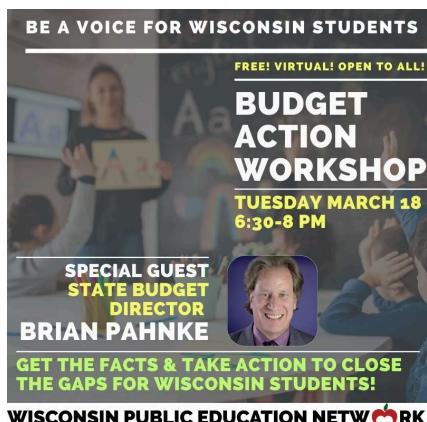


2025-2027 Budget Action Toolkit: Resources & Actions

Budget action starts with you! As you meet and chat with members of your own community — caregivers, educators, fellow advocates, and more — be ready to explain what's at stake for kids and public schools in the budget. Then, invite them into the budget action movement so they're ready to take action, too!

- [Toolkit](#) - link to this document
- **Budget HQ:** <https://www.wisconsinnetwork.org/budget>
 - [Budget priorities handout](#) / printable
 - [Calendar](#) of Wisconsin Public Education Network events
- **Presentation materials:**
 - [Short slideshow](#) (4 SIMPLE slides for short presentations)
 - Longer slideshow (email hdb@WisconsinNetwork.org for access and customization)
- **SHAREABLE links (email/Zoom meeting chats/etc):** *Put these two sentences in the chat of your Zooms, signature line, etc!*
 - Learn about the state budget process, what it means for WI kids & public schools, and how to take action! www.WisconsinNetwork.org/budget
 - [Sign & share the petition to close the funding gap for Wisconsin students!](#) This petition calls for 90% reimbursement for Special Education!
<https://secure.everyaction.com/gboTylpickCnZOHjQXD2Ww2>
- [Testimony Tracker](#) from the 2025 Joint Finance Hearings (2023 tracker here)
- [Members of the Joint Committee of Finance](#) (with copy/pastable emails!).
- Find your lawmakers [here](#).
- [Schedule of listening sessions](#) for all legislators (*thanks, WECAN!*)
- **Video, two minutes of testimony:** [Dena Walcsik testimony](#) from Day of Action
- [Crafting your testimony worksheet, pro-tips and more!](#)



3/18 Budget Action Workshop

Video: March 18 2025

[Budget Action Workshop featuring Brian Pahnke](#)

Passcode: %.jD\$5C4

[Workshop Slideshow](#)

[2025 Budget Action Toolkit](#)



PUBLIC EDUCATION CHAMPIONS TAKING ACTION TO PUT STUDENTS FIRST IN THE 2025-2027 WISCONSIN STATE BUDGET!

DID YOU KNOW? Wisconsin currently reimburses only 29% of special education costs for **public schools**, but 100% of costs for 99.6% of the students receiving special needs vouchers at **private schools**, which are not required to meet the needs or protect the rights of students with disabilities.

Public schools spent **\$1.16 BILLION** in 2023-2024 on unreimbursed costs. The special education funding gap hurts **ALL** students.

SIGN THE PETITION: CLOSE THE SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING GAP!

Wisconsin Public Education Network is a nonpartisan grassroots coalition supporting strong public schools that provide equal opportunity for all students to thrive. The Network is a project of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions may be made [online](#) or sent to: 1502 W. Broadway, Suite 102, Madison, WI 53713. [WisconsinNetwork.org](#).



Legislative Advocacy/Testimony Tools

You have a finite amount of time to deliver an official testimony, but you have unlimited time to amplify your message, build a productive relationship with your lawmaker, and grow your movement of public school champions.

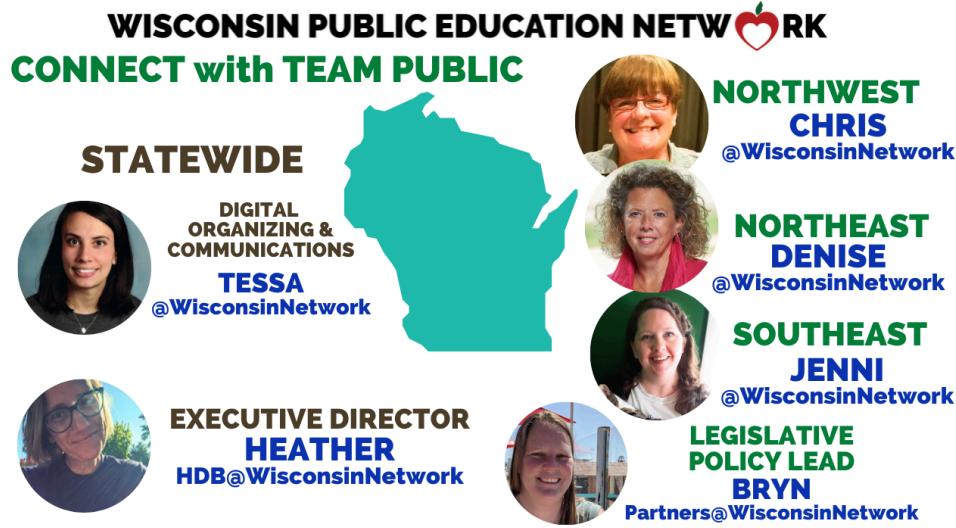
Some of the ways you can reach lawmakers include:

- **Testimony (written or in person)**
- **Office visits**
- **Direct communication**
- **Town halls/forums**
- **Invite them to meet you where you are - and visit local schools!**

Further resources on legislative advocacy and testimony:

- [2025 Legislative Advocacy Tips document](#)
- [Legislative Advocacy Scenario Activity – with sample group notes for facilitators](#)
- Joint Finance Committee Testimony ([example: Deb. 2019](#))
- [2021 written and video testimony](#) from Network Partners, plus tutorials and *testimony trackers*.

WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK



www.WisconsinNetwork.org
facebook.com/WisconsinNetwork