Pastor Greene's remarks at ICPE Statehouse Day of Action 2/19/24:

I stand with all of you because I believe what former Congressman Steve Kagen from Wisconsin said: "If we get public education right, everything else will follow. But if we get it wrong, not much else will matter."

- When our state siphons off funds to <u>private and unaccountable hands</u>, it is getting it wrong.
- When our state mandates that <u>referendum dollars</u> for public schools must be shared with charter schools, it is getting it wrong.
- When our state has <u>funding models</u> that bring more resources to the wealthy areas than to the disenfranchised parts of our community, it is getting it wrong.
- When our state chooses to focus on the <u>retention of 3rd graders</u> and not on the additional resources to help our teachers and our children with reading, it is getting it wrong.
- When our state <u>refuses to lower the mandatory age for school</u> to 6 and not 7, it is getting it wrong.
- When our state <u>refuses to fund adequately</u>, <u>Pre-K and Kindergarten</u> classes, it is getting it wrong.

An attack on public education is an attack on our democracy. And guess what? We must all fight back!