

**Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
Summary of 2017 Act 59
Final 2017-19 Biennial Budget with Vetoes**

**Provisions Related to
Elementary and Secondary Education and
State Agency Operations**

**Prepared by the Policy and Budget Team
Department of Public Instruction**



October 2017

**Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
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This publication is available from:

POLICY AND BUDGET TEAM
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125 South Webster Street
Madison, WI 53703

608-266-2804

<http://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget>

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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

APPROPRIATIONS

GPR: Appropriations financed from general purpose revenues available in the state's general fund.

FED: Appropriations financed from federal revenues.

PR: Appropriations financed from program revenues, such as user fees or product sales.

PR-O: Appropriations financed from revenue generated from agency operations (Program Revenue-Operations).

PR-S: Appropriations financed from funds transferred between or within state agencies for the purpose of reimbursement for services or materials (Program Revenue-Service).

SEG: Appropriations financed from segregated revenues.

OTHER

FY: Fiscal Year, for example: FY18 means the 2017-18 state fiscal year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

FTE: Full-Time Equivalent Position

FY17 Base: The total FY17 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY17 appropriations, pay plan modifications and any other supplements. It is this base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for the 2017-19 biennium.

JOINT FINANCE: Legislative Joint Committee on Finance

NOTES:

- If the Governor denied the agency's request and the provisions were not subsequently included by the Joint Committee on Finance or the Legislature, the last entry for an item will be "**GOVERNOR**" and indicate that the agency request was denied.
- Where an item indicates "**GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE**" as the last entry, the Joint Committee on Finance included the same provisions as the Governor and there were no further modifications to the provisions under that item by the Legislature or the Governor's vetoes.
- This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs that are included in the Department's 2017-19 biennial budget request, the Governor's budget proposal, the budget as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance, and the final biennial budget as signed by the Governor (reflecting the Governor's vetoes), under 2017 Act 59. The Department's full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/biennial-budget/current>.

Biennial Budget Timeline

- **November 10, 2016** – the Department of Public Instruction submits its full biennial budget request (part I of the request for agency operations was submitted on September 15, 2016)
- **February 8, 2017** – Governor Walker’s biennial budget proposal is introduced as AB 64 (budget bill)
- **September 6, 2017** – the Joint Committee on Finance concludes executive action on the budget bill (introduced as Assembly Substitute Amendment [ASA] 1 to AB 64)
- **September 13, 2017** – the budget bill passes the Assembly
- **September 15, 2017** – the budget bill passes the Senate
- **September 21, 2017** – the Governor signs the budget bill, with partial vetoes, as 2017 Act 59
- **September 22, 2017** – 2017 ACT 59 is published
- **September 23, 2017** – 2017 Act 59 is generally effective (specific provisions have delayed effective or initial applicability dates, as specified in Act 59)

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Summary of State School Aids and Tax Credits under 2017 Act 59

Categorical Aid Programs (GPR unless noted otherwise)	FY17 - Base	FY18	FY19	Total Change to Base	Change to Base Year Doubled
Special Education Aid	\$ 368,939,100	\$ 368,939,100	\$ 368,939,100	\$ -	0.0%
Per Pupil Aid	\$ 210,992,800	\$ 378,180,000	\$ 549,098,400	\$ 505,292,800	119.7%
Achievement Gap Reduction (formerly SAGE)	\$ 109,184,500	\$ 109,184,500	\$ 109,184,500	\$ -	0.0%
Pupil Transportation Aid	\$ 23,954,000	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 92,000	0.2%
Sparsity Aid	\$ 17,674,000	\$ 18,496,200	\$ 18,759,300	\$ 1,907,500	5.4%
Bilingual-Bicultural Aid	\$ 8,589,800	\$ 8,589,800	\$ 8,589,800	\$ -	0.0%
Special Education-High Cost ("Additional") Aid	\$ 8,500,000	\$ 9,239,000	\$ 9,353,800	\$ 1,592,800	9.4%
Tuition Payments	\$ 8,242,900	\$ 8,242,900	\$ 8,242,900	\$ -	0.0%
High Cost Transportation Aid	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 12,700,000	\$ 12,700,000	\$ 10,400,000	69.3%
Head Start Supplement Grant	\$ 6,264,100	\$ 6,264,100	\$ 6,264,100	\$ -	0.0%
Educator Effectiveness Grant	\$ 5,746,000	\$ 5,746,000	\$ 5,746,000	\$ -	0.0%
School Lunch Match	\$ 4,218,100	\$ 4,218,100	\$ 4,218,100	\$ -	0.0%
Aid for CCDEB's	\$ 4,067,300	\$ 4,067,300	\$ 4,067,300	\$ -	0.0%
School Breakfast Grants	\$ 2,510,500	\$ 2,510,500	\$ 2,510,500	\$ -	0.0%
Special Education-Supplemental Aid	\$ 1,750,000	\$ 1,750,000	\$ 1,750,000	\$ -	0.0%
Peer Review & Mentoring Grant	\$ 1,606,700	\$ 1,606,700	\$ 1,606,700	\$ -	0.0%
4K Start Up Grants	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,350,000	\$ -	0.0%
TEACH Debt Service	\$ 1,033,300	\$ 911,400	\$ 1,000,600	\$ (154,600)	-7.5%
School Day Milk Aid	\$ 617,100	\$ 617,100	\$ 617,100	\$ -	0.0%
Transportation Aid for OE/CO/ECCP	\$ 434,200	\$ 454,200	\$ 454,200	\$ 40,000	4.6%
Robotics League Participation Grant	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ -	0.0%
Gifted and Talented Grant	\$ 237,200	\$ 237,200	\$ 237,200	\$ -	0.0%
SAGE-Debt Service	\$ 133,700	\$ 133,700	\$ 133,700	\$ -	0.0%
Spec Educ.-Transition Incentive Grant	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,700,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 6,100,000	3050.0%
Supplemental Aid for Large Area District	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	0.0%
Transportation Aid for YO	\$ 17,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (34,800)	-100.0%
Personal Electronic Computing Device Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,187,500	\$ 9,187,500	n/a
School Performance Improvement Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,690,600	\$ 3,690,600	n/a
Mental Health Collaboration Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,250,000	\$ 3,250,000	n/a
Mental Health Categorical Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	n/a
Spec Educ-Transition Readiness Investment Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	n/a
Summer School Programs Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,400,000	n/a
Information Technology Education Grant	\$ -	\$ 875,000	\$ 875,000	\$ 1,750,000	n/a
Consolidation Aid (no funds allocated in 2017-19)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	n/a
GPR Categorical Aids	\$ 794,012,700	\$ 971,362,800	\$ 1,165,676,400	\$ 549,013,800	34.6%
Tribal Languages (PR)	\$ 222,800	\$ 222,800	\$ 222,800	\$ -	0.0%
Aid for AODA (PR)	\$ 1,284,700	\$ 1,284,700	\$ 1,284,700	\$ -	0.0%
PR Categorical Aids	\$ 1,507,500	\$ 1,507,500	\$ 1,507,500	\$ -	0.0%
School Library Aids (SEG)	\$ 38,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 37,000,000	\$ (4,000,000)	-5.3%
Telecom Access; Educational Agencies (SEG)*	\$ 10,105,100	\$ 21,984,200	\$ 15,984,200	\$ 19,258,200	95.3%
SEG Categorical Aids	\$ 48,105,100	\$ 56,984,200	\$ 52,984,200	\$ 15,258,200	15.9%
Total Categorical Aids	\$ 843,625,300	\$ 1,029,854,500	\$ 1,220,168,100	\$ 564,272,000	33.4%
General Aids					
General Equalization Aids	\$ 4,584,098,000	\$ 4,584,098,000	\$ 4,656,848,000	\$ 72,750,000	0.8%
High Poverty Aid	\$ 16,830,000	\$ 16,830,000	\$ 16,830,000	\$ -	0.0%
Total General Aids	\$ 4,600,928,000	\$ 4,600,928,000	\$ 4,673,678,000	\$ 72,750,000	0.8%
Total State School Aids	\$ 5,444,553,300	\$ 5,630,782,500	\$ 5,893,846,100	\$ 635,522,000	5.8%
School Levy/First Dollar Tax Credits*	\$ 1,003,000,000	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ 174,000,000	8.7%
Total School Aids & Credits	\$ 6,447,553,300	\$ 6,720,782,500	\$ 6,983,846,100	\$ 809,522,000	6.3%
State Residential Schools	\$ 11,237,900	\$ 10,918,900	\$ 10,918,900	\$ (638,000)	-2.8%
Total State Support	\$ 6,458,791,200	\$ 6,731,701,400	\$ 6,994,765,000	\$ 808,884,000	6.3%

*A portion of the Telecom Access funds will be allocated to entities other than schools and CESAs.

The amount for schools and CESAs is assumed to remain constant, at \$10,105,100 in FY18 and FY19.

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GENERAL SCHOOL AIDS

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State Superintendent Evers submitted the Fair Funding for Our Future: School Finance Reform package as part of his 2017-19 biennial budget request. The package was made up of various items within both the general school aids and revenue limits subsections of this summary. For a complete review of Fair Funding for Our Future, please visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/budget/fairfunding>

General Equalization Aids

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$102,254,000 GPR in FY18 and \$422,902,000 GPR in FY19 to fund general equalization aids for public school districts in Wisconsin and implement the State Superintendent’s “Fair Funding for Our Future” (Fair Funding) school finance reform formula changes.
- The amounts reflect increases to all general school aids of 2.2 percent and 6.6 percent annually, over the biennium. [**Note:** these amounts exclude \$1,003,000,000 GPR that would be transferred from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$853,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000), to the General Equalization Aid formula for FY19, because that amount would be appropriated in FY20. See “School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits” item, below.]
- Request to modify the school aid formula to:
 - Include a 20 percent weighing factor for income/poverty for pupils who meet the criteria for free and reduced price lunch eligibility;
 - Raise the secondary cost ceiling from 90 percent to 100 percent of the statewide average shared cost per pupil;
 - Adjust the Special Adjustment Aid eligibility threshold from 85 percent to 90 percent of the prior year state general aid amount; and
 - Provide for minimum state general aid of \$3,000 per pupil.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request under Fair Funding for Our Future.
- Provide \$72,750,000 GPR in FY19 to increase funding for general equalization aids.

General Equalization Aids-Hold Harmless

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$6,000,000 GPR in FY19 to fund a new hold harmless provision for the 25 to 26 districts that would not do better under the Fair Funding model (compared to current law, accounting for the School Levy Tax Credit amounts). This appropriation would be sum sufficient to ensure that no district receives less state general aid under the Fair Funding model than it would have under current law.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Aid for High Poverty Districts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to maintain High Poverty Aid base funding for FY18, and to eliminate the program in FY19 and transfer the base level funding of \$16.8 million GPR into the general equalization aids appropriation as part of the Fair Funding for our Future proposal.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request (maintain base funding at \$16,800,000 annually).

School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to transfer the \$1,003,000,000 GPR combined from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$853,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000) into general equalization aids beginning with the FY19 state aid payments. However, since the current SLTC and FDC are paid to municipalities in the subsequent state fiscal year, the general equalization aids appropriation [s. 20.255 (2) (ac), Wis. Stats.] will not reflect the transfer until FY20.
- The Department proposes to have the SLTC and FDC amount paid to school districts from the FY20 appropriation but reflected as a FY19 general equalization aid payment (as is \$75 million in delayed general aid payments that are distributed to districts in July, but counted as revenue in the just ended fiscal year, under current law).

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request to transfer funding from the SLTC and the FDC to general aids for schools.
- Increase the amount appropriated for the SLTC by \$87,000,000 GPR, beginning in FY19, raising the amount provided under the SLTC to \$1,090,000,000. Because the SLTC is paid to municipalities in the subsequent state fiscal year, the \$87,000,000 increase in the SLTC would first be counted toward support for K-12 schools for the 2017-18 school year (FY18), though appropriated in FY19. Thus, under the Governor's budget proposal, total support for K-12 schools reflects the additional \$87,000,000 beginning in FY18.

REVENUE LIMITS

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Revenue Limit per Pupil

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment to \$200 per pupil in FY18 and \$204 per pupil in FY19.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request (no adjustment to the per pupil revenue limit amount in FY18 and FY19).

Low Revenue Adjustment

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to modify the current law low-revenue adjustment threshold of \$9,100 per pupil by phasing in the increase, to \$9,500 in FY18 and then \$9,900 in FY19.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the request (maintain the low-revenue ceiling threshold at \$9,100 in FY18, FY19, and thereafter).

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase the low revenue adjustment under revenue limits from the current law \$9,100 per pupil to \$9,300 per pupil in FY18, \$9,400 per pupil in FY19, \$9,500 per pupil in FY20, \$9,600 per pupil in FY21, \$9,700 per pupil in FY22, and \$9,800 per pupil in FY23 and each year thereafter.

GOVERNOR'S VETO:

- Veto the provisions, so as to maintain the low revenue ceiling at \$9,100 in FY18, FY19, and thereafter.

Counting Pupils for Summer School

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to modify the current law to allow school districts to count 100 percent of their summer Full Time Equivalent (FTE) pupils in the revenue limit membership calculation.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Energy Efficiency Exemption

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Beginning with the effective date of the bill, prohibit school districts from increasing their school district revenue limit for energy efficiency projects under the current law Energy Efficiency exemption process (which requires approval of resolution by the school board, rather than approval by the electorate via ballot). School districts would continue to have the ability to use referenda for energy efficiency projects.

See "[Focus on Energy](#)" under the Public Service Commission, in "[Appendix A – ITEMS IN OTHER STATE AGENCIES](#)".

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor’s recommendation, by prohibiting school boards from adopting a resolution to utilize the Energy Efficiency revenue limit exemption between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- The Governor’s partial veto results in a prohibition against school boards considering a resolution to utilize this adjustment after December 31, 2017, until after December 3018, effectively eliminating the authority of a school board to consider a resolution after December 31, 2017 and into the foreseeable future.

Scheduling of School District Referenda

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Limit school district referenda to exceed revenue limits and to issue bonds to being only on regularly-scheduled election days (spring primary or general election, or fall partisan primary or general election) and on the second Tuesday of November in odd-numbered years (*no regularly scheduled election*).
- Specify that districts would be restricted to calling a referenda to just two dates per calendar year.
- Specify that, for a school district that has experienced a natural disaster, including a fire, that causes the school district’s costs to increase, a district could call a special referendum to be held within the six-month period immediately following the natural disaster, provided the special referendum would be held not sooner than 70 days after the adoption of the initial resolution. Specify that a referendum held after a natural disaster would not count towards the two-date limit or be limited to the dates specified above.
- Specify that these provisions would apply to school board resolutions to exceed revenue limits or issue bonds that are adopted after January 1, 2018.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Eliminate the authority for a school district to call a referendum on the second Tuesday of November in odd-numbered years (*when there is no regularly scheduled election*); thus, school districts could hold referenda only on regularly scheduled election dates.

