training in parent involvement.

Wisconsin PTA believes alternative certificate holders should be required to complete the necessary training to acquire a "regular certificate" and to monitor that process to insure completion in a timely manner.

Teachers with temporary or alternative certificates should be held to the same high standards as teachers with "regular certificates".

## **Responsibility for Education Evaluation and Accountability**

Wisconsin PTA opposes removing oversight for educational programs from the Department of Public Instruction. The relation between academic standards, curriculum, and assessment dictate that oversight of all these functions remain with one governmental agency.

The Department of Public Instruction, headed by an independently elected state superintendent, has the resources and skilled individuals to support education evaluation and assessment in Wisconsin. A politically appointed "Board" may not have what is in the best interest of children as it's top priority. We need to work to keep partisan politics out of this arena.

Testimony of Kristen O'Neill

Regarding SAGE on behalf of Milwaukee PTA and Milwaukee French Immersion School

My name is Kristen O'Neill. I am a member of Milwaukee PTA and most importantly a parent.

My daughter is in the K4 kindergarten program at the Milwaukee French Immersion School, one of the schools in Milwaukee that will be effected by the Governor's proposed budget. Milwaukee French Immersion is a SAGE school, a school which for K5 and first grade has classroom size of 15 students per teacher.

Next year the SAGE program won't be expanded into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, as was the plan with the program. The children who benefited from smaller class size this year as first graders won't have that same benefit next year. It is very troubling to me that the Governor would seek to halt the progress of this program. What is even more troubling is the fact that the SAGE program was designed to help children of poverty. The schools who participate in SAGE have populations of concentrated poverty and this program has successfully intervened for the many children who need more stability, extra help from teachers, and a more productive work space in which to learn and grow. It is a program that is working to give our poor child a better change to learn the skills necessary to advance from grade to grade with graduation as the ultimate goal. It is a program that is helping break the cycle of poverty that has existed for too long in our community.

Smaller class sizes give every student the opportunity for one on one learning, and provide teachers an optimal setting to teach students. It is a program that our state should be seeking to expand, even past 3<sup>rd</sup> grade as the current program is set up. The smaller class sizes can only continue to benefit our children if we continue to provide funding for the SAGE program. It is a program with a tremendous amount of advantages and deserves your support as you revise the budget. Please make the learning in our children's classrooms a priority, please work hard to continue and expand the SAGE program. It can mean the difference for success or failure for our children.



Dear Members of the Joint Finance Committee;

My name is Tina Johnson. I am the Milwaukee City Council PTA/PTSA Legislative Chairperson and was in Madison on last Wednesday as part of the group from Wisconsin PTA . I spoke about the voucher program.

Since then there has been much discussion around the question "Which school district/or districts should pay for the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program ?"

At a time when school districts across the State of Wisconsin are facing deficit situations, cutting budgets to the bone, eliminating teaching staff - considering a bill of this sort would be irresponsibly shifting the problem and not focusing on the real issue which is - the Milwaukee voucher program is negatively effecting the budgets of school districts all across the state. It is a *very expensive* program that serves *very few* Milwaukee school children.

Wisconsin PTA believes that the entire MPCP program needs to be examined. Financial accountability to stop overpayments\*, student achievement records to see if this program is really increasing academic performance, admission records to assure that ALL students are welcome and stay in the program (not "drop out" after 3rd Friday count).

All of these areas should be carefully examined and then legislation mandating that ALL schools receiving public tax dollars are held to the same standards, assessments, hiring and enrollment practices and data reporting should be implemented.

MPCP is the law in this state, but making sure ALL schools are held to the SAME standards will certainly go a long way in stopping the abuse of this program.

\* "Revenues, Expenditures and Taxpayers Subsidies In Milwaukee's Voucher Schools" by Nelson, Egan and Holmes (2000)

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Raida Kail	9413 W. Morgan Ave.
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<del>Ali</del>	4295 S. Whitnall Ave, Unit E
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Martha Ali 10026 W. Fond Du Lac Ave.  
~~Nahid~~ 3047 W. Green Ave.  
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~~Amir~~ 4257 S. Clement Ave.  
Mujahid Oshoff 1225 S. 35th St.  
Muhammad Ruffin 4925 S. Whitnall Ave, Unit F

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Rosemarie Rheinhardt 2956 N. 30th St.

