



May 25, 2021

Senator Dan Feyen Senator Joan Ballweg
Representative Michael Schraa Representative Jon Plumer

Dear Legislative Members:

We are requesting that you support the following items for the 2021-23 biennial budget.

Per Pupil Revenue Increase

The \$200 increase in fiscal year 2022 and \$204 increase in fiscal year 2023 in the per pupil categorical aid would help provide more stable budgets over the next 2 fiscal years. It would give us the ability to offset expense increases that we will see in our health insurance premiums, transportation, and technology updates that we are expecting due to COVID-19.

Low Revenue Ceiling

A 90% low revenue ceiling of the statewide average maximum revenue limit is needed to make sure we can continue to provide a quality education to all of our students. The additional \$136,000 we would receive from this increase would help us keep the quality teachers and support staff in front of our students.

High Cost Transportation Aid

The motion made by Representative Mursau and Senator Felzkowski to lower the threshold for high cost transportation would benefit our rural school district. Like all the districts in the state, we are seeing increases in transportation costs. The approximate \$180,000 increase to our transportation aid would help us to keep the same amount of bus routes we are currently running, rather than finding solutions to save money by running fewer routes, putting more students on a bus, and increasing the amount of time students spend on a bus.

Special Education Funding

Our school district has a high reputation for our Special Education program. Annually we are transferring over \$1,000,000 from the general fund to help cover our Special Education expenses. By raising the reimbursement of Special Education to 50%, our district would have \$213,000 to benefit all of our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these matters. We look forward to the continued support you give to the Rosendale-Brandon School District.

Sincerely,

Wayne D. Weber
Superintendent

Jennifer K. Post
Business Coordinator