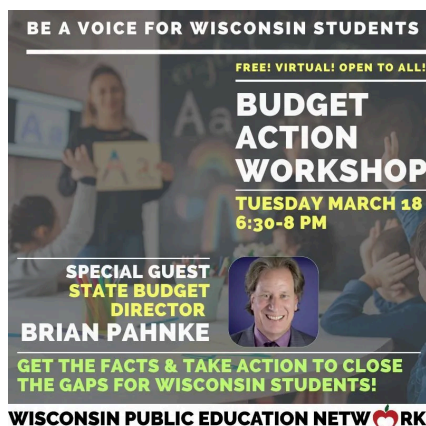


WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK RK

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, WE CAN!*)
 - **Video, two minutes of testimony:** [Dena Walcsiak 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](#)

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.

BE A VOICE FOR WISCONSIN STUDENTS

**JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARINGS
ON THE 2025-2027 BIENNIAL BUDGET**

APRIL 2	KAUKAUNA HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL 4	STATE FAIR PARK, WEST ALLIS
APRIL 28	HAYWARD HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL 29	WAUSAU, NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**DEMAND AND DELIVER A
BUDGET THAT WORKS FOR
WISCONSIN KIDS.**

LEARN MORE:
WisconsinNetwork.org/BUDGET



WISCONSIN PUBLIC EDUCATION NETWORK 

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!**



PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNITE US

It's time to hold Wisconsin accountable to STOP funding discrimination and demand ALL public school students have the resources they need to thrive.

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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*.


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