

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamations

WHEREAS, all children in Wisconsin have the right to the highest quality education possible, and many citizens agree that improving the quality of education in our state and expanding access to great schools should be an issue of importance to our leaders; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a multitude of high-quality public schools, public charter schools and nonpublic schools; and

WHEREAS, the cause of education reform should transcend ideology and political party affiliation; and

WHEREAS, former Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson and a bipartisan coalition of state legislators created the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, the first school voucher program in the nation, in 1990, which serves more than 23,000 low-income students in Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 Wisconsin State Legislature and I expanded the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program so that additional quality schools and 23,198 students are now participating and created the Racine Parental Choice Program, which serves 228 low income and working-class families; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's independent and school board-sponsored charter and virtual charter schools now educate 39,445 students across the state; and

WHEREAS, research in Wisconsin and across the nation demonstrates the many positive benefits of educational options;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim January 22 through January 28, 2012, as

SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK


throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 19th day of January, 2012.


SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR



By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State