



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Support for the Madison School District referendum among local elected leaders is overwhelming.

Of those representing areas in the Madison School District, 14 Madison alders, 16 Dane County supervisors, all the state legislators, three Fitchburg alders, Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz, and Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk all support the school district's proposed referendum.

Madison Community and Schools Together is proud of these leaders and grateful for their support.

The letter of support and the leaders who have signed on are on page 2 of this release. We hope that you will find space in your publication for this important letter.



As elected officials, we work hard to make Madison and Fitchburg the best places in the country. Even national polls agree that our area is hard to beat.

The foundation of our vibrant community is our public schools. Our kids and schools need our support this fall.

**We urge you to vote for the Madison schools referendum on Nov 4.**

Public schools are key to keeping Madison's economy strong. Talented professionals, the people who start and build new businesses, don't do it in a vacuum. They choose communities with the resources for a good life, as well as a good business. First among those resources is quality schools.

Schools in Madison and across Wisconsin are suffering from state-imposed cuts in funding. Some public schools are literally on the verge of bankruptcy. Madison schools have cut programs and services by over \$60 million since 1993, when the restrictions began. *Every year it's harder and harder to provide our children the education they need and deserve. They're missing opportunities we all want for them.*

The long-term solution to the problem lies with the Wisconsin Legislature. But until there's a majority working toward a solution, we have to protect our kids.

The November 4 proposal will increase taxes by about \$28 on a \$250,000 home in 2009, \$43 in 2010, and \$21 in 2011. The school district's website has details: [www.madison.k12.wi.us](http://www.madison.k12.wi.us)

For that investment, we'll maintain smaller class sizes, keep first rate teachers on the job, help our special needs kids, keep up with basic maintenance—and much more. All elected officials struggle with the balance between taxes and services; this referendum is very reasonable. The increase in taxes is modest. The commitment to our kids is enormous.

In America, *every* child deserves a chance to succeed—not just the rich. This astonishing idea has changed the world. Public schools make the American dream a reality.

**Join us by voting YES on the Madison schools referendum on Nov 4!**

**Madison School Board**

Arlene Silveira  
Ed Hughes  
Lucy Mathiak  
Beth Moss  
Marjorie Passman  
Johnny Winston, Jr.

**Fitchburg Alders**

Roger Tesch  
Bill Horns  
Steve Arnold

**Madison Mayor**

Dave Cieslewicz

**Madison Alders**

Brenda Konkel  
Mike Verveer  
Robbie Webber  
Marsha Rummel  
Eli Judge  
Brian Solomon  
Tim Gruber  
Satya Rhodes-Conway  
Julia Kerr  
Tim Bruer  
Larry Palm  
Judy Compton  
Joe Clausius  
Mark Clear

**Dane County Executive**

Kathleen Falk

**Dane County Supervisors**

Scott McDonell  
Barbara Vedder  
Brett Hulsey  
Wyndham Manning  
John Hendrick  
Matt Veldran  
Carousel Andrea Bayrd  
Dianne Hesselbein  
Paul Rusk  
Chuck Erickson  
Melanie Hampton  
Dave de Felice  
Tom Stoebig  
Dorothy Wheeler  
Sheila Stubbs  
Kyle Richmond

**State Senators**

Mark Miller  
Fred Risser  
Jon Erpenbach

**Assembly Representatives**

Sondy Pope-Roberts  
Joe Parisi  
Mark Pocan  
Spencer Black  
Terese Berceau