



April 15, 2013

Wexford-Missaukee
Intermediate School District

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Representative Phil Potvin
S-1386 House Office Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative Potvin:

Board Members

Harold Kibbe
Gerald Koester
Chris McCrimmon
Barb Parmenter
Jacqueline Ruppel
Dean Smallegan
William Sparks

Please consider this letter of support from the Wexford – Missaukee Intermediate School District for House Bill 4471 of 2013. This bill would amend Public Act 94 of 1979 such that, for 2012-13 only, school districts would not be required to make up days as long as the required minimum hours of instruction are met. It is important to note that it has been a particularly harsh winter in Northern Michigan.

Administration

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We believe that this bill represents a good compromise between the educational needs of our students and the economic reality of our school districts. Districts North of the major metropolitan areas of Michigan have had an extraordinarily high number of inclement weather days this year. This is in combination with severe budget struggles. Make up days are a considerable expense to districts given the cost of transportation, school lunch, utilities, etc. Districts that are able to meet the required hours of instruction could save money not making up the required days.

This is not to say that this is, or should be, an economic decision. We believe that students receiving the required hours of instruction within the regular school day will benefit far more than from attending a few extra days tacked on to the end of the school year.

Proudly Serving

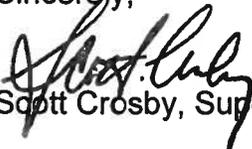
Cadillac
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Marion
McBain
Mesick
Pine River

In short House Bill 4471 appears to be a win – win for school districts and students. Students benefit from getting the required hours of instruction and districts get the economic benefit of forgiven make-up days.

Thank you for your attention to this matter that may affect so many school districts. If you have any questions or require further information please feel free to contact me.

**'Helping Schools
Help Students'**

Sincerely,


Scott Crosby, Superintendent