



Michelle S. Langenfeld, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools and Learning
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June 20, 2017

Dear Senators Lasee, Cowles and Hansen:

Re: SB 169

On behalf of the District administration and the Board of Education, we are writing to express our opposition to Senate Bill 169. We support the Wisconsin Association of School Boards position on this bill, "The WASB opposes any initiatives at the state or federal level that would legalize any further ability for anyone, with the exception of sworn law enforcement officer, to bring a weapon or possess a weapon, including a facsimile or "look-alike" weapon, concealed or otherwise, in school zones or lessen the consequences for violations of existing safe school policies relating to guns and other weapons." We couldn't agree more with WASB's statement that guns and children are not a good mix.

We believe that SB 169 has the potential to put our students in harm's way. School officials and resource officers are trained to look for any signs of potential danger on school grounds, so too has the public as well as students. Students routinely receive training to ensure that they and their classmates are taking precautionary measures in unsafe situations. Were students to witness an adult carry a firearm on school grounds, students would be fearful and concerned. This would likely be a traumatic event for our students.

Every year the District spends both significant time and resources training and preparing students and staff to be safe. This proposal provides the opportunity for potential harm to students and staff for the purpose of removing an inconvenience for permit holders.

We ask that you support our students – they deserve to be our priority – Every Child. Every Day.

Sincerely,

Brenda Warren, Board President

Michelle Langenfeld, Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Schools and Learning