INAS SAROUR 1554 W. Mallory Ave.

Ra. Abdullah 3067 W. Green Ave.

Ey. Okaj 9413 W. Morgan Ave.

Khadija S. Alway 2346A S. 9th St.

AMAL HAMED 5640 S. 25th St.

Mona Ewis 4835 S. 13th St., #5

~~Najata Dabir~~ 3716 W. Ramsay Ave.

Amin Amer 1408 W. Foster Ave.

Sahar Ali 6680 S. 20th St.

Rula Ali 1410 W. Edgerston Ave.

Mohamad. E. Ali 6680 S. 20th St.

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Jasem Jaha 4001 S. 70th St.

Mhadisah Yaghnam 1412 W. Edgerston Ave.

AWATEF MUNA 1411 W. Edgerston Ave, #H

Nizam B. Mhaid 4849 S. 13th St., #1

Straher K. Assad 1835 S. 25th St.

Nijmah Hamad 809 W. Maplewood St.

Wish ~~W~~ 1332 W. Arthur Ave.

~~Q~~ 3728 S. 43rd St., #19

Maryam Ahmed 4857 S. 13th St.

SALAM SCHOOL  
ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE  
4707 SOUTH 13TH STREET  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53221

NAME

ADDRESS

~~Hassan Saleh~~ 4239 S. Whitnall Ave.

JAMAL Silmi 4401 W. Lisbon Ave.

~~Abdulhaleed~~ 5669 S. 24th St.

Mehedi. 4873 S. 14th St.

Mabtah Abdallah 5562 N. Maryland St.

Fatmeh Saleh 4261 S. Clement Ave.

Hana Munnir 1651 F W. Edgerton Ave.

Neamah. MOHAMMAD 2312 W. College Ave.

Ruqiya Mohamed 4834 S. 22nd St.

Dean Fattman 4609 N. Teutonia

Mehdi Almeusa 1403 W. Klein Ave.

Faura Muna 1805 S. 12th St.

Yusuf Muhammad 4849 S. 13th St., #3

Salih Howard 1988 S. Muskego Ave.

SALAM SCHOOL  
ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE  
4707 SOUTH 13TH STREET  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53221



## Petition

We, the undersigned, are signing this petition in favor of raising the income level of the Choice Program to allow choice students to continue their education in the same choice program. We are in favor to support legislation that says, "Once you're in, you're in."