Computer Aid

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Sunset the current law formula for calculating computer aid payments after the payments for the 2016(17) property tax year are made in July, 2017. [Computer aid received by a school district serves as an offset to that district’s general fund (Fund 10) levy.] Set future aid payments as follows:
 - For July 2018 only, equal to the July 2017 payment increased by 1.47 percent.
 - For July 2019 only, equal to the 2018 payment increased by the change in the inflation rate, as defined in the bill; only jurisdictions that received aid in 2018 would continue to receive aid.
 - For each year thereafter, equal to the 2019 aid payment amount.

- Payments made to a municipality on behalf of a tax increment district created by the municipality will continue to be made to the municipality after the tax increment district is terminated.
- Repeal the current law provisions related to annual filing of a return with the local assessor or the Department of Revenue (DOR) that reports the value of the exempt property, as well as related provisions regarding penalties for failure to file returns, DOR's calculation of manufacturing values, and DOR's resolution of disputes related to the taxability of property.
- Modify current law related to the equalized value of technical college districts and school districts to refer to the value of computers used for the aid determination in July 2017.
- Increase estimated payments by \$3,257,800 in FY18 and \$2,325,600 in FY19. Total aid payments are estimated at \$94,270,000 and \$95,660,000, respectively.

Aid for Exempt Personal Property

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Exempt machinery, tools, and patterns, not including such items considered manufacturing property under current law, from the property tax effective with property assessed as of January 1, 2018 [the 2018(19) property tax levy].
- Create a new state aid program administered by DOR to make payments to each local taxing jurisdiction, including tax increment districts, that imposed property taxes on machinery, tools, and patterns that was not manufacturing property in 2017(18).
- Create a sum sufficient appropriation to make the aid payments; estimate total payments at \$74,400,000 annually, beginning in FY19.
- For purposes of the aid payment, set each jurisdiction's payment equal to the amount of property taxes levied in the 2017(18) property tax year by that jurisdiction on personal property assessed as non-manufacturing machinery, tools, and patterns as of January 1, 2017. Discontinue payments to tax increment districts in the year after the district closes.
- Payments would remain at the initial payment amount in future years, except total payments would decrease somewhat as tax increment districts that receive payments are closed.
- Include the state aid payment in the calculation of county and municipal levy limits, **school revenue limits**, and technical college district revenue limits. Modify current law provisions related to school finance to include references to the aid payment in the definitions of net cost and state aid. [This new aid would therefore act as an offset to a school district's general fund (Fund 10) levy, as with computer aid.]
- Require each municipality to report the information necessary to administer the new aid program to DOR. Authorize DOR to require local taxing jurisdictions to report any other information it considers necessary to administer the aid payment in the time and manner determined by DOR.
- In 2019, require the Department of Administration (DOA), upon certification from DOR, to make payments to local taxing jurisdictions on or before the first Monday in May.

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CATEGORICAL AIDS

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Per Pupil Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$18,752,000 GPR in FY18 and \$18,752,000 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected aid amounts under the Per Pupil Aid program, and to reflect the Department's proposed use of a weighting mechanism within the Per Pupil Aid formula. The proposed weighting would target aid increases to school districts with pupils who fall into the following three demographic categories: economically disadvantaged (ED) pupils, English learner (EL) pupils, and pupils in foster care placements (FC pupils). Under the Department's proposal, a 20 percent weight would be applied to each pupil that satisfies one or all of the criteria specified above, up to a total additional weight of 60 percent.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the Department's proposed weighting mechanism.
- Provide an increase to the Per Pupil Aid in the amount \$188 in FY18 and \$380 in FY19 (total per pupil payments of \$438 in FY18 and \$630 in FY19).
- Provide for a Per Pupil Aid Supplemental Payment in the amount of \$12 per pupil in FY18 and \$24 in FY19. This additional amount of aid is contingent on the state lapsing funds from the state's Compensation Reserve as a result of the state moving to a self-insurance model for providing health care coverage to state employees. (Funding for this supplemental payment is reflected in the appropriation figures above.)
- Condition the receipt of the additional and supplemental Per Pupil Aid amounts on the following:
 - Require school districts to certify to the Department that employees of the school district will be required to pay at least 12 percent of all costs associated with employee health care coverage plans in that school year.
 - Require school boards to submit a statement certifying that the additional and supplemental Per Pupil Aid amounts will be distributed by the school board to the school administrator of a school, in an amount equal to the average number of pupils enrolled in the current and to preceding school years multiplied by the respective per pupil increase in each school year.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide that the payment would increase from \$250 per pupil in FY17 to \$450 per pupil in FY18 and \$654 per pupil in FY19. The appropriation is reestimated at \$167,187,200 GPR in FY18 and \$338,105,600 in FY19.
- Specify that the payment would be \$630 per pupil in FY20 and annually thereafter.
- Delete the Governor's recommendations relating to school district certifications on the distribution of per pupil aid to schools in the district as well as employees paying at least 12 percent of employee health care coverage plan costs.
- Require districts to report annually to the Department of Administration (DOA) regarding employee health care, including health care plan design, premium contributions, self-insurance contributions, deductibles, copays, coinsurance, and other methods by which employees contribute to health care costs. Require DOA to report this information annually to the Joint Finance Committee and appropriate standing committees of the Legislature.

Mental Health: Expanding Access and Improving Services

Mental Health Categorical Aid Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$3,000,000 GPR beginning in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program to support school district and independent charter schools in the provision and expansion of mental health services, by reimbursing school districts for expenditures on social worker services (district employees or contracted services).

GOVERNOR:

- Approve agency request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Expand the program to allow private schools participating in a parental choice private school program to be eligible for the aid program and specify that private schools would be subject to the same reporting and other requirements as public schools.

School-Based Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,500,000 GPR beginning in FY19 to create a new grant program. Under this new grant program, the Department would award grants to school districts and operators of independent charter schools, to be used for the purpose of providing mental health services to pupils, in collaboration with community health agencies. Strategies may include co-locating community mental health clinics in schools and providing screening and intervention services. The Department would be provided authority to promulgate rules for this new program.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve agency request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase funding by \$750,000 GPR, so as to provide \$3,250,000 beginning in FY19. Replace the language in the Governor's proposal with specific provisions that require the Department to:
 - Establish and administer a competitive grant program to award grants to school districts and operators of independent charter schools, to be used for the purpose of providing mental health services to pupils, in collaboration with community health agencies.
 - Permit school boards and independent charter schools to apply for a grant individually or as a consortium of school boards, charter schools, or both, and that Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs) could be considered a consortium of school boards.
 - Promulgate rules (including emergency rules) for the program that include specific provisions related to billing the Medical Assistance (MA) program and health insurance where applicable, seeking out funding from other sources to offset costs not covered by MA or health insurance, and additional application criteria.
- Require the State Superintendent to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations to the Department about the criteria used to award grants under the administrative rule. The committee would terminate upon publication of the permanent rule unless the State Superintendent elects to continue the committee. Specify that the committee must include the following members:

- A current or retired school administrator;
- An individual who holds a teaching or pupil services license issued by the Department;
- A mental health services provider or a representative of an association representing mental health service providers;
- A family member of a pupil who is receiving or may receive mental health services;
- A representative of a school board or an independent charter school.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Eliminate the specific requirements added by the Joint Committee regarding the criteria to be included in the administrative rule (but preserve the requirement to promulgate a rule and authority to utilize the emergency rule process).
- Eliminate the requirement that the State Superintendent establish an advisory committee.

See also [“Mental Health Training Support”](#) under [“AGENCY ADMINISTRATION and AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS”](#)

Investing in Rural Schools

Sparsity Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$672,200 GPR in FY18 and \$935,300 in FY19 to fully fund estimated eligible costs for the Sparsity Aid categorical grant program under current law (\$300 per member for districts up to 745 members and fewer than 10 members per square mile).
- Request \$3,173,500 GPR in FY18 and \$2,981,100 in FY19 to create a second tier of eligibility within the Sparsity Aid categorical grant program, to expand eligibility to school districts that have sparse pupil populations and a general aid membership between 746 and 1,000 (\$100 per member in this tier).
- Remove the current law provision that directs the Department to provide aid to school districts that were eligible for Sparsity Aid in the prior year, but lost eligibility due to membership exceeding the 745 member criteria, if unencumbered funds remain in the appropriation after aid is distributed to all eligible school districts. The creation of the second tier of eligibility would eliminate the need for this “hold harmless” provision under current law.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request to create a second tier of eligibility for school districts that have sparse pupil populations (fewer than 10 members/square mile) and a general aid membership of 746 up to 1,000 (\$100 per member in this tier); remove the current law “hold harmless” provision.
- Provide \$9,961,100 GPR in FY18 and \$10,119,500 in FY19 to fully fund estimated eligible aid amounts for districts that meet current law criteria, at \$400 per pupil (an increase of \$100 per pupil from current law); and for estimated aid payments at the newly created second tier of eligibility.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the Governor’s recommendation to increase sparsity aid from \$300 to \$400 per pupil and to create a second tier of eligibility at \$100 per member.
- Specify that any district that qualified for sparsity aid in one year but did not qualify the following year would receive 50 percent of its prior year award in the year in which it became ineligible for sparsity aid

and provide \$150,000 GPR annually for these payments (within the existing appropriation for Sparsity Aid).

- Reduce funding under the bill by \$9,138,900 GPR in FY18 and \$9,034,200 GPR in FY19.
- Specify that in the school year in which a school district consolidation takes place and each of the subsequent four school years, the consolidated district would receive sparsity aid equal to not less than 50 percent of the aggregate amount of sparsity aid received by the consolidating school districts in the school year prior to the year in which the consolidation takes effect (under Consolidation Aid Program motion).

Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase to the reimbursement rate for pupils transported over 12 miles from \$300 to \$365 per pupil beginning in FY18.
- Request an increase to the reimbursement rate for pupils transported between 2 and 5 miles to and from summer school classes, from \$4 to \$10 per pupil; and for pupils transported over 5 miles to and from summer school classes, from \$6 to \$20 per pupil.
- Request \$46,000 GPR in FY18 and in FY19 to fully fund estimated eligible costs for the pupil transportation aid program.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Approve the request.

High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,000,000 GPR in FY18 and \$5,000,000 GPR in FY19 to increase the reimbursement rate for high cost transportation aid from 60.4 percent (in FY16) to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Request \$200,000 GPR in FY18 and \$200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a “stop gap” mechanism under which a school district would be eligible for an aid payment equal to 50 percent of its prior year aid award if the district received aid in the prior fiscal year, but lost eligibility in the current year because its transportation cost per member ceased to exceed 150 percent of the statewide average cost per member. This would be a one-time payment for eligible districts and the districts’ eligibility for High Cost Transportation Aid would be redetermined in the following year.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request. [*Note: the Administration has indicated in the budget errata letter that the intent was to include the proposed stop gap mechanism as part of the Governor’s proposal.*]

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor’s recommendation to create a stop-gap measure (as proposed by the Department), identified by the Administration in the budget errata letter, that would provide any district that qualified for high cost transportation aid in one year but did not qualify the following year with aid equal to 50 percent of its prior year award in the year in which it became ineligible. Specify that the sum of all payments under this 50 percent of the prior year provision could not exceed \$200,000, and that the State Superintendent could prorate these payments if necessary.

- Modify the current law program criteria so that districts would receive aid if, on a per member basis, the district's transportation costs are above 145 percent, rather than 150 percent, of the statewide average.

Aid for Transportation – Open Enrollment and Course Options

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,165,800 GPR in FY18 and \$2,264,800 GPR in FY19 to fully fund state aids for claims submitted by families related to the costs of transportation for pupils participating in the state's Open Enrollment or Course Options programs.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request for additional funding.
- Rename the appropriation "Aid for Transportation – Open Enrollment and Early College Credit". *See the item "[Early College Credit Program](#)" under the section "[OPEN ENROLLMENT AND EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAMS](#)".*
- The new appropriation amount (\$454,200 GPR annually) is the sum of the FY17 base for Open Enrollment/Course Options transportation aid and Youth Options transportation aid, increased by \$2,600 annually (the amount the Department had requested for the Aid for Transportation – Youth Options program; see below).
- Modify the language to reflect that aid would be paid from this appropriation to parents/guardians (as eligible) for the costs of transporting pupils enrolled under Open Enrollment or attending a course at an institution of higher education and receiving high school credit under the Early College Credit Program.
- For more information, see the item "[Early College Credit Program](#)" under the section "[OPEN ENROLLMENT AND EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAMS](#)".

Aid for Transportation – Youth Options

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,600 GPR in FY18 and FY19 to fully fund state aids for claims submitted by a parent/guardian related to the costs of transportation for pupils participating in the Youth Options program.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Repeal the appropriation for Aid for Transportation – Youth Options.
- Add the requested \$2,600 GPR in each year to the appropriation for aid for transportation for Open Enrollment and Early College Credit Program (above).

Rural Schools Teacher Retention Grant

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,500,000 GPR in FY19 to support the establishment of the Rural Schools Teacher Retention Grant program. Provide grants to school districts that are eligible for the Sparsity Aid program in an amount equal to \$750 per licensed full-time equivalent teacher. Rural schools would be able to use the grants to provide direct support to teachers, with allowable purpose including competitive compensation, continuing education or training, obtaining additional credentials, and other professional training.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request (see: Rural Schools Teacher Talent Pilot Program below).

Rural Schools Teacher Talent Pilot Program

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$500,000 GPR annually for a rural school teacher talent program for grants to cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs) to coordinate with universities and colleges to provide practicums, student-teacher placement, and internships for undergraduate college students in rural school districts.
- Specify that grant moneys may be used to expand an existing program or create a new program, but not to maintain and existing programs.
- Provide that grant moneys may be used to cover the CESA's cost to coordinate the program and to provide mileage reimbursement and stipends to participating undergraduates.

