



# NEWS RELEASE

## SCHOOL BOARD/TEACHERS UNION SIGN JOINT RESOLUTION

MANITOWOC---State revenue caps and the QEO law take control from school districts and jeopardize the ability of local school boards to make decisions that further the interests of their students.

That message was sent today to local legislators Joe Leibham and Bob Ziegelbauer in the form of a joint resolution ratified independently by the membership of the Manitowoc Board of Education and the Manitowoc Education Association. The resolution is believed to be among the first in Wisconsin to unite a teachers union and school board around the school funding issue.

The resolution reads as follows:

The MPSD Board of Education and the Manitowoc Education Association urge the Wisconsin State Legislature to revise existing funding legislation for public education in order to ensure sustainable and equitable funding for the education of all Wisconsin children. We ask the legislature to address the revenue controls and the QEO to return important decisions to local school districts. Locally elected school boards must be free to make the best decisions that reflect the educational needs of their district.

Said Manitowoc Superintendent Mark Swanson, "Twelve years ago, school boards and teachers unions were far apart when it came to school finances. Now, with revenue caps, the QEO, and a potential property tax freeze striking at the core of public education, the School Administrative Alliance and WEAC are uniting to stem threats to local control and educational quality. Manitowoc's joint resolution is a sign that there will be more collaboration within the school community in support of public education."

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