



# SCOTT WALKER

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Governor Walker Highlights Historic K-12 Education Investment at Fab Labs Throughout the State**

**MADISON** – Governor Scott Walker visited schools throughout the state today to tour fabrication laboratory (fab lab) facilities and speak with students, teachers and administrators about Wisconsin's historic \$639 million investment in education.

"This isn't just a historic investment in our public schools, it is also a significant investment in Wisconsin's future workforce," said Governor Walker. "We know that ensuring our students' success – both in and outside the classroom – is critical to the state's continued economic success. That's why the state budget increases investments in programs that support career exploration, such fabrication laboratories, and other programs that help develop the highly-skilled, dependable workforce Wisconsin is known for."

A fab lab is a high-technology workshop equipped with computer-controlled manufacturing components such as 3D printers, laser engravers, computer numerical control routers, and plasma cutters. Using this equipment for instructional and educational purposes, students gain hands-on experience in science, technology, engineering, and math.

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) administers the Fab Lab Grants Program, which is aimed at preparing students for the workplace. Funds are awarded through a competitive process evaluated on readiness and long-range planning, curriculum, business and community partnerships, financial need, and previous awards.

For more information on the state's fab labs, including resources for teachers, visit [www.inwisconsin.com/fablabs](http://www.inwisconsin.com/fablabs).

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