Shared Services Aid Program

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$2,000,000 GPR beginning in FY19 in a new continuing appropriation for a pilot program that would provide categorical aid funding for districts that share the services of certain administrative positions.
- Specify that two or more school districts could qualify for aid based on the following amounts for each position shared, with no limit to the number of positions that could be shared:
 - For a district administrator, \$40,000;
 - For a human resources director, information technology coordinator, or business manager, \$22,500;
 - And for any other non-faculty administrative position, excluding principals and assistant principals, \$17,500.
- Aid would be paid in full for the first three school years of the plan, with a 50 percent payment in year four, and no payment in the fifth year.
- Provide that if, before the beginning of the fourth year of a shared services plan, each school district that is participating enters into a whole grade sharing agreement under another bill provision, then each district would receive 100 percent of the aid payments for the fourth and fifth years of the plan.
- Require DPI to make its first payments under this provision by January 1, 2019.
- Require each applicant school board to pass a resolution approving participation in this program and to jointly submit a shared services plan to DPI by July 1, 2018.
- Specify that the plan include all of the following: 1) the position or positions that districts intend to share; 2) the position or positions that will be eliminated in each district; 3) the salary and fringe benefit costs of the positions under 1) and 2); and 4) information demonstrating that the plan will result in a net reduction in filled administrative positions.

- Provide that a school district could enter into an agreement with a unit of government other than a school district under this provision, but the unit of government could not receive aid under this provision.
- Require DPI to review and approve applications in the order in which applications are received and approve applications until all moneys appropriated under the appropriation for this program are encumbered.
- Specify that if a school district participating in a plan hires an additional individual to staff a position covered under the plan without eliminating the current incumbent, DPI would be required to withdraw all of the school districts party to the plan from the program, and withdrawn school districts could not receive any additional aid under the program.
- Provide that if a school district employee holds more than one position in each district covered by a plan, each district could receive aid for only one of the positions, but that the aid would be based on the highest aid amount that applies to any of those positions.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Veto all provisions.

Whole Grade Sharing Aid

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$750,000 GPR beginning in FY19 for districts that participate in a whole grade sharing agreement. Under current law, two or more school districts can enter into a whole grade sharing agreement to consolidate pupils in a particular grade level by offering that grade in only one of the participating districts.
- Provide aid equal to \$150 per pupil enrolled in a grade included in a whole grade sharing agreement in the first four years of the agreement and 50 percent of the first year’s aid in the fifth year. No moneys would be received under the program beginning in the sixth year of the agreement.
- Specify that for purposes of determining the number of years an agreement has been in effect, the aid payment schedule described above applies to an original whole grade sharing agreement.
- Provide that if an agreement is extended or renewed, the additional school years would be considered to be part of the original whole grade sharing agreement.
- Require DPI to consider a whole grade sharing agreement between school boards that contains substantially similar terms to an expired agreement, including that the same grades are subject to both agreements, to be an extension of the expired agreement.
- Provide that if before the fifth school year of a whole grade sharing agreement, two or more school boards participating in the agreement adopt resolutions starting the current law school district consolidation process, then the districts would receive a fifth and sixth year of full aid under this provision.
- Specify that aid payments would be prorated if the appropriation is insufficient to pay the aid entitlement in full.
- Require DPI by February 1, 2019, to report to the Joint Committee on Finance all of the following:

- The number of school boards that applied for this aid in FY19 ;
- The number of school boards that are approved to receive this aid in FY19;
- For each school board approved to receive aid, the name of the board, the number of grades and specific grades subject to the agreement; and
- As of January 1, 2019, how much of the aid entitlement for FY19 has been encumbered and how much has been expended.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Veto all provisions.

Consolidation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Create a new GPR sum sufficient appropriation that would provide categorical aid funding for two or more school districts that consolidate into one district.
- Specify that districts could qualify for aid equal to \$150 per pupil attending school in the consolidated district for the first five years after the consolidation. In the sixth year, districts would qualify for 50 percent of the amount received in the fifth year after the consolidation. In the seventh year, districts would qualify for 25 percent of the amount received in the fifth year after the consolidation.
- Provide that this aid would be received by districts where consolidation takes effect beginning July 1, 2019, or thereafter, and that current consolidation aid provisions relating to higher cost ceilings and guarantees under the equalization aid formula, as well as related revenue limit adjustments, would not apply to these consolidations.
- Specify that districts that consolidated prior to that date would continue to receive additional equalization aid and the related revenue limit adjustment as under current law. Current law special adjustment aid provisions would continue to apply to all consolidated school districts (the consolidated district’s state general school aid cannot be less than the total aggregate state general school aids received by the consolidating school districts in the school year prior to the consolidation).

Special Education

Special Education

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$28,660,900 GPR in FY18 and \$59,760,900 GPR in FY19 to increase the reimbursement rate to 28 percent in FY18 and 30 percent in FY19.
- Request changes to statutory language to create consistency in the treatment of special education costs that are eligible for reimbursement under this categorical aid program for independent charter schools.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request and maintain base funding (\$368,939,100 GPR annually), but approve the requested statutory language changes.

Additional (“High-Cost”) Special Education

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,000,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to fully fund projected claims under the high-cost special education categorical aid program. The Department also requests modifying the program to allow for reimbursement of 100 percent of eligible prior year costs above the \$30,000 per pupil high-cost threshold.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the request and maintain base funding (\$8,500,000 GPR annually).

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$739,000 GPR in FY18 and \$853,800 GPR in FY19 in the appropriation for high cost special education aid.
- Modify current law such that school districts could qualify for reimbursement of 90 percent, rather than 70 percent, of eligible prior year costs above \$30,000 (first applicable to aid paid in FY18).

Supplemental Special Education

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Redirect the \$1,750,000 GPR funding in the supplemental special education categorical aid program to the State’s additional (“high-cost”) special education aid program, beginning in FY19.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request and maintain base funding (\$1,750,000 GPR annually).

Special Education – Transitions Incentive Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,600,000 GPR in FY18 and \$3,500,000 GPR in FY19 to fully fund the Transition Incentive Grant program, which provides payment to school districts based on postsecondary education and employment outcomes for pupils with disabilities. The requested amount would fully fund anticipated survey participation and reported outcomes on the survey. Under the current appropriation, the \$1,000 statutory payment must be prorated to approximately \$60 per eligible survey outcome.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor’s recommendation to approve two technical corrections to allow for grants to be awarded in FY18 and later, and to allow independent “2x” charter schools to qualify for grants.

Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$1,500,000 GPR in FY19 to establish a new grant program that would expand the capacity of school districts to provide transition services for pupils with disabilities. This initiative will focus on supporting school districts in their efforts to identify and create competitive work opportunities for pupils with disabilities who are not currently not served by existing programs and successfully placing those pupils in meaningful work opportunities.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor’s recommendation to include a corrective amendment requested by DOA that would create statutory language defining the program.
- The Department would be required to award grants of not less than \$25,000 nor more than \$100,000 to school districts and independent charter schools
- Grants would fund special education workforce transition support services, including pupil transportation, professional development for school personnel, and employing adequate school personnel.
- Require the Department to promulgate rules to implement and administer the program.

Bilingual-Bicultural Education / Supporting English Learners

Bilingual-Bicultural Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$4,310,200 GPR in FY18 and \$4,810,200 GPR in FY19 to increase the state reimbursement rate for Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) education programs in both years, from eight percent to 12 percent of approved prior year expenditures, for school districts required to offer BLBC programs.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request (maintain base funding of \$8,589,800 GPR annually).

Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,100,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program, Supplemental Bilingual – Bicultural (BLBC) Aid. The Department would award \$100 per English Learner (EL) pupil to districts that have EL populations below the statutorily-defined concentrations that trigger a required BLBC program and make the district eligible for current law BLBC Aid.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Targeted Aid for English Learners

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,200,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program to provide aid to school districts in an amount equal to \$100 for each EL pupil whose English language proficiency is classified at a level 1, 2, or 3, of the English Language Proficiency Assessment.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Grant to Support ESL and Bilingual Capacity in Schools

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$750,000 in FY19 to create a grant program focused on increasing the number of English as a Second Language (ESL) and bilingual education teachers in school districts that have a significant number of English Learner (EL) pupils but lack the qualified professionals to teach those pupils. This program seeks to help current teachers and paraprofessional staff to acquire a bilingual and/or ESL supplemental license.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Targeted Learning Opportunities and Other Categorical Aids

Dual Language Planning and Startup Grant

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$750,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY19, to create a new grant program to support school districts in planning for and starting up dual language programs. Under this proposal, the Department would award grants to school districts in amounts up to \$25,000 per applicant to reimburse for eligible costs, which include expenditures for curriculum, materials, textbooks, consultation for planning, staff time, travel, and professional development.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

Gifted and Talented Program Grant

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$762,800 in FY18 and in FY19 to increase the appropriation for grants to support gifted and talented programs, in order to reach more pupils in more schools. Additionally, request changes to allow all school districts to apply for grants, expand the types of allowable activities and programs, and ensure the needs of historically under-identified and under-represented pupils are being served.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request for additional funding (maintain base funding of \$237,200 GPR annually), but approve the request to expand eligibility to allow all school districts to apply for gifted and talented grants.

Information Technology Education Grant

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$875,000 GPR in FY18 and FY19 for the Department to contract with a single provider of information technology (IT) education for public school pupils in grades 6-12, technical college students, and library patrons.
- Require that the program: 1) provide instruction on IT skills and competencies in areas requested by employers; 2) allow participating pupils and educators to secure broad-based industry-recognized IT certifications; and 3) operate in 225 sites, including 16 public libraries.

- Specify that the funding be awarded as a competitive grant following a request for proposal process.
- Require that the selected provider demonstrate that it has successfully offered an IT instructional program in schools in Wisconsin and develop an instructional program that includes all of the following:
 - A research-based and skill development IT curriculum;
 - Online access to the curriculum;
 - Instructional software for classroom and student use;
 - Coding curriculum and material that are aligned to the computer science advanced placement exam and grant a certificate upon successful completion of the curriculum and passage of an advanced placement exam;
 - Certifications of skills and competencies in a broad base of IT-related skill areas, including applications used most often in business;
 - Professional development and co-teaching for faculty, including but not limited to computer science;
 - Deployment program support, including but not limited to integration with current curriculum standards;
 - Methods for students to earn college credit; and
 - A demonstrated track record with schools within the state of Wisconsin.
- Require that DPI give preference to an entity that demonstrates that it has successfully provided high quality IT instructional programming and educational opportunities to pupils in Wisconsin.
- Specify that a school district would not be eligible for a CTE incentive grant for a pupil who receives a certification from the provider as a result of that certification.

Peer Review and Mentoring Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request statutory language changes to promote participation in the peer review and mentoring program by districts with the greatest need for support in mentoring teachers, and to more effectively make use of the resources under this program. Proposed changes include removing the consortium requirement, in order to permit individual school districts to submit grant applications, and increasing the maximum award amount for any one proposal from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the requested program changes but maintain base funding (\$1,606,700 GPR).

Performance Incentive Funding [Milwaukee and Other Eligible Districts]

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

Provide \$5,645,200 GPR in FY19 for two new aid programs to reward performance of K-12 schools:

- Schools eligible for this grant program would include public schools (including district charter schools), independent charter schools, and private schools participating in parental choice programs that are located within the geographic attendance boundaries of the Milwaukee Public School (MPS) District.

- For both of the new aid programs, aid would be determined by dividing the appropriation for the grant by the total number of pupils enrolled in eligible schools; each school would be eligible for the per pupil amount multiplied by the total number of pupils enrolled in the school.
- *Performance Funding*: for schools that attain a rating of “significantly exceeds expectations” or “exceeds expectations” on the accountability report (e.g., a four- or five-star rating on the school report card), the total appropriation is \$1,954,600. The Administration estimates that this funding level would provide aid at a rate of approximately \$100 per pupil for all eligible schools.
- *Performance Improvement Funding*: for schools that increase the numeric score on the school report card score by at least three points over the previous year, the appropriation is \$3,690,600. The Administration estimates that this funding level would provide aid at a rate of approximately \$100 per pupil for all eligible schools.
- An individual school could be eligible for aid under both programs.
- The MPS school board would be required to distribute funds to the school administrator of the eligible school that earned the aid award.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete \$1,954,600 GPR in FY19 for eligible schools placed in a performance category of “significantly exceeds expectations” or “exceeds expectations” on the school accountability report published by DPI.
- Allow school performance improvement grants funded from the remaining \$3,690,600 GPR in FY19 to be awarded to any school, including a public school, independent charter school, or private choice school, located in a school district that received an overall rating of “Fails to Meet Expectations,” in addition to schools located within the boundaries of MPS.
- Specify that to qualify for a grant, a school would be required to develop a written school improvement plan to improve pupil performance in math and reading; and, if the school received funds under this program in the previous year, the school’s accountability score improved from its score two years prior to the previous year.
- As under the Governor, prohibit DPI from awarding funds before DOA approves the calculation of the per pupil amount and require a school board (MPS or other eligible district) to distribute performance funds to the administrator of the school that earned the award.
- Additionally, approve an errata request by the Administration that would specify that for a private choice school, only those pupils attending the school under a choice program would be counted for the purpose of calculating and distributing funding.

Personal Electronic Computing Device Grants

AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$9,187,500 GPR beginning in FY19 in a new appropriation for grants for personal electronic computing devices for school boards, independent charter schools, private schools, and tribal schools.
- Grants would be equal to \$125 per ninth grade pupil, defined as the number of ninth grade pupils included in a school district’s membership (as used to aid purposes), and for an independent charter, private, or tribal school, as the number of ninth grade pupils attending the school in the current year.

Require a local match equal to the grant as a condition of receiving a grant. Require DPI to prorate grant payments among eligible applicants if the appropriation is insufficient to support all eligible claims.

- Grants awarded under the program could be used only to purchase personal electronic computing devices, software for personal electronic devices, or curriculum (including any related educational content or materials, a portion or all of which includes content that may be accessed on a personal electronic computing device); or, to train professional staff on how to effectively incorporate personal electronic devices into a classroom and into a high school curriculum.
- Grants could be awarded beginning in FY19 and ending in FY23. No funds could be encumbered from the appropriation after June 30, 2023.

Robotics League Participation Grants

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$250,000 GPR annually for robotics league participation grants, which would continue one-time funding, provided in FY17. Require the Department to notify governing bodies of private schools that applications will be accepted, as well as the currently required notice to school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and administrators of home-based private educational programs.

School Breakfast Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,550,300 GPR in FY18 and \$2,851,000 in FY19 to increase the state reimbursement rate for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to 15.0 cents for each breakfast served to school districts and private schools.
- Request \$139,200 GPR in FY18 and \$138,500 in FY19 to fund reimbursements under the SBP at 15.0 cents for each breakfast served in independent charter schools; the two residential schools operated by the state (school for the deaf, school for the blind), and residential care centers for children and youth.
- Request a statutory language change to direct the Department to cease payment of School Breakfast aid to an institution that ceased to operate at any point during or at the end of the previous school year.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request (maintain base funding of \$2,510,500 GPR).

