

**WisPolitics 21 October 2021 Ben Wikler and Paul Farrow respond to my question:
(paraphrasing): How much of a land mine is Wisconsin's disastrous reading results, where we lag Mississippi, a state that spends less and has fewer teachers per student, for Governor Evers 2022 reelection campaign?**

(Machine Generated Transcript)

[00:00:00] Brian's questions now. Uh, we have time for a few others. There's Jim Zellmer in the bag. Jim. Shout it out. I know you can shout it up. Yeah. Thanks for the

[00:00:31] Well, the issue of K-12 education in terms of student achievement. All right. Yeah. What's the go ahead and answer that criticism there, Joe, we have a governor who believes deeply in public education. Proposed investing deeply in public education. We have a stigma legislature that refuse to make a ton of the investments that our governor saw in his budget proposal.

[00:00:55] So now our governors kind of how bring in federal funds to make sure we invest in the things that work [00:01:00] we invested in superintendent of public instruction, who believes in public. And we have a Republican party that in every step is trying to undermine public education, which is profoundly, profoundly unpopular.

[00:01:10] So I think education will be a key issue. And I think folks don't agree with our governor that investing in great public schools is the way to go. We saw that this spring, I think we'll see it again. In 2022. I think the difference is that's Republicans invest in their children, not in the schools. And I think that's the challenge that we have.

[00:01:30] We keep talking about how much, even to the public schools, we're not talking about how we're investing our children to be successful. And that's when you look back in 93, when governor Thompson under a bipartisan effort created the school choice program in Milwaukee, because they wanted to give their kids an opportunity to be successful.

[00:01:49] When we're averaging right now, almost \$11,000 per student in Wisconsin, when it comes to public education and only about \$8,500 in the charter and the, in the voucher program. [00:02:00] There's a discrepancy there that says, are we really doing what's in the best interest of our kids to make them successful? Or are we still just padding the lining of the different organizations that we might be friends with?

[00:02:12] Is that really what we're supposed to be doing with education in the gym? Back here? Go ahead.