	Name	Address	Tel. No.	Dates
1	Teresa Moran	2533 S. 15TH PL	645-72-04	4-2-00
2	Romeo Dominguez	1804 S 24TH ST	389-90-07	4-2-01
3	MIGUELA FLORES	1804 S. 24TH ST	389-90-07	4-2-01
4	Bethzaida Albina	_____	_____	4-2-01
5	Magaly Torres	_____	_____	4-2-01
6	Elizabeth Vazquez	2671 S 9ST	647-1108	4-2-01
7	Mary Jane Urbina	2810 S. 15 <sup>th</sup> St #2	385-0783	4/3/01
8	Georgina Perez	2544 AS 15 ST	647-0754	4/3/01
9	Sara Mustak	1708 S. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St.	649-0451	4/3/01
10	Jose Angel Rios	1655 S Michell	_____	4/3/01
11	Javier Bernal	2521 S 13th Apt B	384-09-06	4/3/01
12	Lisa Lembeck	432 E. Bay St	486-0496	4/3/01
13	Carolyn Calk	1955 S. 5 <sup>th</sup> St #2	231-5858	4/3/01
14	Teresa Contreras	3154 A S. 9 Pl.	483 9437	4/3/01
15	Ludvina Lizardo	2439 S 12TH	389-9093	4/3/01
16	Silvia Ramirez	2440 S. 15 ST	389-62-03	4/3/01
17	MICHAEL AVILA	1978A S. 13 <sup>th</sup> ST	672-4083	4-3-01
18	Rudolf Amador	2025 S. 16 <sup>th</sup> ST	_____	4-3-01
19	En Espak	1902 S. 8 <sup>th</sup> St	604-7004	4-3-01
20	Maria Schaub	1465 S. 15 <sup>th</sup> Pl.	647-0153	4-3-01
21	Nijia Villafuerte	2468 A S 18TH ST	389-1715	4-3-01
22	Sharon M. Mann	1413 W. Harrison	_____	4-3-01
23	Latosha Smiler	840 N. 24th	933-9144	4-3-01
24	Anne L. Blomness	2048 B S. 25 <sup>th</sup> ST.	647-0729	4-3-01
25	Juanito Torres	2482 S. 9th	445-1409	4-3-01
26	Lidia Gonzalez	3044 S 9TH ST	_____	4-3-01
27	Veronica Rocha	2643 S 13 <sup>th</sup> st apt 1	_____	4-3-01
28	Janie J. Park	2428 S. 13 <sup>th</sup> st	645-0784	4-3-01
29	Cindy Schneider	2055 S. 14 <sup>th</sup> ST	389 0226	4-3-01
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	Name	Address	Tel. No.	Date
1	Luz E DeBorja	1030 S 305th	384-3034	4/2/01
2	Michelle Kuhlman	924-A W Hayes Ave	647-8212	4/2/01
3	Rebecca Motta	2020 S 17th St	464-4267	4-2-01
4	MURVA DIXON	1632 A W FOREST HOME	383-0848	4-2-01
5	Anne Deiter	1567 S. 9th St.	384-7135	4-2-01
6	Sonia Olmos	2512 S. 9th PL	384-5656	4-2-01
7	Teresa Miller	1416 W. Harrison Ave	647-1394	4-2-01
8	Connie Mars	1566 S. 25th St.	384-6161	4-2-01
9	DeAnn Sogard	2530 S. 15th PL	383-7901	4-2-01
10	Elizabeth Lencica	2333 S 11th St	643-6340	4-2-01
11	Mary Blaha	2121 W. Bolivar Ave #1	281-8841	4-2-01
12	Tanya Ironco	1552 W Windlake	643-7557	4-2-01
13	Rayette Ramirez	2936 A S. 15th Pl	383-6918	4/2/01
14	Paula Fuchsack	1413 W. Grant St	649-9295	4/2/01
15	Yolanda Hays	1030 S. 25th St	383-9319	4/2/01
16	Dwight A Brown <sup>55</sup>	520 A. West Lake Ave	384-4650	2/12/01
17	Pauline Hoaglan	1930 S 26th St	384-2186	2-2-01
18	Virginia Muro	1558 A W Windlake Ave	647-6754	4-1-01
19	Raquel Ramirez	2488 S. 18th St	649-0192	4/2/01
20	Andrea Miller	3016 S Harrison Ave	482-2213	4-2-01
21	Judy Thompson	1965 S. 15th Place	647-0153	4-2-01
22	Christ Castillo	2263 S 4th St	(414)672-1899	4/2/01
23	Sandra De Luna	1931 S. 20th St.	(414)389-1346	4/2/01
24	CING. ROC. KAPALCANG	2811 S 5th Street	—	4/2/01
25	Francisca Costello	1128 W Maple	414 3837466	4/2/01
26	Sandra Medina	3563 S 22nd St	281-7681	4/2/01
27	Carolyn Rosado	2124 S. 15th St.	383-7993	4-2-01
28	Maria Guila	2533 A 15th Pl	389-9268	4-2-01
29	Armando Sanchez	1632 S. 18 St.	645-8709	4-2-01
30	Mevia Robles	879 B. Windlake	672-9412	4-2-01

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Date 04-04-01

	Name	Address	Tel. No.	School
1	Shannon Haggerty	1730 S. 25 St.	389-9268	Parkside Elementary
2	Maria Morales	1005 W. Maple St	647-2897	Parkside Ele.
3	Francisco Xunero	7440 S-15-CB	384-6203	Park Side
4	Julio J. Sanchez	2545 STH-TH	384-4981	Parkside
5	Sara Xunero	2512 S. 14 St	645-8468	Park side
6	Ronald Xunero	7354 Hawaii	487-0971	Parkside
7	Anna D. Ray	1239 S 6th St	384-7867	Park side
8	Veronica Ramirez	1917 S. 19th St.	672-0250	Parkside
9	Wanda Remy	955 W. Karata	795-4472	Parkside
10	Quin Xunero	1009 S. 30 St	384-5121	
11	<del>Frank B.</del>	121 W. Henry Clay	967-1592	WFB
12	<del>John J.</del>	1311 E. Kane Pl	221-8167	
13	<del>Dan Stahl</del>			
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