School Library Aids Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a decrease in expenditure authority of \$3,000,000 SEG in FY18 and \$1,000,000 in FY19 for the appropriation for school library aids to reflect reestimates of available funding.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Approve the request.

Summer School Grant [Milwaukee Public Schools and Other Eligible Districts]

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$1,400,000 GPR in FY18 and in FY19 in a new grant program to enhance and augment summer school programs in MPS.
- The MPS board would have responsibility for distributing grants to public schools located in the city of Milwaukee (independent charter schools would not be eligible for grants under this program).
- Grants would be used by schools to develop, redesign or implement a summer school program as a means of increasing pupil attendance, improving academic achievement, and exposing pupils to innovative learning activities.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete \$1,400,000 GPR to reflect delayed effective date; grants would be available beginning in FY19.
- Delete the Governor’s provisions and instead specify that grants could be awarded, on a competitive basis, to Milwaukee Public Schools or any school district that was placed in the lowest performance category of “fails to meet expectations” on the school accountability report card published by DPI in the prior year.
- Grants could be used for the same purposes specified under the Governor’s proposal.
- Require DPI to promulgate rules to implement this grant program.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Partially veto to the language so as to preserve the grant program for just MPS.

Tribal Language Revitalization Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$562,200 PR-S in FY19 for a new Young Learners Tribal Language Revitalization initiative, including \$402,200 PR-S to increase the existing funding for grants and \$160,000 PR-S to fund operations of programs in partnership with Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC). The source of PR-S funds is Tribal Gaming Revenues received by the state.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the funding request and maintain base funding (\$222,800 PR-S annually), but approve the request to permit Head Start programs to apply for Tribal Language Revitalization Grants.

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OPEN ENROLLMENT AND EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAMS

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Adjustment to the Per Pupil Payment under the Open Enrollment Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Based on the Department’s requested increases for categorical aids and revenue limit per pupil adjustments, the resulting adjustments to the per pupil aid payments under the Open Enrollment program is estimated at \$286 in FY18 and \$282 in FY19 (see table below).

GOVERNOR:

- Based on the Governor’s proposed increases for categorical aids and revenue limit per pupil adjustments, the resulting adjustments to the per pupil aid payments under the Open Enrollment program is estimated at \$217 in FY18 and \$217 in FY19 (see table below).

**Spec. Educ. Pupils: pupils who are receiving special education or related services under subch. V of Ch. 115, Wis. Stats.*

JOINT FINANCE:

- Non-special education open enrollment pupils: increase by an additional \$100 per year each year from FY18 through FY21 above any increase provided under the current law indexing mechanism.
- Special education open enrollment pupils: for the first year in which a pupil is open-enrolled, the per-pupil payment would be the current law amount (i.e., under the indexing method). Beginning in FY20, for pupils who are open enrolled for the second or subsequent year, the payment would be either the per pupil payment amount under the indexing method or the actual costs to the non-resident district, up to \$30,000, if the non-resident school district had submitted to the Department the documentation of the actual cost to the school district of providing a free and appropriate education to the pupil in the previous school year.
- The estimated increase to the per-payment for non-special education open enrollment pupils is estimated to be \$207 for FY18 and \$220 for FY19 (see table below).

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- As a result of the Governor’s veto of certain categorical aid programs, the increase per pupil is \$207 for FY18 and *estimated* at \$217 for FY19 (\$307 and \$317 for non-special education open enrollment).

<u>Program</u>	Base Year	Act 59 (reflects Governor’s Vetoes) – Estimates	
	<u>FY17</u>	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>
OE non-Spec. Educ. Pupils	\$6,748	\$7,055	\$7,372
OE Spec. Educ. Pupils	\$12,000	\$12,207	\$12,424

Restore Part Time Open Enrollment

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Effective with FY18, restore the part time open enrollment provisions that existed prior to the creation of the Course Options program that was created under 2013 Act 20.
- Under part time open enrollment, a pupil enrolled in any high school grade in a public school may attend a public school in a nonresident school district for the purposes of taking up to two courses at a time.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delay restoration of the part-time enrollment program until FY19.

Early College Credit Program (ECCP)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate current law provisions for the Youth Options and Course Option programs.
- Create the Early College Credit Program (ECCP) to govern traditional dual enrollment for college credit, under which a public high school pupil* may enroll in an institution of higher education (IHE) for the purposes of taking one or more nonsectarian courses, including during summer semester or session. (**Pupils attending a technical college under s. 118.15 (1) (b) [alternative education] would not be eligible to participate in the ECCP.*)
- General eligibility parameters:
 - A pupil in any high school grade could participate in the ECCP (current law Youth Options limits participation to pupils in the 11th and 12th grades).
 - Eligible IHEs include UW System (UWS) institutions, technical colleges within the Technical College System, tribally-controlled colleges, and a private, nonprofit IHEs located in the state.
- *Cost Sharing*: costs would be shared between the IHE (limit on allowable tuition charge), the school district (direct payment to IHE), and the state (reimbursement to school district); and for postsecondary-only credit, the pupil (reimbursement to school district). See “Tuition” bullet and “Cost Sharing under the ECCP” table, below.
- *Pupil responsibilities*:
 1. Indicate on the application for the ECCP whether they will take the course for high school or postsecondary credit, or both; and
 2. Consent to the IHE disclosing information pertaining to the course(s) the pupil enrolled in, and the pupil’s grades and attendance record, to the public school in which the pupil is enrolled.
- *IHE responsibilities*:
 1. Admit a pupil to attend a course under the ECCP at the IHE, provided the pupil meets the requirements/prerequisites of the course, and there is space available in the course.

2. If a pupil indicates that they intend to take a course for postsecondary credit at a UWS institution, the UWS must notify the pupil as to whether credits earned for the course are transferable between and within institutions within the UWS.
- *School district responsibilities:*
 - Pay the IHE for the cost of the course within 30 days of the end of the semester.
 - Submit an itemized report to the Department of the amounts paid to IHEs for pupils participating in the ECCP.
 - Establish a written policy governing the timing and method for recovering the pupil’s share of the tuition for courses that a pupil takes for postsecondary credit only.
 - Update the required notice of educational options available to children in the school district to include the ECCP, and to reflect the restoration of part time open enrollment (and the elimination of Course Options and Youth Options).
 - *Tuition:*
 - For courses that a pupil takes at a UW System institution, technical college or tribally-controlled college, the allowable charge for tuition would be set at one-third of the amount that would be charged to a state resident undergraduate student enrolled in the IHE for each credit assigned to the course.
 - For courses that a pupil takes at a private, nonprofit IHEs located in the state, the allowable charge for tuition would be set at no more than 33 percent to the amount charged by a UWS institution (for each credit assigned to the course).
 - If the pupil takes that course at a high school in a school district (for high school credit), the school board of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled (rather than the IHE) would be responsible for the costs of books and other necessary materials for the course.
 - *Prohibition on additional charges:* Neither the IHE or the school board may charge a pupil any additional costs or fees to a pupil, except that the bill would retain the current law provision that a school board may limit the amount it will pay to no more than 18 postsecondary semester credits per pupil.

Cost Sharing under the ECCP

Credit is earned for:	School District	State	Pupil	IHE
High School (<i>even if also for postsecondary</i>)*	75%	25% ^	0%	Cost sharing through limit on allowable tuition charge
Postsecondary <u>only</u> *	25%	50% ^	25% ^	

*The course must not be comparable to one offered in the school district in which the pupil is enrolled.

^Via reimbursement to school district from grant funds appropriated in the Dept. of Workforce Development and from the pupil.

- *Pupil’s share of tuition:* the pupil is responsible for 25 percent of the tuition if the pupil takes a course for postsecondary credit only. However, the school board must waive the pupil’s financial responsibility if the *Department of Public Instruction* determines that the cost would pose an undue financial burden on the pupil’s family.

State’s share of tuition: the state’s share of the tuition cost sharing model would be accomplished by appropriating funds within the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and reimbursing school

districts for costs incurred under the ECCP. See “[ECCP](#)” under the *Department of Workforce*, in “[Appendix A – ITEMS IN OTHER STATE AGENCIES](#)”.

- Provide \$ 1,150,300 GPR in FY18 and \$1,753,500 GPR in FY19, in a new appropriation in DWD, for payments to school districts. The Secretary of DWD is directed to make payments to the Department, on behalf of the school board of a school district in which a pupil who attended an IHE, the following amounts:
 1. For a pupil who took a course for high school credit (even if also for postsecondary credit), 25 percent of the actual cost of tuition for the course*.
 2. For a pupil who took a course for postsecondary credit, 50 percent of the actual cost of tuition for the course*.

** The payments would be prorated if the DWD appropriation were insufficient to fully fund all eligible reimbursements to all school districts.*
- The Department of Public Instruction is directed to distribute the payments received from DWD as reimbursement to school districts to provide the state’s share of tuition costs, in accordance with the cost sharing model described above and based on the itemized report of the amounts paid to IHEs for pupils participating in the ECCP submitted by the school district to the Department.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delay the creation of the ECCP and restoration of the part-time open enrollment program until FY19.
- Delete \$1,150,300 GPR in FY18 for payments to school districts (retain \$1,753,500 GPR in FY19).
- Modify the allowable tuition amounts:
 - For courses that a pupil takes at UW College campuses (2-year institutions), one-half of the amount that would be charged to a state resident undergraduate student enrolled at the UW College (per credit).
 - For courses that a pupil takes at other UW institutions (4-year institutions), *not to exceed* one-third of the amount that would be charged to a state resident undergraduate student enrolled at the UW institution (per credit).
 - For courses that a pupil takes at a private, non-profit IHE, one-third of the amount that would be charged to a state resident undergraduate student enrolled at UW Madison (per credit).
- Specify that technical colleges would not be included in the program, but would continue to operate under statutes similar to the current law Youth Options Program (Act 59 moves the current law Youth Options language to the statutes for the Technical College System [Chapter 38, Wis. stats.]).
- Specify that a high school pupil attending a private school could participate in the program and that the private school would be required to abide by the same requirements and rules as public schools related to the ECCP.

INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS

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Per Pupil Payment Adjustment

For the Independent Charter School (ICS), Parental Choice Programs (PCP), and Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Based on the Department’s requested increases for categorical aids and revenue limit per pupil adjustments, the resulting adjustments to the per pupil aid payments under these programs are estimated at \$286 in FY18 and \$282 in FY19 (see table below).

GOVERNOR:

- Specify that the current law appropriation for payments under the special needs scholarship program, and the appropriations for the proposed new school performance grants and summer school grants created under the bill, be excluded from the calculation of statewide categorical aid per pupil for the purpose of the indexing mechanism.
- The resulting adjustments to the per pupil aid payments under these programs are estimated at \$217 in FY18 and \$217 in FY19 (see table below).

JOINT FINANCE:

- Approve the Governor’s recommendation, but also exclude the appropriation for personal electronic computing devices and the current law appropriations for payments to ICS authorized by the Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) from the calculation of statewide categorical aid for the purpose of indexing payments.
- As a result, reestimate the payment increase for the private school choice and independent charter school programs to be \$207 per pupil in FY18 and \$220 per pupil in FY19.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- As a result of the Governor’s veto of certain categorical aid programs, the increase per pupil is \$207 for FY18 and *estimated* at \$217 for FY19.

Per Pupil Payments by Program

Program	Base Year	Act 59 (reflects Governor’s Vetoes) – Estimates	
	<u>FY17</u>	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>
Parental Choice (K-8)	\$7,323	\$7,530	\$7,747
Parental Choice (9-11)	\$7,969	\$8,176	\$8,393
Independent Charter	\$8,188	\$8,395	\$8,612
Special Needs Scholarship	\$12,000	\$12,207	\$12,424

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Independent Charter School Program Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a decrease of \$9,175,200 GPR in FY18, and a decrease of \$3,584,800 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments to Independent Charter Schools (ICS), to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.
- Request a modification to current law to eliminate duplicative reporting requirements under this program.
- Permit ICS to be aided for summer school membership, in the same manner that public school districts are currently aided for summer school membership.

GOVERNOR:

- Decrease the appropriation by \$9,727,200 GPR in FY18 and by \$4,542,400 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.
- Deny the requested modifications to current law to eliminate duplicative reporting requirements and to provide aid for summer school membership to ICS.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Based on reestimated enrollment, decrease the GPR appropriation for the ICS program, as well as the associated aid reductions, by \$3,262,000 GPR in FY18 and \$3,448,800 GPR in FY19. Final Act 59 appropriations: \$63,802,000 in FY18 and \$68,920,000 in FY19.
- Require the Department to provide summer school payments to ICS. The payment for ICS summer school pupils is constructed to be similar to schools in the private school choice programs, beginning with pupils attending summer school in summer 2018:
 - An ICS would be eligible to receive a summer school payment if the school offers a minimum of 19 summer days of instruction, each comprised of at least 270 minutes of instruction.
 - Require each ICS to file a report with the Department stating its summer daily attendance for each day of summer school by September 15.
 - Summer school payment amount would be equal to 5 percent of the per pupil payment from the preceding school term if the pupil attends at least 15 days of summer instruction, and would be prorated, based on the number of days attended, if the pupil attends fewer than 15 days.
 - Require the Department to include the entire summer school payment with the December payment installment, but specify that the summer payment would be made in a separate check.

Charter School Authorizer Duties- NASCA Standards

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that a charter school authorizer must consider (rather than adhere to, under current law) the principles and standards for quality charter schools established by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) when contracting for the establishment of a charter school.

Independent Charter Schools – New Authorizers

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that any UW Chancellor (in addition to the UW-Milwaukee and UW-Parkside Chancellors under current law) and any technical college district board (in addition to the Milwaukee and Gateway Boards under current law) could contract with a person to operate an independent charter school.
- Delete the current law provision restricting the districts in which the Director of the Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) in the UW System may authorize a charter school (based on district's membership).
- Delete the current law provisions restricting the location of schools authorized by the Gateway Technical College District Board, the districts in which pupils must reside to attend a school authorized by Gateway, and the programming that must be provided by a school authorized by Gateway.
- Provide that the current law funding mechanism for the charter schools previously established by the Chancellors of UW-Milwaukee or UW-Parkside would remain unchanged. Specify that this funding mechanism would also apply to any new charter schools established by the Chancellors of UW-Milwaukee and UW-Parkside.
- Provide that the current law funding mechanism for charter schools established by the Director of the OEO and the Gateway Board would also apply to any charter school established by any other Chancellor or any technical college district board other than Milwaukee.
- Delete the provisions under which the Board of Regents may not exercise control over a private gift or grant received by the OEO Director and under which the OEO Director may use a gift or grant at his or her sole discretion in the absence of any specific direction as to its use. Delete the provision under which the OEO Director may invest a gift or grant of moneys.

