



**Willie L. Hines, Jr.**  
*City of Milwaukee Common Council*

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**For Immediate Release:  
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## **President Hines to Address Education Funding at Fourth Street Forum TOMORROW**

City of Milwaukee **Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.** will address public and private education reform, from a fiscal perspective, tomorrow as a panelist for **Milwaukee Public Television's 4<sup>th</sup> Street Forum**. The topic for the important and timely discussion is titled: **"Political Dynamite: Paying for Wisconsin's Schools."**

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In light of the City of Milwaukee being named one of the four most impoverished cities in the United States, I believe there is no greater urgency than now in terms of reforming and improving our educational systems – and not merely our public educational system, but also failing choice and charter schools. Clearly, there is a relationship between education and employment. There is no doubt that far too many students (even some of those who manage to earn diplomas) are not equipped to succeed in higher education, technical school or a workplace environment. At the same time, there are many, many exceptional students who graduate from public, choice and charter schools each year and become valuable contributors to society.

**Because education is a serious issue, it demands serious discussion.** I was very pleased that Dr. Gregory Thornton, the new Superintendent for Milwaukee Public Schools, accepted my invitation to speak to the Common Council last week, opening the door to new collaborative efforts between MPS and the City of Milwaukee. He attempted to engage all of the Council Members and thoughtfully answered questions from those who had them. We have turned a page in terms of MPS/City relations, and I believe that the City of Milwaukee can be a valuable partner in helping to improve MPS.

We in this city have to get serious about accountability and educational results. That starts with a willingness to at least talk with public, private and charter school leadership. Tomorrow's discussion at Turner Hall will be an opportunity to do just that – but the talk must lead to real action and real reform.

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**Please come to TOMORROW'S 4<sup>th</sup> Street Forum and hear meaningful discussion about education in Milwaukee from Common Council President Hines, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Evers, Public Policy Forum Researcher Anneliese Dickman and Greendale School District Superintendent William Hughes.**

- WHAT:** 4<sup>th</sup> Street Forum discussion of Education Funding
- WHERE:** Turner Hall, 1034 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Milwaukee
- WHEN:** Tomorrow, Thursday, September 30, 11:30 a.m.