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**For Immediate Release**

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**Rob Hutton: Keeping our kids safe in their schools**

(Brookfield, WI) – Keeping our kids safe in school is one of the most important responsibilities we have as a community. As a parent with children in high school, and a legislator with the ability to help craft policy at the state level, I have a very personal interest in ensuring our kids are safe in their classrooms.

Last session, the Wisconsin State Legislature passed a bipartisan package of bills that provides \$100 million in grants for safety and security improvements to schools throughout the state. I worked closely with Dr. Phil Ertl from the Wauwatosa School District and Dr. Mark Hansen from the Elmbrook School District in the analysis of this legislation, to make sure that it would meet the needs of their school districts to address the safety of our students.

The grants can be used for security upgrades such as extra school resource officers and secure entryways. Providing the grants in this way will allow each district to assess their security needs and apply the dollars in a way that is beneficial to their unique situation. This also allows schools to develop comprehensive security plans meant to account for a variety of threats and situations.

I am happy to report that both the Wauwatosa and Elmbrook school districts received grants as a direct result of this school safety package. I look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Ertl and Dr. Hansen, other members of the school districts and members of the law enforcement community, to keep this issue a priority and to ensure that we as elected leaders and officials remain as proactive as possible when it comes to keeping our kids and schools safe.

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