

Welcome to CESA #1

Created by the Wisconsin legislature more than 40 years ago, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESA) partner with school districts, schools, and educators to provide educational services that benefit students. CESA #1, located in southeastern Wisconsin, is comprised of 45 school districts in six counties, more than 29,000 educators, and more than 300,000 students. We offer over 90 high-quality and cost-efficient services, including consultation delivered by our subject-matter experts, district leadership support, and direct services for students and educators.

Our Agency is unique in that our school districts are **members**. They help govern and guide our Agency, as we are led by a Board of Control of 11 school board members elected from districts in our region. We also receive guidance from our Professional Advisory Committee, which is comprised of the 45 superintendents from our member districts. In addition, we regularly seek feedback from our members to ensure that we're providing the reliability, responsiveness and flexibility they need to meet their goals.

We're a Reliable Partner

Throughout our history, we've **successfully weathered difficult times** in both the economy and education, by proactively partnering to navigate these changes. For example, with the adoption of No Child Left Behind in 2001, we were fast at work to gather, clarify, and share information about the changes, and we also developed new services, such as the Paraprofessional Assessment, to provide an inexpensive and efficient means for districts to meet new legislative requirements.

Currently we're facilitating workshops with legal experts and consultants to help districts prepare for the changes they'll face as a result of **recent state legislative actions**, and we're retooling our services to help districts implement their plans. Just as we've done during the past 40 years, we continue to provide a solid foundation on which school districts can build their future.

Mission

CESA #1 provides high-quality, cost-effective programs and services that are **responsive to the dynamic needs** of our members, clients, and the students they serve. As a **regional cooperative**, we leverage local, state, and national resources to support schools in providing quality learning opportunities for *all* students.



May, 2011

We're Responsive

We work hard to quickly respond to service requests. Within days, we can expand programs to accommodate more students, adjust a therapist's caseload, or reply to a question about a critical issue. Most recently, we expanded our services for Response to Intervention (RtI) and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) in response to district requests for more support in implementing these critical initiatives.

As a result of our extensive networks at the state and federal level, CESA #1 staff is often aware of new opportunities and issues and are able to quickly process and share them with our members. Our dedication to our members is so strong, that if we aren't able to quickly provide them with the service they need, we'll help them find a reputable service provider.

We Provide Flexibility

CESA #1's dedication to our members is also evident in our flexibility. The needs of our members change often, so we **regularly evaluate our services and make updates** so they get what they need, when they need it. We also support districts as they make changes to their services, for instance, by adding or removing students from caseloads. Our just-in-time approach to service delivery helps our districts **save both time and money**.

Southeastern Wisconsin is home to dedicated, professional educators and diverse, inquisitive students. Although our region is facing unprecedented challenges, we're confident that by working together we can create a bright future for our students and our region. Our confidence is threefold; 1) we have a long history of providing reliable service through tough economic and educational conditions; 2) we're committed to being responsive to the ever-changing needs of educators and students; and 3) our flexible approach is effective and efficient.

To learn more about CESA #1, we invite you to engage in conversation with us. Again, welcome to CESA #1, where we are working together to make a difference in children's lives.

"CESA #1 is always there to help. In numerous instances, they have provided prompt, customized, high-quality services to our school district and to our students. They have been responsive to our needs and concerns, and we greatly appreciate and value the assistance they provide."

*Jim Hecht
Director of Pupil Services
School District of Brown Deer*

