



## NORTH LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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p 262.966.2033 • f 262.966.3710

February 16, 2023

Senator Chris Kapenga  
Senate District 33  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Kapenga,

The North Lake School District has worked hard to find solutions for the **broken state school funding model**. Similar to other Wisconsin school districts, North Lake School has experienced severe declining enrollment and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future.

At the same time the district's revenue decreases, expenses continue to increase. North Lake School has highly qualified educators and strives to maintain the high level of learning for its students. However, the rainy day fund balance can no longer sustain the operational expenses. The North Lake School District has no choice other than asking its taxpayers to exceed the revenue limit. It is truly unbelievable that a conservative spending district like North Lake has been fiscally handicapped since 1993 and unable to generate necessary dollars due to the **broken state school funding model**.

The North Lake School District is the epitome of doing more with less. There simply are no other positions or programs to cut at this time and that is why the district is asking for a non-recurring operational referendum in April of 2023. In the meantime, we ask that you strongly advocate for a positive change in the **broken state school funding model**. There needs to be an increase in per pupil spending as well as special education reimbursement. Raising the revenue limit by building in an annual inflation adjustment would allow public school districts like ours to maintain its excellent educational experience.

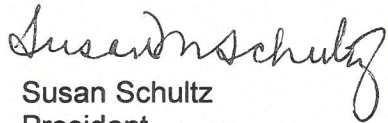
In summary, we are concerned about the 2023-2025 biennial budget process and its potential impact on the North Lake School students. If the proposed referendum does not pass for our district, there is a real potential that the North Lake School District could dissolve and the North Lake Community would significantly suffer. It is unfortunate that one of the top performing K-8 school districts in the state is in this position due to the **broken state school funding model**. Although North Lake School attracts the highest percent of open enrollment students in the state, the declining resident pupil count has a devastating effect on the school budget due to the **broken state school funding model**.

(continued)

[northlakeschool.org](http://northlakeschool.org)

Please work with your colleagues to provide an education funding plan that provides the necessary dollars for districts like North Lake School. Thank you for your serious consideration of this information and requests from the North Lake School Board.

Sincerely,



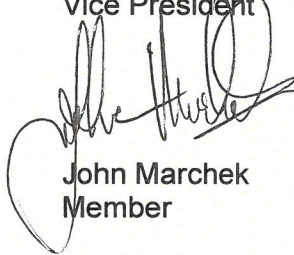
Susan Schultz  
President



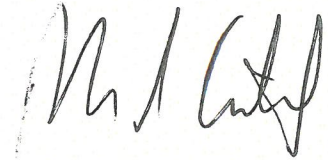
Mary Iverson  
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Debra Schaber  
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