



# Republican Party of Sheboygan County

February 7, 2012

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Greetings from the Republican Party of Sheboygan County. This newsletter brings you the latest information about ongoing efforts to promote the values and beliefs of Sheboygan Republicans throughout the County.



Anyone with questions or information to share with county officials of the RPSC can do so by going to the County Officials Page at: [County Officials](#) to find the emails of each county party official.

## Upcoming Events

[Click Here for Calendar of events](#)

## A Message from the County Chairman

### Petition Verification

A cadre of 20-30 people worked last Saturday and Sunday verifying Scott Walker petitions at our GOP office on Kohler Memorial Drive. It was an interesting couple of days going over many petitions that had been brought up from Madison by Jon Schmieder, Regional Director of NE Wisconsin Victory Program. Many errors/misrepresentations were picked up like incorrect dates, altered dates, missing signatures, altered signatures, incorrect addresses, missing addresses, etc. I want to thank all of the people who gave freely of their time to help demonstrate the callousness and unscrupulous behavior that has resulted in such an unneeded and wasteful exercise. To the Dems and their unionista counterparts, this is standard operating procedure.

Paul A. Gruber, RPSC Chair

## Teachers: Count Your Blessings

This article was a "Right On" column published in the Plymouth Review on January 31.

By Jerry Doyle, member, Republican Party of Sheboygan County

It seems at every meeting I attend, a teacher is lamenting the election of Governor Walker and the passage of Act 10, the Budget Repair Bill. In this article, I will explain the obvious. Teachers should count their blessings. Governor Walker has saved teacher jobs and improved public school finances.

When Governor Doyle's term ended, he left a legacy in red, a debt of \$3.6 billion. Fear was rampant in the education community when Republicans came to power with the intent of balancing the budget. State budget support for education hovers around 40%, so education leaders justifiably feared a future with mass layoffs and program cuts. As work proceeded on the budget repair bill, school districts, fearing the worst, sent a shower of pink slips, in some cases to almost the entire instructional staff. The unions and their allies in the media trumpeted an Apocalypse Now.

The "worst" never happened. In fact, the contrary happened. With teachers paying their pension share of 5.8% and 12.6% of their health insurance costs, school districts enjoyed an unexpected budget windfall. The list of districts enjoying sudden prosperity is extensive and is reported at [www.reforms.wi.gov](http://www.reforms.wi.gov).

How did this improved financial scenario in districts affect teacher layoffs? At first glance, the 1,675 teacher reductions reported in a survey by the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators paint a somewhat negative picture. However, 869--or 52% of those reductions--occurred in Milwaukee and Kenosha, two of the three largest school districts in the state. These two districts have only 14.8% of the state's students, so why the disparity in layoffs? It turns out the two districts rushed to sign union contracts before Act 10 was passed and did not ask teachers to make pension and health care contributions. When administrators realized they had a problem, they asked the unions to reopen negotiations to avoid teacher layoffs. The unions said "No" and the layoffs followed.

Why should teachers thank Governor Walker? There are many reasons. First, in districts implementing Act 10, layoffs were avoided and 1,213 new staff were hired. Support staff were retained, sports programs were maintained or expanded, and a major benefit was class size. Statewide, the student to teacher ratio was 13.8, whereas in Kenosha it was 16.9 and in Milwaukee, 21.5. To partially compensate teachers for the pension and health care costs, those who chose not to join the union saved the very substantial union dues. An important, non-monetary benefit, was the public relations bonus gained by helping with their pension and health care costs. Although, with the demonstrations and recall efforts, that good will is in jeopardy.

In neighboring states like Michigan and Illinois where teacher unions have collective bargaining, there have been massive layoffs. Wisconsin teachers and voters should keep in mind that the Walker reforms have put districts in a healthier position to deliver quality education and preserve jobs.

## Survey Results

Over the course of several newsletters, the RPSC conducted a survey of current political events at

the state level to get the pulse of Sheboygan County Republicans on these issues. 125 email newsletter participants responded to the survey. The results to our four questions were:

1. Do you believe that teachers, police officers, and road builders should be forced to pay union dues if they want to work in those professions?

Yes	No	Don't Know
6	118	1

2. Do you believe that the intent of the Wisconsin Constitution was for there to be recalls because a group did not agree with a law that was legally debated, enacted by the legislature, and signed by the governor?

Yes	No	Don't Know
6	115	3

3. Is collective bargaining a constitutional right?

Yes	No	Don't Know
2	119	3

4. Did Governor Walker and the legislature enact a balanced budget without help from stimulus or accounting gimmicks?

Yes	No	Don't Know
116	3	6

If you want to read some of the comments shared with these questions, go to: [Complete Survey Results](#)

## Donations for Walker Signs

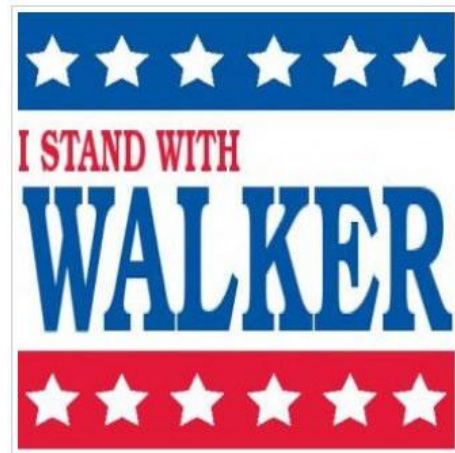
The Sheboygan County Republicans in the Walker Campaign are now collecting donations for 40 additional 4x8 signs to be placed along the roads. The new signs will be half red and half blue and state "I stand with Walker". We will need to raise \$5,000. Anyone wishing to help should write a check to: Sheboygan GOP/Walker.

The check should be dropped off at Headquarters at :

2125 S. Memorial Place

or mailed to:

Republican Party of Sheboygan County  
P.O. Box 288  
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0288



## Is Your Name on a Recall Petition?

If you did not sign a recall petition, are you concerned that your name or address might have been fraudulently used as a signature anyway?

Sign up for this "No Sign" Registration, at [Verify the Recall.com](http://VerifytheRecall.com) and they will contact you if your name or address is found on a recall petition!

Please note that they will inform you if your name or address is found on a recall petition, but it will still be your responsibility to challenge any fraudulent signature.

Instructions of how a fraudulent signature can be challenged by an individual will be provided.

## A Local Business to Support

Dave VanGinkel is the owner of a small custom apparel business in Two Rivers, WI. You may have heard of his shop, **B & D Embroidery and Screen Printing**, last spring. The local teacher union threatened to boycott the shop for printing Pro-Walker T-shirts (the Scott Walker My Hero shirt).

Dave has an online store, full of Walker shirts, hoodies, buttons, bumper stickers, etc. He offers wholesale pricing for those buying bulk, and for local GOP offices. He also can produce your custom items as well.

The link to online store is: [B & D Embroidery and Screen Printing](http://B&DEmbroideryandScreenPrinting.com)



## Membership Renewals

If you are not a member of the Republican Party of Sheboygan County, now would be a good time to become a supporter of Republican Party efforts in Sheboygan County. You can get a membership form from the following location: [Membership Forms](#).

Sincerely,

Republican Party of Sheboygan County

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