Pair of Wisconsin parent groups call on Legislature to do right thing

Parents, students, and community members from around Wisconsin understand that their schools and children got the short end of the stick in the last budget session. Two of those groups, parents in IWF’s Opportunity to Learn-Wisconsin, recently went to the media with their stories.

School Funding Reform for Wisconsin explained in a press release what’s wrong with the state’s funding system and the devastating state aid cuts in excess of $800 million. “It is time to hold our elected officials responsible for implementing Fair Funding for Our Future.”

Parents for Public Schools-Milwaukee also took to the media. With a similar message, the parent group called on the Legislature to use the projected state surplus to start putting back the state cuts of the last budget.

CEO group pushes austerity but wants us to subsidize their pay hikes

“For the Debit” is a national group that brings together CEOs to advocate for austerity, cuts in social security and Medicare, and a “globally competitive tax system”—a common euphemism for corporate tax cuts.

As bad as it is, a new report sheds light on how these same corporate members gain millions of dollars in taxpayer subsidies due to loopholes in an already pro-corporate tax code that allows some executive compensation to be deducted from corporate income taxes.

Education dean warns of ALEC’s intent to dismantle local school boards

In a recent commentary professor Julie Underwood writes about the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), an influential national network that’s pushing an agenda to shrink government, privatize schools, and promote business interests. The article outlines ALEC’s legislative impact in Wisconsin and why public school supporters should be concerned.

Underwood is the dean of the School of Education at the University of Madison. The article, “School boards beware,” appears in the May edition of the Wisconsin School News published by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

Read more about Underwood’s comments here.