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Walk on the Child Side Set for June 16th
Event highlights the need for a change in the way schools are funded

On June 16th, in an effort to shed light on the problems with the current school funding system, people from all over Wisconsin will convene on Madison for a symbolic walk to the State Capitol, where participants will rally for change.

The event, which will begin at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Memorial Library Mall, will mark the 10th anniversary of Walk on the Child Side. In 1999, educators, students, parents, and community members set off on the first walk, starting in Butternut and ending at the Capitol, where participants made sure that the governor and lawmakers understood the adverse effects of the school funding formula.

A decade after the first Walk on the Child Side and 15 years after the state's school-funding system was passed into law, the problems continue. Today, the funding crisis Wisconsin's children and public schools face is worse than ever. It is time to make a change. Join us on June 16th and help support a better education for Wisconsin's children.

"SFN members understand the state of the economy," said Bob Borch, assistant superintendent of finance with the Elmbrook School District and spokesperson for the nine-member network. "We also know that for the last 16 years school districts throughout Wisconsin have been forced to lay off staff, increase class sizes, and make cuts to programs and services because of the state's school-funding system."

"Good times or bad, nothing has been done to change the system and head off the crisis," Borch said. "Now the education and the futures of children all over the state are in jeopardy."

Borch said the SFN not only endorses the Walk on the Child Side but encourages its partners and their members to be in Madison, June 16.

WHO: An invitation to parents, educators, students and concerned citizens

WHAT: Walk on the Child Side's 10th Anniversary Reunion Tour

WHEN: June 16, 2009, 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: The walk will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Library Mall, on the 700 block of State Street. The walk will continue up State Street to the Capitol. A rally will be held on the steps of the Capitol at 12:00 noon.

For more information about this event and about the SFN and its plan for reform, visit our website, www.SFNWisconsin.org.

COALITION PARTNERS

AFT – Wisconsin
www.aft-wisconsin.org

Fair Aid Coalition

School Administrators
Alliance
www.wsaa.org

Southeastern Wisconsin
Schools Alliance
www.schoolsalliance.com

Wisconsin Alliance for
Excellent Schools
www.excellentschools.org

Wisconsin Association
of School Boards
www.wasb.org

Wisconsin Association
of School District
Administrators
www.wasda.org

Wisconsin Education
Association Council
www.weac.org

Wisconsin Parent Teacher
Association (PTA)
www.wisconsinpta.org

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