



COMMUNITY FORUM: *Efforts to Improve Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS)*

Milwaukee City Council

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State of Minority Education in Milwaukee, WI...

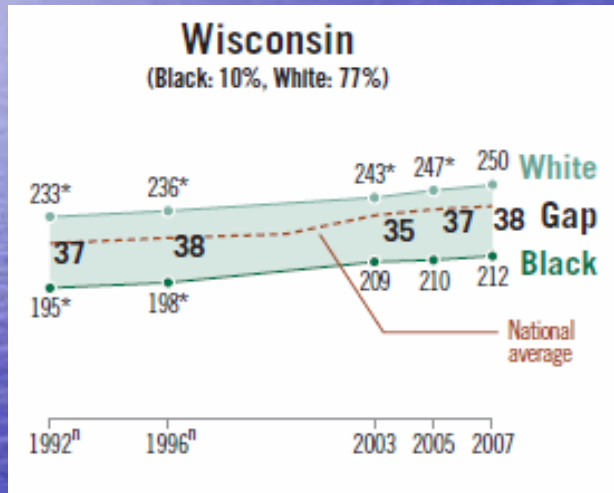


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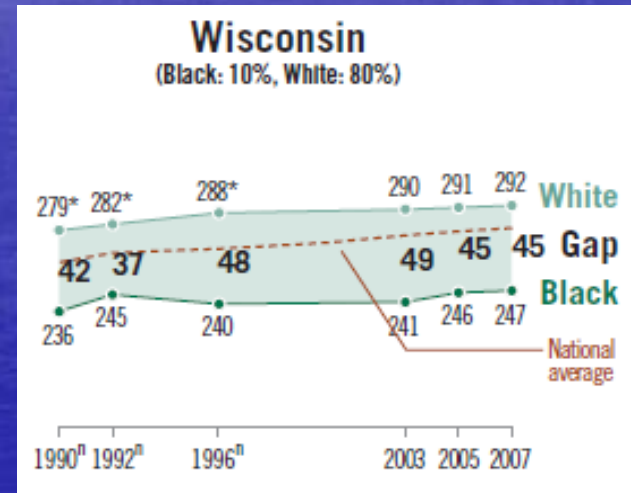
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Wisconsin Achievement Gap:



4th Grade Mathematics
White & Black Students
2nd Worst Nationwide
(2009)



8th Grade Mathematics
White & Black Students
2nd Worst Nationwide
(2009)

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress, 2009

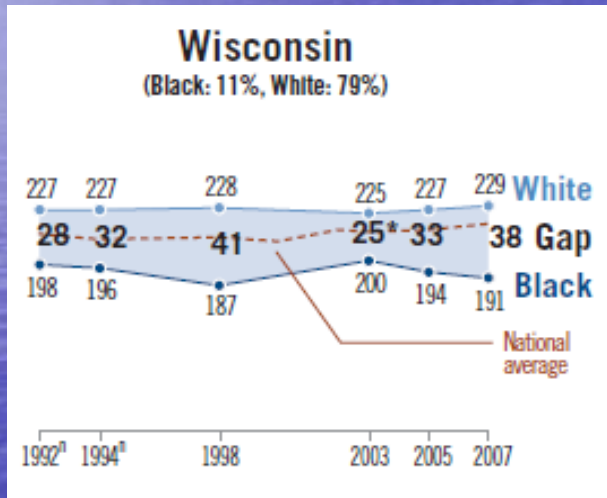


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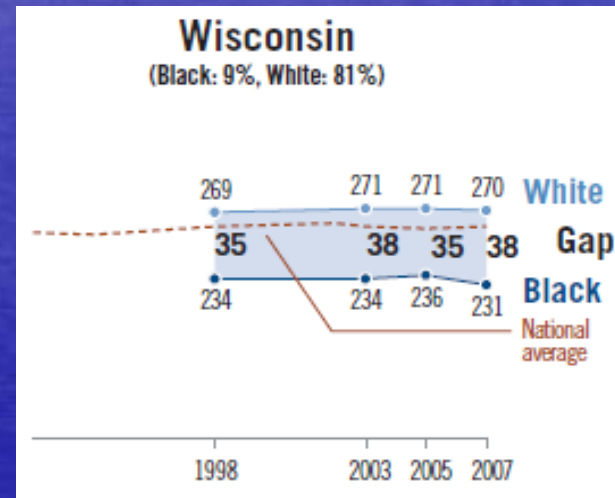
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Wisconsin Achievement Gap:



