



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Republicans Play Politics in Session,
Democrats Fight for Public Schools**

MADISON — Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met in session for a Republican attempt to override Governor Tony Evers’ veto of AB 336, which would have ended federal enhanced unemployment payments over a month early. Governor Evers also called for a special session to take action on \$550 million for education funding, but the bill was not taken up by the Republican majority today. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement:

“Assembly Republicans called us in to session today under the guise of addressing Wisconsin’s workforce shortage. Their solution was to attempt to override the final few weeks of federal unemployment benefits. But despite the political rhetoric from the right over the last six months, Wisconsin’s worker shortage is not new. Ending these final few weeks of extended benefits won’t solve this deep-seated problem.

“Today, we had the opportunity to get work on real solutions and policies that will draw workers to our communities. When we fund our schools and invest in a strong public education system, people choose to come to and stay in our communities. The Assembly had an opportunity to do what was best for Wisconsin kids and our economy by taking action during the special session to invest \$550 million in public education. This funding would have restored critical resources Republicans cut from Governor Evers’ original budget proposal.

“As our state works to prevent another wave of COVID-19, Republicans have done the bare minimum when it comes to addressing Wisconsinites’ priorities. I’m proud to stand with my fellow Assembly Democrats to support more funding for Wisconsin schools. The message from education leaders at every level has been clear: our schools and our kids need these additional resources. If we don’t invest in classrooms now, districts in every corner of the state will be forced to lay off teachers, cut programs, or go to referendum, and we will continue to struggle to attract the workers our community needs. Instead of playing cheap political games, Republicans need to get to work and invest in our community’s long-term needs.”

State Budget	New K12 Classroom Funding
2011-2013	\$ (901,317,500)
2013-2015	\$ 248,851,900
2015-2017	\$ 97,640,200
2017-2019	\$ 562,022,000
2019-2021	\$ 608,709,800
2021-2023	\$ 111,943,700

Source: Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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