



## American Federation of Teachers, Local 212

Milwaukee Area Technical College  
Affiliated with AFT, AFT-WI, AFL-CIO & MALC

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Dr. Lisa Conley  
President, AFT Local 212  
[lconley@local212.org](mailto:lconley@local212.org)  
(414) 429-7883

### **MATC Education Professionals Applaud Evers' Attempts To Hold For-Profit Schools Accountable**

The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 212 applauds Governor Evers' effort to hold for-profit colleges and training programs accountable by reinstating and strengthening the Educational Approval Board (EAB).

Local 212 President Dr. Lisa Conley, a Natural Science Instructor, noted, "The EAB built a reputation for policing the predatory tactics used by for-profit schools. Governor Walker eliminated the EAB despite the fact that for-profit colleges like Everest, Sanford Brown and ITT Tech had a well-documented record of fraudulent behavior."

Conley explained, "Thousands of Wisconsin students were convinced by predatory for-profits to take out huge loans to enroll in these institutions. They were promised quick, marketable degrees, but were left with nothing but huge debts and credits that do not transfer to legitimate colleges and universities."

Mai McCarthy, who attended ITT, reports, "The education was worthless. The school was a joke. We weren't being taught anything. The credits didn't transfer. I ended up with nothing but a debt of \$15,000."

Dr. Conley explained that McCarthy's experience was similar to that of many students who come to MATC after being ripped off by predatory for-profits. "While for-profit colleges enroll 10% of college students, collectively they are responsible for 52% of all students who default on their federal loans, often because the credentials awarded do not result in family-supporting jobs."

Conley concluded, "This is why reestablishing the Education Accountability Board is a step in the right direction. Once accomplished, the EAB and Governor Evers should convene a committee of education experts to review the practices of for-profit colleges and propose appropriate standards that must be followed if they are to continue operating in the state."

The American Federation of Teachers Local 212 is the labor union representing Milwaukee Area Technical College's approximately 1500 faculty, counselors and professional staff.

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