Union High School Charter Preference

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that a charter school established under contract with a union high school (UHS) district may give preference in enrollment to pupils who were enrolled during the previous year in a charter school operating under a cooperative agreement with the charter school established under contract with the union high school district.

Virtual Charter Schools – Enrollment

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Limit the opportunities for enrollment in virtual schools to the beginning of a semester for students who are frequently truant (four or more unexcused absences during a semester).

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Virtual Charter Schools – Funding Study

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require DPI to prepare a report comparing the amount paid by the state for pupils attending a virtual charter school through the open enrollment program to the actual educational costs of pupils attending those virtual charter schools. Require the Department to submit the report to the Joint Finance Committee and the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature no later than January 1, 2019.

GOVERNOR’S VETO:

- Veto the requirement for the Department to conduct the study.

Virtual Charter Schools – Hours of Direct Pupil Instruction

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the requirement that a virtual charter school must ensure that its teachers are available to provide direct pupil instruction for at least the applicable number of hours that are specified under current law as the minimum hours of direct pupil instruction for public school districts (i.e., 437 hours for kindergarten; 1,050 hours for grades 1 to 6; and 1,137 hours for grades 7 to 12). *See also the item “[Minimum Hours of Instruction](#)” under “School District Flexibilities”.*

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Virtual Schools – Lifesaving Skills Instruction

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that a virtual school would not be required to provide any statutorily-required lifesaving skills instruction in a manner that requires the pupils receiving the instruction and the instructional staff providing the instruction to be together in the same geographic location. Specify that a virtual school could provide all of the required lifesaving skill instruction through means of the internet.

PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) – Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$8,766,500 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$20,575,500 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase the appropriation by \$5,563,900 GPR in FY18 and \$15,681,300 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments (as affected by provisions in the Governor’s proposal).

JOINT FINANCE:

- Reduce the appropriation by \$276,800 GPR in FY18 and \$197,100 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments, as affected by actions taken by JCF on the budget bill.
- Final Act 59 appropriations: \$212,365,800 in FY18 and \$222,227,100 in FY19.

Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs (RCPC, WPCP)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$6,041,000 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$16,591,200 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase the appropriation by \$5,584,800 GPR in FY18 and \$15,366,400 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase the appropriation by \$6,170,200 GPR in FY18 and \$9,523,200 GPR in FY19 to reflect updated enrollment estimates for the statewide program.
- Modify WPCP pupil participation eligibility provisions (first effective for applications to participate in the program in the 2018-19 school year):
 - Income Eligibility: increase the income threshold for eligibility to participate in the WPCP, from 185 to 220 percent of the federal poverty limit (FPL). [Estimated increase of \$4,400,000 GPR in FY19, for payments to private schools as a result of increased participation, entirely offset by general aid reductions and corresponding revenue limit increase to the pupil’s resident school district.]
 - Income Verification: eliminate the requirement that a pupil’s family income be verified if the pupil moves from one of the state’s three parental choice program to either of the other parental choice programs. Because the income eligibility for the MPCP and the RPCP is greater than that of the WPCP (300 percent, compared to 220 percent, of FPL), this provision would have the effect of allowing a pupil in the MPCP or the RPCP, with a family income that is greater than 220 percent of the FPL, to participate in the WPCP if the pupil’s family moved into a different school district.

[Estimated increase of \$794,500 GPR in FY19, for payments to private schools as a result of increased participation, entirely offset by general aid reductions and corresponding revenue limit increase to the pupil's resident school district.]

○ Prior Year Attendance Criteria

1. Permit a pupil to enter the WPCP if the pupil attended school in another state in the previous school year, regardless of whether or not the pupil meets other prior year criteria under current law. [No fiscal impact provided.]
 2. Permit a pupil who resides in a school district other than Racine or MPS, who was placed on a waiting list in any previous school year due to the district-specific pupil participation limit, to enter the WPCP, regardless of grade level at the time of entry, regardless of whether or not the pupil meets other prior year criteria under current law. [Estimated increase of \$794,500 GPR in FY19, for payments to private schools as a result of increased participation, entirely offset by general aid reductions and corresponding revenue limit increase to the pupil's resident school district.]
- RPCP and WPCP: if a private school that does not participate in a private school choice program enters into an agreement to be subject to the same governing body as a private school that participated in the RPCP or the WPCP in the previous school year, the prior year attendance criteria would not apply to the new school in the first school year in which the schools are governed by the same governing body under.
 - Final Act 59 appropriations: \$56,612,100 in FY18 and \$82,428,100 in FY19.

Parental Choice Programs – Program Language Changes

The Department proposed additional changes to the statutory language in ss. 118.60 and 119.23, Wis. Stats., in order to address several program implementation issues, and to make technical corrections, related to the MPCP, RPCP and the WPC. The requested changes to existing state law are enumerated below. *See ["Program Language Changes: MPCP, RPCP, WPCP" in Appendix B.](#)*

Special Needs Scholarship Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$4,330,800 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$6,336,700 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP), to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments; and to provide state payments to participating private schools under the program for summer school provided to pupils receiving a scholarship under the program.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase the appropriation by \$4,276,000 GPR in FY18 and \$6,217,000 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected enrollments and estimated per pupil payments.
- Deny request to provide payments to participating private schools for summer school.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Eligibility: modify pupil participation eligibility provisions (first effective for applications to participate in the program in the 2018-19 school year):
 - Eliminate the requirement that the pupil must have applied to attend a non-resident school district under the open enrollment program and was denied. [Estimated increase of \$621,700 GPR in FY19, for payments to private schools as a result of increased participation, entirely offset by general aid reductions and corresponding revenue limit increase to the pupil's resident school district.]
 - Eliminate the requirement that the pupil must have been enrolled in a public school in Wisconsin for the entire school year immediately preceding the school year for which the pupil is applying for the scholarship. [Estimated increase of \$2,486,800 GPR in FY19, for payments to private schools as a result of increased participation, entirely offset by general aid reductions and corresponding revenue limit increase to the pupil's resident school district.]
- Financial Statement: Beginning with FY19, a private school would have the option to submit a financial statement showing the actual costs incurred by the school to provide required services to each child with a disability at the end of each school year for which a private school receives scholarship payments for that child. If submitted, require that the financial statement include documentation of each expense, and require the Department to provide the financial statement to the pupil's district of residence. [Act 59 does not provide authority for either the Department or the resident school district to verify or deny the expenditures included on the financial statement.]
- Payments: modify provisions to allow for payments based on actual costs (*first effective for payments in FY20, for the 2019-20 school year*):
 - For a private school that submitted a financial statement to the Department in the prior year: in the second year (and subsequent years) of a pupil's participation in the program, the payment would be the greater of the payment amount under current law (under the indexing mechanism), or the actual costs incurred by the private school in the prior year to implement the child's most recent IEP or services plan, as modified by agreement between the private school and the child's parent, and related services agreed to by the private school and the child's parent that are not included in the child's IEP or services plan.
 1. The cost of payments up to 150 percent of the per pupil payment in the current year would be funded through a reduction in the general aid that is otherwise paid to each pupil's district of residence, offset for the district with an equal revenue limit adjustment.

2. If the cost exceeds 150 percent of the per pupil amount, the private school would be reimbursed for 90 percent of the costs above that amount with state GPR (no corresponding aid reduction to the pupil's district of residence would occur for this amount, so the state's general fund would be fully impacted by these new aid payments to the private school).
- For a private school that **did not submit** a financial statement to the Department in the prior year: the payment amount would be equal to the payment under current law (per the indexing method for per pupil payments).
 - Summer School Payments: require DPI to provide summer school payments to a private school participating in the SNSP for a child who attends summer school and who participated in the scholarship program in the immediately preceding school term. The payment for SNSP summer school pupils is constructed to be similar to schools in the private school choice programs, beginning with pupils attending summer school in summer 2018:
 - A private school in the SNSP would be eligible to receive a summer school payment if the school offers a minimum of 19 summer days of instruction, each comprised of at least 270 minutes of instruction.
 - Require the private school to file a report with the Department stating its summer daily attendance for each day of summer school by September 15.
 - Summer school payment amount would be equal to 5 percent of the per pupil payment from the preceding school term if the pupil attends at least 15 days of summer instruction, and would be prorated, based on the number of days attended, if the pupil attends fewer than 15 days.
 - Require the Department to include the entire summer school payment with the December payment installment, but specify that the summer payment would be made in a separate check.

Special Needs Scholarship Program – Program Language Changes

The Department proposes additional changes the language in ss. 115.7915, Wis. Stats., in order to address several program implementation issues, and to make technical corrections. [See “Program Language Changes: Special Needs Scholarship Program” in Appendix B.](#)

OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS AND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

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OSPP Provisions Impacting Racine Unified School District

The budget bill contains several provisions surrounding the OSPP that will impact the Racine Unified School District (RUSD). See [Appendix C](#) for full explanation of OCCS Provisions under 2017Act 59. In summary, those provisions:

- Create new eligibility criteria to qualify as an “eligible unified school district” for the creation of the OSPP and require the Department to notify, by November 30, 2017 (and annually thereafter), the unified school district and the clerks of the villages located in the boundaries of the unified school district, that the unified district qualifies for the creation of the OSPP.
- Provide a mechanism that would delay the process for creating the OSPP (related to the RUSD demonstrating compliance with specific provisions of 2011 Act 10).
- Permit the village boards of villages located in the eligible unified school district to voluntarily consider a resolution to create new school districts within the existing eligible unified school district.
- Provide for a mandatory process by which the village boards of the villages located in the eligible unified school district must consider a resolution to create new school districts within the existing eligible unified school district.
- Require, upon passage of said resolution by the village boards, that the resolution to be forwarded to the School District Boundary Appeals Board (SDBAB) and specify the actions to be taken by the SDBAB.
- Specify the timeframe for a referendum on the creation of new school districts and the responsibilities of the village board(s) and the eligible unified school district upon passage of the referendum. (The bill also specifies that the school district creation process under current law would not apply to a school district created under the process described above.)
- **Study and Report on Reorganized School District**: require DPI to contract with an entity to conduct a study of the effect of reorganizing a school district that meets specific criteria (a unified school district that received the lowest rating on the accountability report cards and that received intradistrict aid, in both FY16 and FY17). The study would have to include analysis of the impact of the reorganization on the state aid and property taxes in the existing and new districts, as well as an inventory of school buildings located in, and the assets and liabilities of, the existing school district. The entity conducting the study would be required to submit it to the Department within 120 days of the contract being awarded, and the Department is required to distribute the study to the villages.

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EDUCATOR LICENSURE AND EDUCATION PREPARATION PROGRAMS

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Eliminate Expiration Dates for Teaching and Administrator Licenses

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Eliminate the requirement that an individual who currently holds a valid and current initial teaching license, a professional teaching license, a master educator license, or an administrator license, issued by the Department, renew that license.
- Eliminate renewal requirements for teaching and administrator licenses issued by the Department after the effective date of the bill.
- Maintain current law with respect to the substantive requirements for initial licensure and to the conditions for revocation of these licenses.
- See the item “[Teacher and Administrator Licensure System – Staff Reductions](#)” ([AGENCY ADMINISTRATION](#)) for information on concomitant staffing reductions in the Department.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor’s recommendation to require the Department to invalidate the lifetime license of an individual who has not been actively employed in a school district for five or more consecutive years. The individual could apply for a three year provisional license and work towards a lifetime license.
- Modify the Governor’s recommendation to require the Department to issue a provisional three-year license for new educators, administrators, and pupil services professionals, with a lifetime license granted after the completion of six semesters of successful experience, as certified by the school boards where the person works.
 - Require the Department to issue a provisional three-year license to current holders of initial licenses, who could obtain a life-time license after completion of six semesters of successful service.
 - Specify that provisional licenses could be renewed if the holder does not complete six semesters of experience within three years (license holder would have to complete the six semesters of experience within three years of the provision license renewal in order to obtain a lifetime license).
- Continue to require the Department to conduct background checks for MPS, school districts, and independent charter schools.

Background Checks for Teaching and Administrator Licenses

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Transfer responsibility for conducting ongoing background checks (with the assistance of the Department of Justice) at least every five years, from the Department to the school board in which the individual is employed.
- Permit school boards to contract with the Department to conduct these background checks.

- The requirement to conduct background investigations will also apply to the governing board of a private school participating in a parental choice program – see Program Language Changes “[Private School Parental Choice Programs](#)”.
- Retain Department’s responsibility for conducting initial educator background investigation (with the assistance of the Department of Justice), prior to issuing an educator or administrator license.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Continue to require the Department to conduct background checks on behalf of all school districts, including MPS, and independent charter schools, as under current law.

Alternative Teacher Preparation Program (License)

AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require DPI to grant an initial teaching license to an individual who meets the following requirements: (a) possesses a bachelor’s degree; (b) has successfully completed an alternative teacher certification program operated by an alternative preparation program provider that is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code, that operates in at least five states and has been in operation for at least ten years, and that requires the candidate to pass a subject area exam and the pedagogy exam known as the Professional Teaching Knowledge exam to receive a certificate under the program; and (c) successfully completes a background check. These specific provisions describe the American Board for Certification of Teaching Excellence (ABCTE).
- Specify that this license would authorize an individual to teach the subject and educational levels for which the individual successfully completed this program.

Substitute Teacher Permit for Individual with Associate’s Degree

AGENCY REQUEST/ GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the State Superintendent to grant a substitute teacher permit to an individual with a two-year degree or its equivalent and substitute teacher training.

Junior Reserve Officer’s Training Corps Teaching License

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the Department to grant a license to an individual to provide instruction to pupils enrolled in a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program offered in the high school grades if the individual satisfies the following criteria: (a) possesses a bachelor’s degree; (b) successfully completed a JROTC instructor certification program; and (c) fulfills current law requirements related to criminal convictions and background checks for educators.
- Specify that the license under this provision would authorize the individual to teach the courses for which the individual successfully completed the JROTC instructor certification process.

