

**RESOLUTION OF THE
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RHINELANDER**

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has proposed a \$150 decrease per pupil in categorical aid for 2015-2016;

WHEREAS, this decrease in categorical aid results in a \$372,000 "base" cut to the School District of Rhineland; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the 2015-2016 decrease in categorical aid of \$150 per pupil, Governor Walker's plan also includes no revenue limit per pupil increase;

WHEREAS, under the operation of the 1993-1994 state imposed revenue limits, which capped the amount schools can collect in state aid and local property taxes combined, the School District of Rhineland has been forced to make budget cuts of over \$10 million in the last decade;

WHEREAS, the proposed budget expands taxpayer subsidies to private voucher and independent charter schools, taking additional funds from state general aid to school districts and reducing state funding for public schools; and

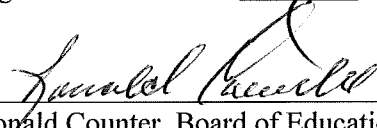
WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides an additional \$211.2 million in increased school levy credits, which will not provide resources directly to schools but will instead flow to taxpayers as property tax relief.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School District of Rhineland Board of Education strongly encourages Governor Walker and the State Legislature to revise the state budget to

- reinstate the \$150 per pupil special categorical aid;
- allow for a \$75 per pupil revenue limit increase or remove the cap on levy;
- modify the proposal that would expand private school vouchers so as to eliminate the use of public funds that would come directly from public school general aid;
- support the Governor's proposals stemming from recommendations of the Rural School Task Force, including teacher loan forgiveness, Teach 2.0, high cost transportation aid, and eliminating the enrollment cap on sparsity aid;
- remove all policy items from the budget so they can be assigned to the appropriate standing committees to receive the discussion and vetting that they deserve; and,
- restore school funding in 2015-2017 to educationally adequate levels, including no decrease in year 1 anticipated revenue, while also providing for inflationary revenue increases in both years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School District of Rhineland Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to prepare and present this Resolution to Governor Walker and State Legislators.

Signed and Dated this 20th day of April, 2015.



Ronald Counter, Board of Education President