

Agenda 2017

We are focusing our efforts to ensure Wisconsin students are college and career ready.



What and how should kids learn?



How do we know if kids have learned?



How do we ensure kids have highly effective teachers and schools?



How should we pay for kids' education in public schools?

See other side of this page for more details on Wisconsin's college and career readiness goal for all students.



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Wisconsin Students: College and Career Ready

Wisconsin has been a national leader in education because our values include the importance of a high quality, public education. Our vision is that every student will graduate prepared for college and career. But what does that mean?

Academics are important, but we know true college and career readiness is much more than that. Our graduates must have the knowledge, skills, and habits that will allow them to succeed in life after high school. Wisconsin kids should be able to think critically, collaborate, demonstrate leadership, use creativity, accept responsibility, and persist. These are difficult to measure, but an important part of our educational system.

We have adopted a number of initiatives that support college and career readiness. We call those Agenda 2017, and they center on these questions.



What and how should kids learn?

Students must have a well-rounded school experience including:

Rigorous academic standards and teaching that has room for individualization;

Early interventions for kids who need additional supports;

Challenging options including Advanced Placement, dual enrollment, and access to specific career skills through industry certification and youth apprenticeships;

Positive school climates that prevent bullying, build resilience, and support students' behavioral and mental health;

Full access to advanced technology that supports digital learning and enhances instruction.



How do we know if kids have learned?

Students deserve a high-quality statewide assessment system that includes all students and accurately measures proficiency.

Educators and parents need reliable data from the statewide assessment system to make appropriate adjustments to improve learning.



How do we ensure kids have highly effective teachers and schools?

District and school accountability must be more than test-based, reflecting

community values.

Educators deserve a fair and meaningful evaluation process.

All accountability measures focus on continuous improvement.



How should we pay for kids' education in public schools?

We cannot allow our state to become a state of "haves" and "have nots." Our Constitution

demands fairness.

Funding must reflect local poverty levels, rural needs, and special needs' populations.

School state aid should go directly to schools and each child should be guaranteed a minimum amount of aid.