Online Teacher Reciprocity

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that an individual who is located in another state but teaches an online course through a virtual charter school or public school district located in Wisconsin, and who holds a license or permit to teach that subject and level in the state in which he or she is located, would be appropriately licensed to teach that subject and level in Wisconsin.

Reciprocity Teaching and Administrator Licenses (Licensure in another State)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/ JOINT FINANCE:

- Repeal the requirement that a teacher or administrator must have received an offer of employment to teach in a school located in this state in order to qualify for a teacher license or an administrator's license based on licensure in another state.

Teacher Licensure Rulemaking Process

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the Department to submit a rule to the Legislature by January 1, 2018, revising PI 34 (administrative rule), which contains provisions related to teacher licensure. Specify that the rule could not reduce the standard of quality for obtaining a teacher license.
- Require the rule to simplify the licensure system as much as practicable, including at least all of the following: (a) simplify the grade levels licensees can teach and create broad field subject licenses; (b) enable school districts to increase the number of teachers by offering internships and residency opportunities; (c) simplify out-of-state licensure reciprocity; (d) expand pathways for existing licensees to fill positions in geographic areas or subject areas that are in need of educational personnel; and (e) create a permit that allows a person enrolled in an educator preparation program to work in a school district as part of an internship, residency program, or equivalent program.

Teacher Development Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

Create a new teacher development program, under which school districts may collaborate with a school of education within the UW System (UWS) or the UW Extension, to provide eligible school district employees with the necessary curriculum and experience to become fully licensed teachers.

- Require a school district to partner with a UWS entity to design the teacher development program.

- Eligible participants in the teacher development program would include school district employees who work closely with students and who hold a bachelor's degree (but not a teaching license).
- The program must be designed to allow the participant to successfully complete the requirements for obtaining a professional teaching permit or an initial teaching license, including any standardized examination prescribed by the state superintendent as a condition for permitting or licensure.
- In implementing a teacher development program, a school district must allow employees who are enrolled in the program to satisfy student teaching requirements in a school in the school district; the partnering entity must prepare and provide intensive coursework for participating school district employees.
- Authorize the Department to issue an initial teaching license to an individual who completes a teacher development program designed and implemented under this section.
- Authorize school districts to apply for a grant from the Department of Workforce Development, under the Wisconsin Fast Forward, to offset costs of program design and implementation.

Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Provisions

- Authorize DWD to award grants to school districts that partner with an allowable UWS entity to design and implement a teacher development program described above.
- Require DWD, in awarding grants to school districts, to: 1) consult with the Department of Public Instruction to confirm that the teacher development program satisfies the requirements laid out above; 2) consider the methods by which the school district and partnering entity will make the teacher development program affordable to participating employees; and 3) consider whether the school district has agreed to contribute matching funds towards the teacher development program.

University of Wisconsin System (UWS) / Board of Regents Provisions

- Require the Board of Regents of the UWS to ensure that, no later than December 31, 2019, the total number of accredited, competency-based degree and certificate programs offered under the UW Flexible Option platform is increased by at least 50 percent over the total number of such programs that are offered on the effective date of the bill.
- Require UWS to ensure one of the new programs offered provides curriculum that is designed to prepare non-teacher school district employees to successfully complete a standardized examination prescribed by the state superintendent as a condition for obtaining a professional teaching permit or an initial teaching license.
- Provide \$700,000 GPR in FY19, to the UWS, for financial aid for students in the Flexible Option Program.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify bill to: (a) require the Board of Regents to ensure that, no later than December 31, 2019, the total number of accredited, competency-based degree and certificate programs offered under the UW Flexible Option platform is increased by at least 25 percent by December 1, 2019, instead of 50 percent.; (b) delete the requirement that the new programs include at least one program that assists certified nursing assistants in becoming registered nurses; and (c) require the Board of Regents to ensure that at least one School of Education within the UW System has partnered with a school district to develop a teacher residency program by December 1, 2019 (the coursework provided by the School of Education would not be required to be delivered via the UW Flexible Option platform).

- Specify that a private school or independent charter school could apply for a grant under the program, rather than just a school district, as under the bill.
- Specify that an eligible program could be developed in partnership with any educator preparation program approved by the Department and headquartered in Wisconsin.
- Delete the requirement that an individual hold a bachelor's degree to enter a program receiving a grant.
- Require the school board, governing body of a private school, or charter management organization to permit an individual who does not hold a bachelor's degree to enroll in a teacher development program developed and implemented under the grant program.

GOVERNOR'S VETO:

- Require that the total number of accredited, competency-based degree and certificate programs offered under the UW Flexible Option platform is increased by 100 percent by December 1, 2019, instead of 25 percent.

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SCHOOL DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

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Childcare Programs Established by School Board

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Authorize the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to visit and inspect the premises and records of, and investigate and prosecute any alleged violations occurring at, any child care program established or contracted for by a school board that receives payment under the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program. Require school boards to report information about persons denied a contract to establish a child care to DCF (instead of Department of Health Services).

Civics Assessment Requirement for High School Graduation

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase the score that an individual must achieve on a civics assessment in order to graduate from high school from 60 points to 65 points.

Compensation for Student Teachers

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Specify that school districts may compensate student teachers.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Faculty Teaching in Public High Schools College Professors in High Schools

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Permit a faculty member of an eligible institution of higher education (IHE) to teach in a high school, without a license issued by the Department, if the individual possesses a bachelor's degree and is in good standing with their employing institution. An eligible IHE includes institutions or college campuses with the UW System, a technical college, or any private, nonprofit postsecondary institution that is a member of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Adopt the Governor's recommendation and specify that the faculty member would be required to successfully complete a background check.

Hour and Date for Annual School Board Meetings

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirement that common school districts hold an annual meeting on the 4th Monday in July at 8 p.m., and that union high school districts hold an annual meeting on the 3rd Monday in July at 8 p.m.
- Require school districts to hold an annual meeting on a date and hour determined by the school board. [Retain current law provision that electors may determine at one annual meeting to thereafter hold the annual meeting on a different date or hour; and that no annual meeting may be held before May 15 or after October 31.]

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Minimum Hours of Instruction

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirements for scheduling the minimum hours of direct pupil instruction, which applies to all public school districts: at least 437 hours in kindergarten; at least 1,050 hours in grades 1 to 6; and at least 1,137 hours of direct pupil instruction in grades 7 to 12.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Monthly School Board Meetings

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirement that the school board in a common or union high school district hold a regular meeting at least once a month.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Requirements Related to Purchasing Recycled and Recyclable Products

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirements that school boards make purchasing selections to maximize the purchase of products using recycled or recovered materials, and that school boards award each order or contract for materials and supplies on the basis of life cycle cost estimates, when appropriate.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

School Administrator Contract Term Limitations

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirement that the term of employment for a school district administrator, business manager, and school principal (and assistant to principal) employed by a school board be limited to a contract not to exceed two years.
- Repeal the current law provision that permits one or more extensions of one year each to employment contracts.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Shared Services for School Districts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Permit a school district to contract with another school district, or a Cooperative Educational Service Agency, to employ a certified reading specialist on a cooperative basis, without prior approval by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- Permit a school board to contract with one or more school boards to provide the following services required under current state law: bilingual-bicultural programs; lifesaving skills instruction; emergency nursing services; attendance and truancy staff; guidance and counseling services; technical preparation programs for high schools; and gifted and talented programs.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

Statements of Indebtedness to the Secretary of State

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Repeal the current law requirement that each school district clerk furnish (whenever required by the Secretary of State) a full and complete statement showing the bonding and all other indebtedness of the school district, the purposes for which debt was incurred, and all accrued interest remaining unpaid.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision as non-fiscal policy.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

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Library Service Contracts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$3,200 SEG in FY18 and \$7,100 in FY19 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the Department.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

Newsline for the Blind

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$16,900 SEG in FY18 and \$35,300 in FY19 to maintain the current level of services for Newsline for the Blind.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

Public Library System Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$16,377,100 SEG in FY18 and \$17,004,900 in FY19 to fund public library system aid at a 13 percent index level.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase funding on a one-time basis, by \$500,000 SEG in FY18 and \$1,000,000 in FY19, and delete current law requiring DPI to include in its biennial budget submission a request for public library system aid equal to 13 percent of the prior year operating expenditures from local and county sources.

WISE Suite Data Systems for Public Libraries

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a statutory change that would allow the Department to use the amounts appropriated for the Student information system (or “WISEdata”, and under the appropriation for the Longitudinal data system (or “WISEdash”), for activities pertaining to establishing and maintaining a public library information system, to perform any of the following activities: purchase licenses for data collection software; train library staff on the effective use of data in decision-making; establish digital processes for the efficient collection, analysis, and reporting of data to library patrons and staff; create dashboard tools for libraries to use internally in analyzing, and report to the public about, library use; develop, implement, and maintain technology systems that allow for secure, interoperable data exchange and the automation of work processes; create an automated system for the initial certification and recertification of public librarians; and establish library user authentication systems.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the request.

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AID PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND NON-SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

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Bullying Prevention Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$150,000 GPR annually, and direct the Department to award grants to a nonprofit organization to provide training and an online bullying prevention curriculum to pupils in grades kindergarten to 8.

College Possible

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$500,000 GPR annually for College Possible to work with college students and high school pupils in Milwaukee. Require matching private funds equal to 20 percent of the grant amount each year.

Grants for National Board Teacher Certification or Master Educator License

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$284,300 GPR in FY18 and \$303,700 GPR in FY19 to reflect projected grant awards under the program, with the changes proposed by the Department: 1) increase the size of the continuing grant (beginning in the second year of the grant) to eligible educators who teach in high poverty districts, from \$5,000 to \$7,500, in schools that are not in the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) district; and 2) increase the size of the continuing grant, from \$5,000 to \$10,000, for eligible educators who teach in high poverty schools located within the MPS district. Align the state grant for nationally board certified teachers with the National Board of Professionals Teaching Standards' (NBPTS) change from a 10-year to a 5-year certificate.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request and maintain base funding (\$2,910,000 GPR annually).

Teach For America Grant

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete \$500,000 annually for grants to Teach for America and repeal the appropriation and program language under the Department's statutes.
- Provide \$500,000 annually for a new grant program under the Department of Workforce Development. Under the program, grants would be awarded to a non-profit organization that operates a program to recruit and prepare individuals to teach in public or private schools located in low-income or urban school districts in Wisconsin.
- See entry under "[Grants for Teacher Training and Recruitment](#), under Department of Workforce Development" in "[Appendix A – ITEMS IN OTHER STATE AGENCIES](#)".

Very Special Arts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$11,700 GPR in FY18 and \$11,700 GPR in FY19.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Approve the request.

Wisconsin Reading Corps

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No Request

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$300,000 GPR in FY18 and \$700,000 GPR in FY19 on a one-time basis for the Wisconsin Reading Corps to provide one-on-one tutoring. Require matching private funds of \$250,000 each year.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

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Programmatic

Academic and Career Planning Enhancement

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Direct the Department to work with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to develop “success sequence” related instruction and materials to be incorporated into the Academic and Career Planning services provided to pupils.
- Specify that DCF must approve any instruction and materials developed before the instruction and materials are provided to pupils.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete provision.

Mental Health Training Support

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$420,000 GPR in FY18 and \$420,000 GPR in FY19 to support training opportunities aimed at increasing capacity within school districts and independent charter schools to provide mental health screening and intervention services to pupils.
- Request authority to create 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position, and \$71,300 GPR in FY18 and \$91,400 GPR in FY19, to administer and support statewide training related to the Screening, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), Trauma Sensitive Schools (TSS), and Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) programs.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete \$200,000 GPR annually to reflect funding provided in 2017 Act 31. In addition, amend Act 31 so that it would reference the three evidence-based strategies identified in the Governor’s recommendation.

Notice of Educational Options

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the Department to modify the components included in the required notice of educational options available to children in the state, to include the Early College Credit Program, and to reflect the restoration of part time open enrollment (and the elimination of Course Options and Youth Options).

Parental Choice Program Position Funding

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request authority to create 2.0 FTE GPR permanent positions, and \$120,700 GPR in FY18 and \$159,100 GPR in FY19, to support the Department's work on the Special Needs Scholarship Program, and the Milwaukee, Racine and Wisconsin private school parental choice programs.
- Deny the request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide 1.0 FTE GPR position, and \$60,400 GPR in FY18 and \$79,600 GPR in FY19.

Private School Fiscal Agent

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Require the Department's private school ombudsman to identify a third-party entity to act as a fiscal agent for, and receive federal funds on behalf of, schools participating in a parental choice program. This requirement is contingent upon receipt of a federal waiver or federal law change related to receipt of funds by nonpublic entities.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the Governor's recommendation.

Repurpose Program Revenue Position

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to transfer authority for 1.0 FTE PR-S position, from the appropriation for funds transferred from other state agencies, to the appropriation for personnel licensure, teacher supply, information and analysis and teacher improvement. No additional budget authority is requested.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Deny the request.

School Report Card Reforms

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the Department to add the following information about high school pupils in the annual school (accountability) report cards for each school district and each high school in the school district:
 - The number and percentage of pupils attending a course through the Early College Credit Program.
 - The number and percentage of pupils participating in a Youth Apprenticeship.
 - The number of community service hours provided by pupils.
 - The number of advanced placement courses offered to, and earned by, pupils.
 - The number of pupils earning industry-recognized credentials through a technical education program established by a school board.

Staff Reductions for Educator Licensing Operations

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Reduce teacher licensing staff permanently, by 10.0 FTE PR beginning in FY18, and decrease revenues by \$753,200 PR in FY18 and \$1,004,100 PR in FY19.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Restore 5.0 FTE PR positions, and \$359,700 PR in FY18 and \$610,600 PR in FY19, to reflect DPI estimates of workload reductions under the proposal (net decrease of 5.0 FTE PR positions).

Study on Public Benefits and Chronic Early Absenteeism

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Require the Departments of Children and Families, Public Instruction, Health Services, and Workforce Development to collaborate on a study of the population overlap of public benefit programs and chronic absenteeism among students. The report would be due on or before December 30, 2018, to the Governor and the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature.

Reestimates and Technical Changes

Debt Service Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase the base appropriation for debt service by \$5,400 GPR in FY18, and decrease the appropriation by \$16,800 GPR in FY19, to reflect a reestimate of debt service on authorized bonds.

Federal and Program Revenue Reestimates

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$923,600 FED in FY18 and \$923,600 FED in FY19 to reflect projected revenues and expenditures in the Department's federal program revenue appropriations.
- Request an increase of \$3,151,100 PR in FY18 and \$3,207,300 PR in FY19 to reflect projected revenues and expenditures in the Department's program revenue appropriations.

