A Little About Me...

• Keith Nerby, principal of Sun Prairie High School
• 2 years at Sun Prairie
• 2 years at Karcher Middle School
• 4 years as assistant principal at Sussex Hamilton High School
• 6 years teaching at Tremper High School, Kenosha, WI
• Married for 10 years
• 3 Children: Son, 7, Daughter 5, Daughter 2
• Live in Sun Prairie, WI
Sun Prairie High School

- Serve Grades 10-12
- 1,721 students
- Largest high school per WIAA 9-12
- One of the fastest growing districts in WI
- Built 8 years ago
- 124 Teaching staff
- 64 support staff
- 19% African American/2 or more races
- 11.5% SPED
- 21% Economically Disadvantaged
- 97% Graduation Rate
Sun Prairie School District

- 1 High School (10-12)
- 1 Upper Middle School (8-9)
- 2 Middle School (6-7)
- 9 Elementary School (5k-5)
- Just passed $89.5 million referendum
- Two new elementary under construction
- 8,200 students
- 19% African American/2 or more races
- 9% Hispanic/Latino
- 24% Economically Disadvantaged
Education Today

Education has never been like it is right now

- Student Engagement
- Budget cuts
- Teacher Shortages
- Bullying prevention
- Teacher licensure changes
- Technology
- School Choice
- Act 10 Changes
- Open Enrollment
- Discipline
- Character Education
- Technology
- Teacher Evaluations
- Lack of support
- School Safety
- Open Enrollment
**FIG. 1:** Annual Change in Revenue Limits

The first leg of the “three-legged stool of school finance” gave way in 2003 when the Legislature abandoned the two-thirds funding pledge. The second leg collapsed in 2009 when the QEO was repealed. The last leg of the stool — revenue limits — remains with us today.
Topics in Education Cont...

Students are Fantastic!

• Many positive achievements by students
• Student Clubs
  • AVID
  • MSAN
  • Academic Decathlon
  • DECA
  • ELO
• Media doesn’t always show all that is going on
Personalized Learning is Key

- SPHS is 1:1 with Chromebooks
- District is 1:1 in grades 5-12
- We have personalized learning houses
- Students focus on standards and create their own projects
- Students take ownership in their learning
- Teachers are facilitators of learning
Faculty and Staff

• Teachers are committed
  • They do what is right
  • Have the best interest of all students

• There is a teacher shortage
  • One of the biggest issues facing education
  • Many hard to fill positions
  • Tech Ed, FA/C, Math
  • State laws could be changing

• Funding Rules/Laws
  • State and federal funding has huge impacts
Next Steps

• Public schools need to celebrate
  • We cannot worry about things we can’t control
  • We need to focus on the students - meeting their needs
  • We need to engage families and communities into discussions
  • We need to provide the best learning environment for all students

• We need to be willing to