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For Immediate Release

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Schools in Parental Choice Programs Continues to Grow

Significant Increase Only Slowed By Restrictive Caps

Data released today by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) today shows increases in the number of participating schools in the Parental Choice Programs across the state. In response to high parent demand, schools in every corner of Wisconsin are joining the programs.

“In reaction to increased demand, dozens of new schools are entering the Parental Choice Programs in Wisconsin,” Jim Bender, President of School Choice Wisconsin, said. “While we celebrate the growth in the program we must also realize that many schools remain on the sideline due to a combination of high administrative costs and restrictive enrollment caps.”

“We are hopeful Governor Walker and the legislature will respond to this clear demand by making changes in the next state budget,” Bender said. “The programs were not created to build waiting lists leaving parents on the outside looking in. By increasing caps, schools, parents and students will have those program options available.”

Below is the data for the Parental Choice Programs around the state:

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program

- 163 total schools participating
- 42 new schools participating
- 31 new first-time participating schools

Racine Parental Choice Program

- 23 total schools participating
- 3 new first-time participating schools

Milwaukee Parental Choice Program

- 127 total schools participating
- 5 new first-time participating schools