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

Fuel and Utilities Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Decrease the base appropriation for energy costs (for fuel and utilities at the state's two residential schools) by \$91,600 GPR in FY18 and by \$85,300 GPR in FY19, for expected changes in prices, reflecting statistically normal weather conditions (estimate produced by the Administration).

Renewable Energy Appropriation

AGENCY REQUEST:

- No request.

GOVERNOR:

- Create a new appropriation in the amount of \$14,500 GPR in F18 and FY19 for the purchasing of renewable energy; expenditure authority is transferred from an existing appropriation for fuel and utilities costs to this new appropriation.

Standard Budget Adjustments

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request adjustments to the agency's base to reflect standard budget adjustments for: 1) turnover reduction (-\$427,900 GPR and -\$494,800 FED in FY18 and FY19); 2) remove non-continuing items from the base (-1.0 FTE and -\$76,200 FED in FY18, and -2.0 FTE and -\$144,700 FED in FY19); 3) full funding of continuing salaries and fringe (-\$823,500 GPR, \$3,100 PR, \$66,100 PR-S and \$843,800 FED in FY18 and FY19); 4) overtime (\$274,500 GPR, \$3,600 PR, \$10,200 PR-S and \$50,200 FED in FY18 and FY19); 5) night and weekend differential (\$55,500 GPR, \$200 PR-S and \$400 FED in FY18 and FY19); and 6) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$52,200 GPR and \$16,800 FED in FY18 and \$99,800 GPR and \$18,200 FED in FY19).

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the request.

APPENDIX A: ITEMS IN OTHER STATE AGENCIES

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NOTE: For these items, no agency request is indicated, because the Department of Public Instruction does not include requests concerning programs in other state agencies in its budget request. All agencies' requests pertaining to their own programs can be found in the complete summary of all actions taken on the 2017-19 Biennial Budget, assembled by the [Legislative Fiscal Bureau](#).

Department of Administration (DOA)

Technology for Educational Achievement

GOVERNOR:

- Extending the sunset date of the Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) information technology infrastructure grant program (per the Administration, this would result in an additional \$15 million in available grants).
- Include portable hotspot devices placed on a bus or checked out from a school as eligible expense.
- Expand school district eligibility for FY18.
- Increasing expenditure authority for the FY18 grant cycle by an additional \$7.5 million.
- Consolidate the five separate TEACH appropriations into one appropriation.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Specify that the eligibility for IT infrastructure grants be 16 pupils per square mile or less in both years of the 2017-19 biennium.
- Reduce funding to DOA's appropriation for telecommunications access for educational agencies, infrastructure grants, and teacher training grants by \$1.5 million in FY18.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Early Absenteeism

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$500,000 FED (TANF) in FY19 to create a performance-based grant program for the purpose of reducing chronic absenteeism in early grades. Direct DCF to award grants under this program in FY19 and FY20; specify that the program would sunset after two years (June 30, 2020).
- Direct DCF to administer the grant program, in consultation with the Department (under a Memorandum of Understanding), using a pay for success model that would make continuation of funding contingent on achieving a year-over-year reduction in chronic absenteeism.
 - Eligible schools would include public elementary schools that experience chronic absenteeism in early grades. Priority would be given to schools with higher numbers of chronically absent students in early grades than other applicant schools; and other criteria as determined by the DCF.
 - DCF is directed to work with the Department to determine the appropriate absenteeism reduction goal.
- Direct DCF and the Department to enter into a MOU under which the two departments cooperate and exchange data for the purpose of determining grant eligibility, reviewing grant applications, developing

outcome measurements, verifying outcomes for grant recipients, and any other actions the departments agree are necessary.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete provision.

Families and Schools Together

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$250,000 FED in FY18 and in FY19 to support an evidence-based prevention/early intervention pilot program that connects schools, families and communities to enhance family functioning; promote scholastic success; and prevent substance abuse, delinquency and child maltreatment. The target population is students in four-year-old kindergarten through third grade, in five Milwaukee elementary schools, to be chosen by DCF.

Success Sequence in Academic Career Planning

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$50,000 in FY18 from TANF block grant funds for the development of career planning materials relating to the "success sequence." The success sequence refers to the idea that economic success is more likely if an individual graduates high school, maintains a full-time job, and has children while married and after age 21. The Department of Public Instruction would be required to work with DCF to develop the materials and to ensure that the success sequence would be incorporated into academic and career planning services beginning in FY20. DCF would be required to approve any instruction and materials prior to their dissemination to pupils. DPI would be authorized to promulgate rules to implement the success sequence.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete provision.

Department of Health Services (DHS)

Funding for Medical Assistance Benefits

JOINT FINANCE:

- Increase funding for medical assistance (MA) benefits by \$610,000 (\$250,000GPR / \$360,000 FED), beginning in FY19, to reflect an estimate of the cost of providing MA reimbursement for clinical consultation involving mental health practitioners and school personnel (students up to age 21).

Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB)

School Leadership Loan Program

JOINT FINANCE:

- Create a new, continuing appropriation under the Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB) for the school leadership loan program and provide \$500,000 GPR in FY18. To be eligible for a loan through the program, a student would have to meet all of the following criteria: (a) be enrolled in a school leadership program at a UW institution that permits students to earn degrees in less time than a traditional school leadership program and includes a required mentorship or apprenticeship component; (b) be nominated by a superintendent of a school district; and (c) be selected by the Board of HEAB in a competitive application process.

- Loan recipients could have 25 percent of the loan forgiven for each year that the recipient satisfies the following requirements: (a) is employed in a school leadership position in an elementary or secondary school in this state; and (b) received a rating of proficient or distinguished on the educator effectiveness system or the equivalent in a school that does not use the educator effectiveness system. Loan recipients who do not qualify for loan forgiveness would have to repay their loans at an interest rate of 5 percent. Require HEAB to deposit in the general fund as GPR-Earned all repayments of loans made under the program and the interest on the loans.
- Reduce the appropriation for the minority teacher loan program and the teacher loan program under HEAB by \$125,000 GPR each in FY18 and FY19. Base level funding for the minority teacher loan program is \$259,500 and base level funding for the teacher loan program is \$272,200. Require HEAB in preparing its agency budget request for the 2019-21 biennial budget to submit information concerning the appropriations for the minority teacher loan program and the teacher loan program as though the total amount appropriated for FY19 was \$125,000 more than the total amount that was actually appropriated.

Public Service Commission (PSC)

Broadband Expansion Funding

GOVERNOR:

- Increase expenditure authority for the broadband expansion grants in FY18 to account for a \$6 million transfer from the Universal Service Fund (USF) reserves and a \$5 million transfer from the Department of Administration e-rate reserves.
- Lift the \$1.5 million annual cap to allow for immediate spending of the existing \$3 million universal service fund allocation.
- Allow the broadband expansion grants and associated program responsibilities to be paid from the USF rate-assessed appropriation to utilize underspending and authorize the PSC to reserve grant funds for Connect America Fund and Alternative Connect America Cost Model providers in FY18.
- Transfer any unexpended funds from each universal service fund program at the end of each fiscal year, on an ongoing basis, to the broadband expansion grants (includes appropriations in the Department); and change the appropriation type from annual to continuing.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Governor's proposal, which amends the PSC's USF appropriation to authorize funds to be expended for performing the duties related to the administration of the broadband expansion grant program, to instead be expended for administering the broadband grant program.
- Require each state agency receiving USF revenues to report to the PSC within 30 days of the close of the fiscal year an estimate of the amount of unexpended and unencumbered funds in the agency's USF appropriation, except require DOA to provide the estimate in each odd-numbered year
- Require the PSC to reduce the amount of revenues to be raised through USF contributions for broadband expansion grants in the subsequent year by the amount of the estimated unexpended and unencumbered funds.
- In calculating contribution levels for telecommunications providers, require the PSC to ensure that a minimum annual funding level is available for making broadband expansion grants both through transfers from the various USF appropriations and from current year contributions. Create an

appropriation to expend the contributions received under this mechanism for broadband expansion grants and set the minimum annual funding level for broadband expansion grants at \$2,000,000.

- Delete the Governor’s proposal to authorize the PSC to allocate an amount that it determines for making broadband expansion grants to telecommunications utilities receiving A-CAM or Connect American Fund Phase II support and to evaluate applications and rewarding grants.
- Define “economic development,” as an eligibility criteria for the grant under current law, as development designed to promote job growth or retention, expand the property tax base, or improve the overall economic vitality of a municipality or a region.
- Delete the criteria that would give priority projects that affect areas with no broadband service providers and instead create a criteria that would give priority to unserved areas. Require the PSC to designate areas of the state as unserved areas. Define “unserved area” as an area of the state not served by an Internet service provider offering Internet service that is either fixed wireless service or wired service and that service is provided at speeds of at least 20 percent of the upload and download speeds for advanced telecommunications capability as designated by the Federal Communications Commission. Define “fixed wireless service” as a telecommunications service that provides radio communication between fixed points, except that it does not include mobile wireless service or telecommunications services transmitted through the use of satellites.
- Create an additional eligibility criteria that would give priority to projects that will not result in delaying the provision of broadband service to areas neighboring areas to be served by the proposed project.
- Require the PSC to consider the impacts of proposed projects on the availability of individuals to access health care services from home and the cost of those services, and the impacts of proposed projects on the ability of students to access educational opportunities from home, and the degree to which projects would duplicate existing broadband infrastructure. Authorize the PSC to designate a time period within which the applicant or another person would be allowed to provide information pertaining to the duplication of infrastructure.
- Modify current law that authorizes state agencies and other state entities owning real estate to grant easements for public utility service by specifying that the provision extends to telecommunications service, including fiber, and to utility services that are underground, to take effect on the effective date of the bill.
- Modify current law that authorizes certain entities transacting business in the state to construct and operate public utility property along state and local highways with the consent of the appropriate state or local officials to include lines, wires, or fiber for telecommunications service, including the transmission of voice, video, or data, and including service under the limits of the highway, to take effect on the effective date of the bill.

Focus on Energy

GOVERNOR:

- Direct the PSC to prioritize school energy efficiency projects in the Focus on Energy program by allocating an additional \$10 million from Focus on Energy funding annually for school projects; and further prioritizing this funding to the public elementary and secondary schools.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delete the provision.

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)

Fabrication Laboratory Technical Assistance Grants

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require that services provided under a grant award include in-school coaching and ongoing professional development for district personnel, in addition to the development of curricula for fabrication laboratories. (Prior Committee action created a temporary program for making fabrication laboratory technical assistance grants under the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation).

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD)

Wisconsin Fast Forward

GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE:

- Modify the Department's existing Fast Forward workforce training program to allow DWD to award grants from the Fast Forward appropriation for any of the following additional activities:
 - a) Grants for collaborative projects among *school districts, technical colleges, and businesses to provide high school students with industry-recognized certifications* in high-demand fields, as determined by the Department.
 - b) Grants for programs that *train teachers and that train individuals to become teachers*, including teachers in dual enrollment programs.
 - c) Grants for the development of public-private partnerships designed to improve workforce retention through employee support and training.
 - d) Grants to nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education as defined in federal law, and employers to increase the number of students who are placed with employers for internships.
 - e) Grants to community-based organizations for public-private partnerships to create and implement a *nursing training program for middle school and high school students*.
- Define "dual enrollment program" to mean a program or course of study designed to provide high school students the opportunity to gain credits in both technical college and high school, including transcribed credit programs or other educational services provided by contract between a school district and a technical college. Further, define "teacher" to include an instructor at a Wisconsin Technical College System technical college.
- Permit DWD to expend money from the Department's workforce training grant program appropriation as well as DWD's workforce training administration appropriation for the Department's registered apprenticeship program and for grants under the apprenticeship completion awards program. Under current law, apprenticeship-related expenditures from these appropriations are only permitted for apprenticeship completion awards.
- Specify that the Department must allocate not less than \$5,000,000 in FY18 from DWD's workforce training grant program appropriation for grants to technical colleges for: (a) workforce training programs as described above, and (b) grants to technical colleges under the existing Fast Forward workforce training program, which permits the Department to award grants to private and public organizations for the development and implementation of programs to train unemployed and underemployed workers and incumbent employees of businesses in this state.

- Specify that the Department must allocate not less than \$1,500,000 in the 2017-2019 biennium from DWD's workforce training grant program appropriation for grants to nursing training programs as described above.
- Specify that the Department may allocate \$5,000,000 in additional funding provided in FY18 from DWD's workforce training grant program appropriation for the expanded Fast Forward grant program.
- Require DWD to report annually, by December 31, to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Finance: (a) the number of students who participate in certification or training programs under "a." and "e." above; and (b) information on the number of student interns who are placed with employers as a result of the grants awarded under "d." above.

Grants for Teacher Training and Recruitment

JOINT FINANCE:

- Transfer \$500,000 GPR annually and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) biennial GPR Teach for America appropriation to DWD and rename the appropriation "Workforce development; grants for teacher training and recruitment." From this appropriation, require DWD to award a grant to a nonprofit organization that applies to receive a grant if all the following apply: (a) the organization is described under section 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, (b) the organization operates a program to recruit and prepare individuals to teach in public or private schools located in low-income or urban school districts in Wisconsin, and (c) the organization submits an application no later than January 15 in the year for which the organization seeks a grant and includes with its application a description of the organization and its program and the manner in which grant funding will benefit or has benefited the organization in the past.
- Require DWD to establish a process for evaluating and assigning a score to each organization eligible to receive a teacher training and recruitment grant. If the amount appropriated is insufficient, require DWD to give preference in evaluating teacher training and recruitment grants to a nonprofit organization for each of the following: (a) the program trains future teachers who are enrolled in an accredited college or university in Wisconsin concurrent with training; (b) the program focuses on future teachers who plan to teach in public or private schools in Wisconsin as a profession; (c) the program provides continuing education and professional development; and (d) the program attempts to place a majority of its total participants in public or private schools located in low-income or urban school districts in Wisconsin.
- Specify that DWD, when awarding a teacher training and recruitment grant, may not consider the religious affiliation, if any, of the nonprofit organization or whether the organization has received funding from the state in the past.
- Require DWD, by February 15 of each year, to make its determination regarding successful applicants and notify those applicants that will receive a teacher training and recruitment grant.
- Delete the DPI Teach for America grant program which authorizes DPI to grant the amounts appropriated in the schedule to Teach for America, Inc., for the purposes of recruiting and preparing individuals to teach in low-income or urban school districts in Wisconsin.

