

June 14, 2021

Dear Governor Evers, Speaker Vos, Majority Leader LeMahieu, members on the Joint Finance Committee, and members of the Wisconsin Legislature,

We are residents of Wisconsin upset that our tax dollars were spent on K-12 public schools that were closed. No one should be forced to pay full price for an incomplete product. But that is what occurred for public education in Wisconsin during COVID-19.

The state should refund taxpayers.

In 2021, while states like Florida had nearly all of their school districts open, the majority of Wisconsin school districts were closed for full-time, in-person learning. This occurred even though there was an abundance of scientific evidence that schools, with precautions, could be safe.

With so many schools closed for in-person learning, parents were forced to stay at home from work or pay costs related to childcare or virtual learning. That's unfair to Wisconsin families, especially when Wisconsin school districts are receiving their full per student state funding as well as additional federal funding for COVID relief.

Virtual learning is not the same as in-person learning. When school buildings are closed, districts spend less on basic functions and children receive a lower-quality product.

We are asking the state to issue a refund to taxpayers who were forced to pay full-price for an inferior product. Doing so would hold school districts accountable, requiring them to be better stewards of our money and provide some financial relief to parents who had to spend out of pocket for virtual education.

Thank you.

Corey & Alexandra Schweitzer,
Oconomowoc
Lynne & Joe Wright, Oconomowoc
Melissa Erdmann, Oconomowoc
Van & Dani Clarkson, Stonebank
Stacy Reidel, Sussex
Michelle Paulson, Wauwatosa
Mary & David Paulus, Wauwatosa
Sarah Hyde, Brookfield
Kim Leiterman, Hartland
Lindsay Defend, Sussex
Shelli Palmer, Oconomowoc
Emily Donahue, Brookfield
Nina Christianson, Menomonee Falls
Jennifer Mills, Hartland

Valerie Schweitzer, North Lake
Amy Merrick, Brookfield
Elizabeth Kane, Oconomowoc
Don & Tina Pridemore, Hartford
Kim Khourey, Hartland
Jeanna Dettman, Oconomowoc
Amy Scott, Hartland
Gregg Demark, Oconomowoc
Stacy Keene, Waukesha
Holly Apn, Oconomowoc
Billy Kirchen, Milwaukee
John Suttner, Oconomowoc
Nicole Ballestrari, New Berlin
Elizabeth Nerben, Menomonee Falls
Linda Laughlin, Brookfield
Janet Tannis, Oconomowoc
Laura Schiller, Oconomowoc

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Dave & Michelle Khyn, Okauchee
Julie Kummrow, Oconomowoc
Cynthia Satermno, Sussex
Brad Farnworth, Waukesha
Rebecca Hanno, DeForest
Kari Livingston, DeForest
Jean Holz, Green Bay
Heidi Peed, Green Bay
Kitti Olson, Green Bay
Melissa Stitz, Green Bay
Jessica Berg, Oconomowoc
Jamie Lynch, Summit
Susan Swanger, Kenosha
Gabe Nudo, Kenosha
Erin & Michael Decker, Silver Lake
Brian Boeckenstedt, Wheatland
Rita & John Milligan, Bristol
John & Carolyn Poole, Paddock Lake
Kimberly Travis, Williams Bay
Wendi Caldwell, Wheatland
Kim Rodriguez, Wheatland
Ed & Janet Hibsich, Somers
Matthew Augustine, Kenosha
Eugene & Pam Hainault, Kenosha
Mary & Jeff Albrecht, Silver Lake
Frank Lumm, Elkhorn
Kathy & Paul Thomas, Concord
Michael & Rebecca Wishau, Burlington
Ryan Mueller, Burlington
Sara Spencer, Burlington
Michael Lawrence, Burlington
Zach Naber, Burlington
Jim Aime, Burlington
Sean Newbury, Burlington
John Bailey, Burlington
Clark & Katrina Degroot, Burlington
Adrienne Melby, Burlington
Kate Holm, Burlington
Mike & Jean Ottelien, Racine
Sarah & Dan McKnight, Kenosha
Jerry & Patricia Ozarowski, Kenosha
Lindsey & Mike McGinn, Kenosha
Joel & Corrin Sievert, Kenosha
Dick Fleissner, Milwaukee
Ramona Nunez, Racine
Ellen Tracy, Mount Pleasant

Jason Koschkee, Marinette
Kristi Koschkee, Pleasant Prairie
Amanda Nedweski, Pleasant Prairie
Bill Litz, Pleasant Prairie
Eric Meadows, Pleasant Prairie
Holly Meadows, Pleasant Prairie
Karla Smith Monticelli, Kenosha
Gary Eidsor, Kenosha
Sandi Eidsor, Kenosha
Jarod Remer, Kenosha
Gina Mengo, Kenosha
Annette Flynn, Kenosha
Matt Flynn, Kenosha
JC Ovitt, Kenosha
Jill Ovitt, Kenosha
Chad Ovitt, Kenosha
Dora Anderson, Kenosha
William Anderson, Kenosha
Kurt Anderson, Kenosha
Mark Gremer, Kenosha
Jane Gremer, Kenosha
Mark Lamacchia, Kenosha
Rebecca Litz, Kenosha
Devon and Jon Principe, Kenosha
Meghanne and Shane Young, Pleasant
Prairie
Lori and Victor Lux, Racine
Charles Nelson, Wisconsin Rapids
Paul Rozeski, Madison
Darin Moravitz, Turtle Lake
Clark Chiaverotti, Muskego
Jeffrey Conger, Holmen
Brad Heinz, East Troy
Sandy Heinz, East Troy
David Droste, Marshfield
William Mueller, Marshfield
Perry Edblom, Dorchester
Constance M. Von der Heide, Monticello
Charles Gray, Rothschild
Elizabeth Soto, Arcadia
Jamie Strupp, Marshfield
Paul Mader, Green Bay
Michael Hablewitz, Hortonville
Anne Discher, Campbellsport
Dean Osborn, Fond du Lac
Sandy Osborn, Fond du Lac

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Steven Soldner, Marshall
Michael J. Warner, Eagle
Stewart Williams, Rice Lake
Cory Tomczyk, Mosinee
Bradley Timm, Monroe
Jen Kranig, Albany
Bryan Kranig, Albany
Matthew J. Demmerly, Arpin
Randall J Bonde, Newton
Hans Lenzlinger, New Glarus
Rodney Mahner, Medford
Eric Dreger, Altoona
David Helt, Waunakee
Debra Helt, Waunakee
Melissa Skogen, Monroe
Dave Crosby, Elkhorn
David A. Jahns, Eldorado
Mark Tobola, Thorp
Liberty Snyder, Colfax
David T. Berken, Green Bay
Debra Greely, Green Bay
Donald Greely, Green Bay
Don Dudenbostel, Steuben
Kim Dudenbostel, Steuben
Bonnie Feist, Amery
Lois Herr, Newton
David Beggs, Bancroft
Kelly Beggs, Bancroft
Dalton Beggs, Bancroft
Stephanie Beggs, Bancroft
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Kathy Stittleburg, Hillsboro
Michael Abel, Schofield