

Governor Defends High Standards for School Administrators

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/teaching-students-s435.jpg>



On Friday, Gov. Evers vetoed a GOP-supported bill that would have permitted individuals without licenses and background checks to have direct interactions with children in schools.

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today vetoed a Republican-backed bill that would have allowed individuals with no license, no education, no training, no experience, no specific skillsets, no qualifications, and no background check to become school district administrators and have direct contact with kids at school.

Under current law, with very limited exception, every school district administrator in Wisconsin must hold an administrator license issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, a license requiring the holder to maintain other licensure, have six semesters of teaching or pupil services experience—including over 540 hours of classroom teaching—and complete an educator preparatory program specialist degree or doctoral degree. The GOP-backed bill, Senate Bill 335, would have effectively eliminated all such requirements, enabling individuals who, for example, did not have to undergo a standard background check to have direct contact with kids in schools across Wisconsin. Lists of Republican lawmakers who voted to pass the bill are available [here](#) and [here](#).

Gov. Evers, who spent most of his career in education as a former educator, principal, superintendent, and state superintendent prior to becoming governor, blasted the proposal.

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