Grant for Building Occupational Skills for Success Program (BOSS Grants)

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require DWD to provide a grant of \$200,000 in FY18, from the Department's workforce training grants appropriation, to the Milwaukee Development Corporation for the purpose of supporting the Building Occupational Skills for Success (BOSS) program that is designed to provide students with the skills and

tools needed to become future business owners if all of the following are satisfied: (a) the Milwaukee Development Corporation or any other organization provides equal matching funds to support the BOSS program; (b) the Milwaukee Development Corporation agrees to make the BOSS program curriculum available, upon request, from any school board, operator of a charter school authorized under section 118.40 (2r) or (2x) of the statutes, private school, tribal school, or any nonprofit organization after the program has been implemented in Milwaukee Public Schools for one year; and (c) the Milwaukee Development Corporation agrees to submit a report to the Joint Committee on Finance that summarizes the results of the BOSS program by no later than 90 days after the program has been implemented in Milwaukee Public Schools for one year.

Career and Technical Education Incentive Grants

JOINT FINANCE:

- Require DWD to allocate not less than \$3,500,000 GPR annually for Career and Technical Education incentive grants from the Department's workforce training grants appropriation, instead of not less than \$3,000,000 under current law.

Technical Education Equipment Grants

JOINT FINANCE

- Create a new technical education equipment grant program, under which DWD would be required to allocate at least \$500,000 annually from the Fast Forward program (appropriation for workforce training), for the purpose of acquiring equipment that is used in advanced manufacturing fields in the workplace, software necessary for the operation of the equipment, and any instruction material necessary to train pupils in the operation of the equipment.
- Maximum grant to a school district would be \$50,000.
- Match would be required – per the motion, 200 percent of the grant amount awarded, in the form of money or the monetary value of equipment, contributed from private sources, the school district, or both.
- DWD would be required to promulgate rules to administer the grant program.
- Additional requirements related to appointment of an advisory committee, to be submitted in grant applications, reporting on outcomes.
- Require each school district that receives a grant to file a report with DWD by September 1 of each of the first three fiscal after the grant was received. The report must describe how the grant moneys were expended, describe the outcomes achieved as a result of receiving the grant, share the best practices employed by the school district regarding the training of pupils in the use of the equipment acquired with the grant moneys, include a plan for sustainability of that training, and provide such other information as the Department may require under rules promulgated by DWD.
- Authorize DWD to award grants to a school district to support building modifications needed to support a school district's technical education programs.

Early College Credit Program (see also the [ECCP summary for DPI](#))

GOVERNOR:

- Create an annual GPR appropriation and provide \$1,150,300 in FY18 and \$1,753,500 in FY19 to reimburse school districts for payments under the early college credit program (ECCP), under which any

public high school pupil could enroll in an institution of higher education for the purpose of taking one or more nonsectarian courses, including during a summer semester or session.

- Require DWD to pay to DPI a portion of the costs of tuition for a pupil attending an institution of higher education under this program on behalf of the school board, with the reimbursement percentage determined based on the type of course credit received by the pupil (as described in the [ECCP summary for DPI's budget provisions](#)).
- If the appropriation under DWD is insufficient to reimburse all school districts the full amount of reimbursable tuition, the Secretary of DWD would be required to notify the State Superintendent, who would then be required to prorate the amount of the payments among eligible school districts.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Delay creation of the early college credit program and restoration of the part-time open enrollment program until FY19 and as a result, delete \$1,150,300 GPR in FY18. (See "[ECCP summary for DPI's budget provisions](#) for full summary.)

APPENDIX B: PROGRAM LANGUAGE CHANGES – PRIVATE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS

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[RETURN TO PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS SUMMARY](#)

Program Language Changes: MPCP, RPCP, WPCP

	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR’S PROPOSAL (AB 64)	JOINT FINANCE (ASA 1 TO AB64)
1	Require private schools to be non-profit organizations.	Deny.	
2	Change the due date for the summer school report from October 1 to September 15.	Approve.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
3	Remove the continuing eligibility report; new accountability provisions will provide better information.	Approve.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
4	Modify the disclosure of information reporting requirements to: 1) require continuing schools to provide signatures of new board members, and upon request, provide the statutory school policies to the Department; 2) require new schools to submit to the Department the board member signatures and copies of the schools’ policies by the January 10 prior to the first year of school participation in the program; and 3) Provide that continuing schools’ policies would be provided to the Department upon request.	Approve.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
5	Require new private schools to be fully accredited to participate in choice programs in the future.	Deny.	
6	Delete current law preaccreditation provisions; they would no longer be needed due to the requirement to be fully accreditation in order to participate in the choice programs in the future (see requested change above).	Deny.	
7	Delete the recently enacted new school requirements; they would no longer be needed due to the requirement to be fully accreditation in order to participate in the choice programs in the future (see requested change above).	Deny.	

	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL (AB 64)	JOINT FINANCE (ASA 1 TO AB64)
8	Allow parents to access the Department of Revenue (DOR) data directly in the online pupil application to determine income eligibility for the program, so that parents can determined immediately if DOR has their income records. If not, the parent must use the DPI income determination method. Currently, only schools, not parents, can submit data to DOR.	Approve.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
9	Repeal s. 118.60 (1m), Wis. Stats., to eliminate the provision that requires the Department to certify the districts eligible to participate in the parental choice program for eligible school districts and other school districts. This is section is no longer necessary, given the provisions under s.118.60, Wis. Stats., that provides for a statewide parental choice program.	Approve.	Retain.
10	Similarly, repeal s. 118.60 (1) (am), Wis. Stats., to eliminate eligibility criteria that are longer applicable, given the provisions under s.118.60, Wis. Stats., that provides for a statewide parental choice program.	Approve.	Retain.
11	Repeal language in current law that requires that 6.6 percent of the aid reduction to the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) district related to the MPCP be paid directly to the City of Milwaukee and then requires the city to pay that same amount back to MPS.	Deny.	
12	Specify that a school may be barred from participating in a private parental choice program in the current school year and future years if the school misrepresents information required under the statutes or administrative rules governing the choice programs.	Approve.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
13		Permit a pupil who has attended school in another state in the previous school year to be eligible to enroll into a private school under the WPCP.	Delete. <i>This modification was included in 2017 Act 36.</i>

	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL (AB 64)	JOINT FINANCE (ASA 1 TO AB64)
14		Eliminate the current law minimum hours of instruction requirement for private schools participating in the state's private school parental choice programs.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
15		Prohibit the Department from requiring a continuously participating private school that is in good standing with the Department to submit the private school's annual operating budget as evidence of its fiscal and internal control practices.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
16		Prohibit the Department from requiring a private school that is new to the state's private school parental choice programs and that is in good standing with the Department, except for new private schools, to submit the private school's annual operating budget as evidence of financial viability.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.
17		Require private schools participating in the state's private school parental choice programs to conduct background investigations, with the assistance of the Department of Justice, for all of the following: 1) all teachers and administrators who are employed by the private school (as of the effective date of the budget bill); 2) prospective teachers or administrators, before making an offer of employment; and 3) all teachers and administrators at least once every five years after a teacher's or administrator's initial background investigation.	Delete as non-fiscal policy item.

Program Language Changes: Special Needs Scholarship Program

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	AGENCY REQUEST	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL (AB 64)	JOINT FINANCE (ASA 1 TO AB64)
1	Modify the process for verification that an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Services Plan is in place, so as to: 1) Require that the private school directly request verification that a student has an IEP or services plan that meets the SNSP requirement from the local educational agency (LEA) that developed the IEP or services plan; 2) Require that the LEA provide a copy of the IEP or services plan to the private school if the LEA has an IEP or services plan that met the SNSP requirement; 3) Require that the private school submit eligible applications to the Department after the application has been determined eligible, including the private school receiving a copy of the IEP or services plan that meets the requirements from the public school district; and 4) Provide LEAs with five business days to respond to an IEP or services plan verification request.	Approve.	Remove as non-fiscal policy.
2	Allow a nonresident school district to complete the three year reevaluation upon written request of the parent. (This proposed change would ensure that a pupil attending a private school under the SNSP in a <u>nonresident</u> district would not be required to be reevaluated by two different school districts and would result in a more consistent and streamlined evaluation process).	Approve.	Remove as non-fiscal policy.
3	Modify the open enrollment denial requirements for participation in the SNSP to include the following reasons: 1) The special education or related services required in the child's IEP are not available in the resident school district; 2) Space is not available in the special education or related services required in the child's IEP; 3) The pupil has been referred for special education, but has not yet been evaluated by the IEP team; and 4) Special education or related services and/or space is not available under a newly developed or revised IEP.	Deny.	
4	Require all schools to be fully accredited prior to participation in the SNSP and delete the State Superintendent approval process under s. 115.791 (2) (c), Wis. Stats. (The approval process would not be needed if schools are required to be fully accredited prior to participation.)	Deny.	Remove as non-fiscal policy.
5	Modify the penalties provisions under s.115.791 (8) (a) 1., Wis. Stats., to specify that a school may be barred from participating in SNSP in the current school year and future school years if the school misrepresents information required under the statutes or administrative rule governing the SNSP.	Approve.	Remove as non-fiscal policy.

APPENDIX C: OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

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Study of Proposed School District Creation

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Provide \$75,000 GPR in FY18 in a biennial appropriation for a study of school district creation and require the Department to issue a request for proposal for the study within 30 days after the bill's effective date.
- Require DPI to contract with an entity to conduct a study of the effect of reorganizing a school district that meets the following criteria in FY16 and FY17: (a) is assigned to the lowest performance category on the annual accountability reports; and (b) received intradistrict transfer aid. The study would consider the effect of creating one or more new school districts that consist of one or more villages located within the eligible school district.
- Specify that the contract must require the entity to evaluate at least all of the following: (a) the estimated general and categorical school aid that the existing school district and new district or districts would be eligible to receive following the reorganization; (b) the impact the reorganization would have on the amount of property taxes paid by residents of the existing school district and the new district or districts; (c) an inventory of school buildings located in the existing school district; and (d) the assets and liabilities of the existing school district. Require that the entity produce a report no later than 120 days after the contract is awarded. Require that the report would be submitted to DPI, and that DPI would distribute the report to the village board of each village located in the existing school district as well as the school board of the eligible school district.

OSPP – New Eligibility Criteria

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

Modify current law provisions surrounding the Opportunity Schools and Partnership Program (OSPP) that will impact the Racine Unified School District (RUSD):

- Create new eligibility criteria to qualify as an “eligible unified school district” for the creation of the OSPP. To qualify as an eligible unified school district, specify that a district must meet the criteria for the creation of an OSPP under current law, and two new criteria: the district contains a city that has a population of more than 75,000 and the district contains at least two villages.
- Require the State Superintendent to notify, by November 30, 2017 and each year thereafter, the school district administrator of an eligible unified district and the clerk of each village in an eligible unified school district that the district qualifies for the creation of an OSPP.
- Provide a mechanism that would delay the process for creating the OSPP:
 - Within 120 days after receiving notice that the district qualifies for the creation of an OSPP, an eligible unified school district could demonstrate to DOA that the school board is not delegating its authority to make decisions about providing benefits to its employees.

- If DOA certifies that the school board of the eligible unified school district is not delegating its authority to make decisions about providing employee benefits, the county executive could not select a commissioner unless the eligible unified school district was assigned to the lowest performance category on the accountability reports published in the three most recent school years, and received intradistrict transfer aid in the three most recent school years.
- If DOA does not certify that the district is complying with the prohibition, require the county executive to proceed with the process of selecting a commissioner, as under current law.

School District Creation

AGENCY REQUEST/GOVERNOR:

- No request.

JOINT FINANCE:

- Within 60 days after receiving notice that the school district qualifies as an eligible unified school district, specify that the village board of each village located within the district could consider a resolution to affirm or deny the village board's intent to create a new school district. If the board adopts a resolution affirming the village's intent to create a new district, require that the board include all of the following information in the resolution: (a) the territory of the new school district, which must correspond with village boundaries but may incorporate more than one village; (b) the name of the new school district; (c) the type of school district and the grades to be taught by the new school district; and (d) the proposed effective date of the school district creation, either July 1 of the following year or July 1 of the second following year.
- Require a village board to adopt a resolution to provide for a referendum to create a new school district if the following criteria are met: (a) the village board did not adopt such a resolution in the previous school year; (b) DOA certified that the district is not delegating decisions about employee benefits; (c) the district was assigned to the lowest performance category on the accountability reports published in the three most recent school years; and (d) the district received intradistrict transfer aid in the three most recent school years.
- Require that the resolution to provide for a referendum to create a new school district would be adopted within 60 days after receiving notice that the school district qualifies as an eligible unified school district. Specify that the board must include the following information in the resolution: (a) the territory of the new school district, which must correspond with village boundaries but may incorporate more than one village; (b) the name of the new school district; (c) the type of school district and the grades to be taught by the new school district; and (d) the proposed effective date of the school district creation, either July 1 of the following year or July 1 of the second following year.
- If a village board adopts a resolution affirming its intent to create a new school district or providing for a referendum, require the village board to submit the resolution to the School District Boundary Appeals Board (SDBAB). Upon receipt of the resolution, require SDBAB to hold a public hearing on the proposed reorganization. After the hearing and after consulting with the school board of the eligible unified school district and the village boards of the villages located within the proposed school district, require SDBAB to determine the apportionment of assets and liabilities between the eligible unified school district and the proposed school district according to criteria established in current law for the apportionment of assets and liabilities following the division of territory. Require SDBAB to issue an order by no later than 180 days after the board receives notice of the district's eligibility that includes the territory of the new school district, as described in the resolution adopted by the village board, and the apportionment of assets and liabilities.

- Require a binding referendum to be held on a proposed reorganization in the territory of the school district proposed to be created by the reorganization. Require that the referendum be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November following the order issued by SDBAB.
- If a majority of the votes cast in the referendum is in favor of the creation of the proposed district, require the village boards of the villages included in the proposed school district to adopt a resolution to designate the following for the proposed district no later than 60 days after the referendum: (a) the number of school board members in the new district; (b) the terms of initial members of the school board; (c) the method of election of school board members. Require the village to submit the resolution to the eligible unified school district. After receiving the resolution, require the school board of the eligible district to make and file an order of reorganization designating that the first election of school board members must occur at the regularly scheduled spring election immediately following the date on which the order is filed with the board. Specify that the reorganization would take effect on the July 1 described in the resolution adopted by the village board.
- Specify that the school district creation process under current law would not apply to a school district created under the process described above.

[END OF DOCUMENT]