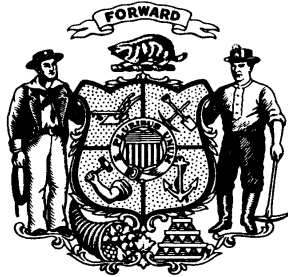


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**DRAFT LETTER NO. 17**

December 17, 2012

Mr. Jim Rickabaugh  
CESA 1  
N25 W23131 Paul Road, Suite 100  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Dear Mr. Rickabaugh:

We are writing in our capacity as Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Improving Educational Opportunities in High School. The Special Committee is directed to develop legislation to create and enhance opportunities for both lower and higher achieving students in high school. Specifically, the Special Committee is required to evaluate current options available to high school students for both career and technical education and post-secondary enrollment, including the Youth Options Program; examine both career and technical education and post-secondary enrollment options available to high school students in other states; and determine how to promote coordination between high schools, technical colleges, universities, and employers to ensure that high school students have the skills necessary to meet the workforce needs of employers in this state.

The Special Committee has heard testimony and had numerous discussions regarding the lack of technical education courses and work-based opportunities for high school students. As agencies that provide coordination and education services to school districts, University of Wisconsin System institutions and technical colleges, CESAs are in a unique position to serve as regional centers to provide information and assistance to school districts regarding technical education opportunities for high school students.

Therefore, the Special Committee encourages you to continue to increase your efforts to facilitate communication among school districts and post-secondary institutions regarding technical education opportunities available to high school students. In addition, the Special Committee urges you to explore ways in which your CESA could offer technical education courses to high school students in your region.

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<http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>



Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

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Senator Luther Olsen, Chair  
Special Committee on Improving  
Educational Opportunities in High School

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Representative Paul Farrow, Vice Chair  
Special Committee on Improving  
Educational Opportunities in High School

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