

2. The Wisconsin professional school employe contract law requires that each employe be notified of renewal or non-renewal of his contract for the succeeding school year, on or before April 1.

Wisconsin school boards must have definite answers before that date regarding the status of their federal programs being financed on an annual basis. Local boards can't understand this "deferred decision making" practice and ask for revision to provide at least a one year advance assurance on each federal program—approval and funds.

3. Wisconsin school boards repeatedly complain, and their administrators complain, about the nebulous, inaccurate and discriminatory criteria of economic deprivation as a qualification for the Title I (PL 89-10) funds. Our people feel strongly that the educational deprivation criteria is more reasonable and equally justifiable for the presumed federal goals.

V. AID PROGRAMS

The history of the federal programs has been one of categorical aids. This is serving to fragment the educational program and, more particularly, the administration.

1. Wisconsin board members are becoming more concerned about adequate financing of present programs. We need property tax relief or funds for present programs as badly as new programs in the opinion of many Wisconsin board members.

2. Many new programs aren't a relief for our present tax load but, instead, extra burden. The local boards aren't in sympathy with additional categorical aids.

Wisconsin school boards repeatedly express concern over the growing supervision role of the USOE. They will prefer limitations on this role.

Our boards are concerned about revenue for educational programs benefiting all students. They don't like nor are they convinced about the singular merit of special programs for poor, gifted, handicapped, etc. when we can't assist average students equally.

The greatest relief to our members would be consolidation of programs, more authority in the State Education Agency and less administrative complications and fragmentation.

1966 REGIONAL MEETING DISCUSSIONS, WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS, INC., WINNECONNE, WIS.

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards has recently concluded a series of 14 Regional Meetings, attended by 2,000 school board members, school administrators, other school administrative personnel and citizens. The schedule of meetings was:

Randolph, September 27	Shawano, October 11
Dodgeville, September 28	Two Rivers, October 12
Milton, September 29	Greenfield, October 13
Nekoosa, October 3	Peshtigo, October 17
Westby, October 4	Tomahawk, October 18
Amery, October 5	Mellen, October 19
Neenah, October 6	Stanley-Boyd, October 20

At each of the 14 regional meetings a representative from the Department of Public Instruction reviewed the impact of the federal aid to education programs on local districts in 1965-66. The WASB Executive Secretary also reported on current education issues in Wisconsin and issues which the State Legislature is likely to consider in 1967.

Following the presentations at each meeting, board members and administrators met in small discussion groups to discuss recent developments in education. A summary of the reactions of the discussion groups to key questions is presented below:

1. Major problems faced by districts in connection with use of Federal school aid in 1965-66.

The problems mentioned most often by the discussion groups at the 14 WASB Regional Meetings were:

1. Getting personnel to develop and submit project applications—extra load on administrator and clerical staff.
2. Shortage of teaching personnel to staff new programs.