4th Grade Reading
White & Black Students
2nd Worst Nationwide
(2009)



8th Grade Reading
White & Black Students
Worst Nationwide
(2009)

Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress, 2009



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Milwaukee Achievement Gap (Proficient):

10th Grade Reading:

- African-American 19%
- White 59%

10th Grade Math:

- African-American 31%
- White 65%

Source: Wisconsin Knowledge Concepts Examination 2007-2008



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State of Minority Education at MPS

- Reported MPS Graduation Rate:
 - Education Week: 43.1% (2002-2003)
 - Manhattan Institute: 45% (2002-2003)
 - Americas Promise: 46.1% (2003-2004)
 - MPS: 66% (2003-2004)
- 80% of students who graduate MPS and go enroll at UW of Milwaukee require remedial courses. *(McKinsey Report)*



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Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Compliance (a.k.a NCLB):

STATUS: DISTRICT IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT:

“Milwaukee Public Schools has not made adequate yearly progress for five consecutive years in reading and mathematics at the elementary, middle, and high school grade spans.

*Source: Corrective Action Requirements for Milwaukee Public Schools
District in Need of Improvement Background July 28, 2009,
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*



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Additional Concerns:

- Court finding that MPS systemically failed to provide special education services to children who needed them
Source Jamie S. v. Milwaukee Public Schools
- \$200 million deficit by 2013 (*McKinsey Report*)
- Study finding HR Department lacking in direction, planning & professional development
(Council of Great City Schools, 2009)
- Student Safety



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Why is this important?

- 90% of fastest growing professions and 60% of all current jobs require vocational or college education
(Source: Alliance for Excellent Education)
- On average, A college graduate will earn \$1,000,000 more over their lifetime than a student that does not complete high school *(source: U.S. Census Bureau)*
- On average, a college graduate will live a longer healthier life than a student that does not complete high school *(source :P. Muennig, Columbia University 2005)*
- U.S. is now ranked 18th out of 23 on “quality and quantity” of high school and college graduates.
(source: Organization for Cooperation and Development)



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Why is this important?

High school dropouts cost local, state and federal government an average of \$260,000 over their lifetimes i.e. lost taxes, social programs, health care and law enforcement & detention, *(Source: C.E. Rouse, Columbia University)*

Male high school dropouts in jail or detention for ages 16-24, 2006-2007:

- African American 22.9%
- Asian 7.2%
- White 6.6%
- Hispanic 6.1% *(Source: Northeastern University Study, 2009)*



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*Questions asked at
LULAC-PTA Education
Forum...*



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Question 1:

Please explain the following:

- School Board: Please explain the current form of elected school board governance.
- Mayor & Secretary: Please explain the form of governance proposed by Governor Doyle and yourself.



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Question 2:

Studies have shown MPS has been under educating minority students for the last 20 years. In this period of time, there have been 9 school board elections and calls for reform.

School Board: Why should the parents continue to believe in an elected school board governance structure?

Mayor & Secretary: If education is directly linked to the success of Milwaukee and the State, why haven't you or those who held your positions previously requested this before?



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Question 3:

Please state the top 3 issues impacting the quality of minority education at MPS

- School Board: and how an elected school board governance system is better suited to resolve these issues.
- Mayor & Secretary: and how would a system under Mayoral Control better suited to address these issues.



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Question 4:

It is estimated that MPS district will run a \$200 million deficit by 2013. The Federal Government has set aside \$4.35 billion to turn around failed urban school systems. This is called the Race to the Top program. President Obama and Secretary Arnie Duncan have said states will have to compete for these funds and the money will be awarded to states showing the greatest commitment to dramatically reform their school systems.

- School Board: How does continuing with the current elected school board form of governance better position Wisconsin and Milwaukee to win these funds.
- Mayor & Secretary: How does a governance structure under mayoral control better position Wisconsin and Milwaukee to win these funds.



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Question 5:

There has been much discussion regarding the loss of rights under both forms of district governance. Some say that by moving to a mayoral controlled governance structure, voters will be disenfranchised. Others say that the students have been denied their constitutional right to an equal education for over 20 years. A denial of rights that will follow these students for the remainder of their lives.

(Both) Which rights, voter rights or a child's right to an equal education take precedent?



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Question 6:

Who can parents hold responsible for failing to provide an equal education to all students regardless of color? Where does the buck stop?



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