

## Board of Directors 2005-2007

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Spring 2007

## **Substantive Change Needed in Public Education Funding**

The League of Women Voters has long advocated for substantive change in the way we fund public education in Illinois. The League believes the current tax structure is seriously flawed, rendering the state incapable of living up to its constitutional mandate for primary financing responsibility of our schools. This shortfall in state dollars along with our over-reliance on property taxes for funding schools has led Illinois to become the state with the second largest funding gap between affluent and low-income districts.

The time for legislative action to provide for more reliable and equitable funding is long overdue. A drastic overhaul of our tax structure appears to hold the only promise for ensuring schools in all districts of the state have the resources needed to prepare students to compete for jobs in a global economy. The League of Women Voters of Lake County invites readers to join us in our call for education funding reform. We are facing a vexing problem that is not going away. Please contact your state representative and state senator urging them to be part of the solution.

Sally Zeit

Director, League of Women Voters of Lake County