

WISCONSIN



OUR NEW WISCONSIN PROMISE: A QUALITY EDUCATION FOR EVERY CHILD

Education, Economic Development, and Global Competitiveness in the 21st Century



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
ELIZABETH BURMASTER, STATE SUPERINTENDENT



Our New Wisconsin Promise is to prepare every child in Wisconsin with the knowledge and skills they need to be productive citizens and lifelong learners in our 21st century global society.

The single best investment we can make is in our children. Educated children become educated adults, who participate in the social, economic, and civic life of their community.

From our country's first kindergarten, to nation-leading performance on college admissions tests, to a truly world-class system of higher education and public libraries, Wisconsin has had a long tradition of quality public education.

Wisconsin students have been among the most successful for the past century. But we must ensure this continues in the 21st century where an understanding of world perspectives and cultures will be critical to success.

Schools and communities must prepare every child in Wisconsin with the knowledge and skills they need to be productive citizens and lifelong learners in our 21st century global society.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Burmaster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth Burmaster
State Superintendent

OUR NEW WISCONSIN PROMISE

Our common ground is our New Wisconsin Promise—our commitment to ensure a quality education for every child. Raising achievement for all students and closing the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers is our No. 1 priority. A quality education system is the foundation of a strong democracy and healthy economy.

Our New Wisconsin Promise is committed to ensuring that every child graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century global society by:

- Ensuring quality teachers in every classroom and strong leadership in every school.
- Improving student achievement with a focus on reading that has all students reading at or above grade level.
- Investing in early learning opportunities through the four-year-old kindergarten, Preschool to Grade 5, and SAGE class-size reduction programs.
- Sharing responsibility by increasing parental and community involvement in our schools and libraries to address teenage literacy, drop-outs, and truancy.
- Advancing career, technical, and arts education to engage students in becoming active citizens by understanding their role in the family, society, and the world of work.
- Providing effective pupil services, special education, and prevention programs to support learning and development for all students while preventing and reducing barriers to student success.



21ST CENTURY KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

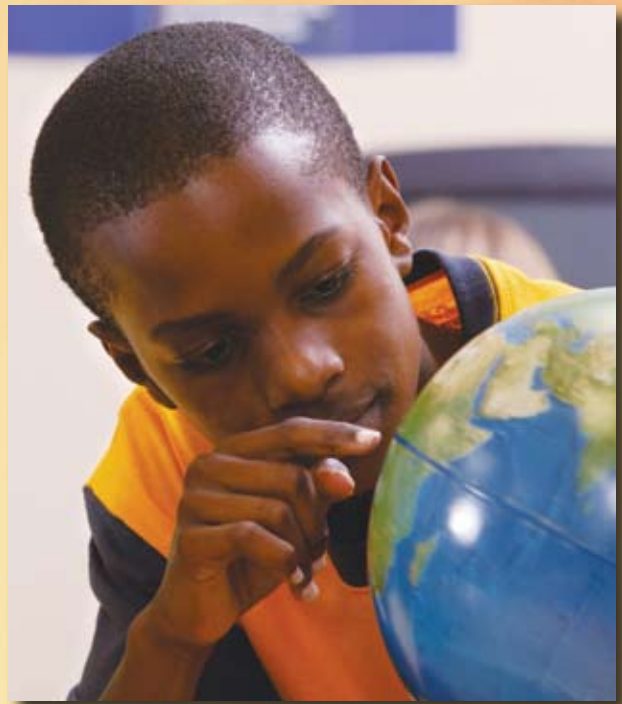
In the 21st century, our high school graduates need rigorous coursework to gain the knowledge and skills to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, innovators, and effective communicators. They will need to be technologically proficient, globally aware, civically engaged, and financially and economically literate.

Our students must have:

- Standards-based curriculum in language arts, reading, mathematics, science, world languages, social studies, and the arts.
- Global, financial, and civic content integrated throughout all subject areas.
- Educational opportunities in and out of the classroom to apply 21st century knowledge and skills in real world situations.
- Multiple assessments that measure 21st century knowledge and skills in all areas for accountability.

A well-educated citizenry strengthens all aspects of our American democracy.

Innovative learning experiences led by high-quality educators guided by rigorous academic standards in our core courses, the arts, and career and technical education are forging new pathways into the 21st century to better prepare students for a technologically advanced world.



EDUCATION ADVANCES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Our state's competitive and knowledge-based future requires that our students pursue a rigorous course of study, demonstrate creativity and innovation, and apply 21st century skills in multiple ways.

Public education is the foundation of democracy and economic security in Wisconsin in an increasingly competitive global economy. Our students must engage in advanced science, technology, and mathematics coursework.

Community service and work-based learning are significant to our youths' understanding of education, employment, and careers.

A well-educated workforce is not only an investment in our economy, it strengthens all aspects of our community life. It is essential for Wisconsin to continue its strong history as a state that excels in both education and economic growth.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

We must bring people together around our New Wisconsin Promise of a quality education which prepares all our children for the 21st century.

It is through partnership that we will raise the achievement of all students and close the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers. Students need seamless transitions as they advance from early childhood through high school to our technical colleges and universities.

Parents, students, educators, community groups, businesses, industry, government, and labor must work collaboratively to put our children and their education first. In partnership, we must instill the values of hard work and service in our students, who will be the future leaders and citizens of our communities.

We must ensure that quality educational experiences continue for all students throughout



our state no matter where they live, their socio-economic or disability status, the educational experience of their parents, or their racial and ethnic background.

In Wisconsin, we come together through our shared value that public education raises both our individual and civic prosperity. Each generation of Wisconsin citizens must guarantee equitable access to quality public education for the next generation.

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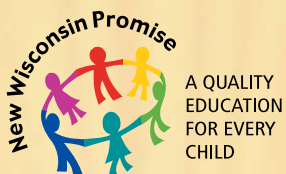
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