

Superintendent Baker:

I'm contacting you—as the leader of the Tomahawk School District—on behalf of the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools (WAES) and the Wisconsin Public Education Network (WPEN). We have all worked together in the past—for our rural public schools and rural public school children. **Now, we need to come together again.**

Public schools -- especially those in rural Wisconsin -- face significant challenges. Recent state budgets have resulted in fewer resources to educate our children. At the same time, revenue limits have been ratcheted down with a harsh impact on students. A state-funded voucher program is spreading at the expense of our time-tested and proven public schools.

Even though those public schools are under attack, they are the very heart and soul of our communities. Not only do you educate the work force and society of tomorrow, but your hallways and classrooms are the gathering places for civic groups, community activities, and social interaction. Your football fields, concert stages, and academic fairs provide education and entertainment for anyone interested. The folks you employ help anchor a strong and vibrant economy.

For two years, WPEN has worked hard to support those public schools. It is the only coalition that has successfully built a network of community organizations, individuals, and statewide advocates that have the largest stake in the success of public education. We have forged a strong working relationship with the Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) and its executive director Jerry Fiene. WPEN is made up of educators, school board members, businesses, moms and dads, and civic leaders from one end of the state to the other. Its purpose is to use that diversity as a strength to fight for stronger public schools. We have all made a difference.

Now, our coalition needs your financial support to continue this important work.

WPEN coordinator Tom Beebe has retired. We are now in the middle of a fund-raising drive to replace Tom and make sure WPEN remains in the fight for our schools and kids.

WPEN has established the perfect goal: **This network exists to promote and enhance public schools, the children who attend, and the communities that support them. Our goal is to showcase what happens in our public schools, engage people in their community schools, oppose predatory privatization of education, and work to change the way the state funds public education.**

Public Schools: The of Our



We also finalized the relationship between WAES and WPEN. WAES will be responsible for fiduciary oversight; defining the role of the WAES executive director; selection of the executive director; and supervision of the individual selected for that position. **The primary responsibility of the WAES executive director will be to facilitate activities of the Wisconsin Public Education Network.**

Working with WiRSA, your school district, and the people of your communities, WAES and WPEN will make sure our public schools and the communities that support them continue to deliver a world-class education to children in every corner of Wisconsin.

This effort needs your support, including a generous contribution. WPEN understands that these are not normal times. It is difficult to find the resources. So consider your contribution an investment in your constituents who are working for strong public schools, supported teachers, involved communities, and the world-class education of our children.

School districts are asked to contribute according to a formula that is explained on the attached invoice. It is only a suggestion, and any amount will be put to good use.

Please send your contribution to: Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools, 6621 Maywood Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562 (when you mail it, let Tom know at tbeebe@wisconsinsfuture.org). If you need more information or paperwork, don't hesitate to contact Tom.

Also, whether you contribute to this work monetarily or not, please "join" WPEN and come together in this fight for public education. Let Tom know—again, at tbeebe@wisconsinsfuture.org—and he will put you on the list to be kept abreast of network activities and aware of upcoming meetings.

Challenges await WAES, WPEN, and, most importantly, our public schools and public school children in the coming months. The elections are past, but serious work needs to be done going into the upcoming legislative session. Therefore, **we need your monetary support as soon as possible to make sure WPEN is up to that challenge.**

Thank you so much for your support.

Tom

--

Tom Beebe
920-650-0525
tbeebe@wisconsinsfuture.org
<http://www.wisconsinsfuture.org>



Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools

6621 Maywood Avenue
Middleton, Wisconsin 53562
Phone: 920-650-0525
E-mail: tbeebe@wisconsinsfuture.org
Website: [//www.wisconsinsfuture.org/waes](http://www.wisconsinsfuture.org/waes)

Wisconsin Alliance
for Excellent Schools

Invoice

<p>Partner:</p> <p>Cheryl Baker Tomahawk School District 1048 East Kings Road Tomahawk, Wisconsin 54487</p>	<p>Invoice number: 00131</p> <p>Invoice date: November 17, 2014</p>
--	---

Description	Total
<p>Your suggested contribution for a partnership in the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools based on the following formula: <i>Contribution = \$200 + \$.25/member (2013-14 revenue limit worksheet, line 6)</i></p> <p>$\\$200 + (\\$.25 \times 1,286) =$</p>	<p>\$521.50</p>
	<p>\$521.50</p>

Thank you for join the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools

The Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools exists to promote and enhance public schools, the children who attend, and the communities that support them. Our goal is to showcase what happens in our public schools, engage people in their community schools, oppose predatory privatization of education, and work to change the way the state funds public education.