

THE DEMOCRATIC VOICE

LAXDEMS.COM

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

February 2013

Hello, All!

24 or so of us braved the bitterly cold weather to celebrate President Obama's Inauguration. The venue at Nell's Grill was lovely and the food was excellent. What a moving moment when our President spontaneously turned around for his final view from The Capital with a million people looking back at him from the grassy mall!

As Democrats we care deeply about our Public School system. Most of us are unhappy (to put it mildly) with Walker's severe cuts to WI's K-12 programs. Join us Monday, Feb 18 to interact with Tony Evers, WI State Superintendent. (See details to the right under "Upcoming Events.") **Bring your favorite teacher! And remember, this monthly meeting is open to the public – bring a friend!**

Read the article under our new section "Walker Watchdog" where your Executive Board will provide current news about Walker's malicious deeds...most recently his proposal for a Middle Class Tax Hike.

This week Vicki Burke and I will participate with Jake Hajdu, DPW Political Director, State Senator Jennifer Shilling, State Reps Steve Doyle and Jill Billings and others to set our criteria and process for hiring the SW Regional Political Director. This position will be posted in La Crosse and will be responsible for establishing and ensuring the successful elections of local democrats in the SW region of WI. This effort will, also, establish the networks we will need for the gubernatorial race, La Crosse mayoral race, and key State legislators races next year. Look for more details in next month's newsletter!

Finally, be sure to read our new section "Organizing for Action" with links to enable you to become involved. This is a non-profit, non-partisan organization designed to support the enactment of President Obama's agenda over the next 4 years...very important and, hopefully, very effective!!
<p>As always, thank you for your ongoing support. Feel free to email me with questions or suggestions.

Yours Truly,
Karri Kline
Chair
karri.kline@gmail.com

Upcoming Events – Hope to see you!!

Monthly General Meeting

Monday, February 18, 7-9 p.m.

Ho Chunk 3 Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse

Key Note Speaker: Tony Evers, State Superintendent of Education. (See article below.)

This is a wonderful opportunity to ask questions and discuss the current and future state of our Public Education system. Bring friends! Know a teacher? Invite her!

Remember, you do not have to be a member to join this meeting.

Tony Evers Fundraiser

Tuesday, February 26, 5-7 p.m.

Wine Guyz, 122 King St., La Crosse

Let's support Tony Evers in his race against Republican State Representative Pridemore.

St. Patrick's Annual Fundraiser

Requesting a \$10 donation at door.

Saturday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Home of Karri Kline & Loren Kannenberg

322 23rd St. South, La Crosse, 54601

Bring a dish to share. Bring a friend, member or not!

And plan to have fun!

Tony Evers, WI Superintendent of Education

Press release from the School Administrators Alliance (SAA):
Monday, December 3, 2012

SAA Endorses Evers for State Superintendent

Madison -The School Administrators Alliance (SAA), representing more than 3,000 public school principals, special education directors, business officials and superintendents throughout Wisconsin, today announced its endorsement of Tony Evers for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"The members of the SAA endorsed Tony Evers for State Superintendent in 2009 and we are again proud to endorse Tony for reelection to that post in 2013," said SAA Director of Government Relations John Forester. "Wisconsin school leaders, educators, parents and children need a State Superintendent with the experience to help them navigate the rapid pace of change we are currently experiencing in K-12 education. Tony is that kind of proven leader who can unify diverse groups from across the state, challenge the status quo, and move the interests of children forward. He is the SAA's clear choice to be Wisconsin's chief advocate for school children for the next four years."

A product of Wisconsin public schools, Tony Evers has spent 38 years in public education in Wisconsin, fighting for and supporting our kids as a teacher, principal, district administrator, CESA director, Deputy State Superintendent and State Superintendent. He is a proud parent of public school graduates and grandparent of five children, three of which are school age.

During Evers' first term as State Superintendent, Wisconsin became the first state to adopt the rigorous national common core standards. We scrapped the outdated Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) and are replacing it with a next generation assessment system (which includes the ACT Suite). And, Tony proposed a bold school finance reform plan that fixes the most difficult problems we have with our current school finance system.

In one of the most difficult political environments in Wisconsin history, Evers led the fight against unprecedented cuts in state funding for Wisconsin school children and the radical expansion of private school vouchers. However, Tony has also found common ground with leaders across the political spectrum to improve early childhood reading, focus on career and technical education and improve the effectiveness of Wisconsin educators.

"I am honored to have the support of the School Administrators Alliance," said Evers. "The SAA does outstanding work across Wisconsin, and we should all be grateful for their advocacy on behalf of our schools and students."

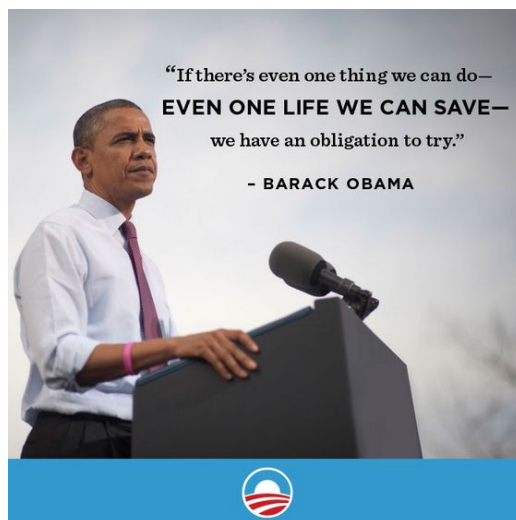
The School Administrators Alliance is an alliance of Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA), Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO), Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators (WASDA), and Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services (WCASS). The SAA advocates on behalf of school leaders in their efforts to strengthen Wisconsin's national leadership in education to ensure that Wisconsin's children receive the highest quality education possible.



"One last look..."



WI Superintendent Tony Evers



Organizing for Action, OFA

"www.barackobama.com" is no longer President Obama's campaign website. It is now dedicated to and run by the "Organizing for Action" (OFA) organization. This is a non-profit, non-partisan entity which explains that, "Its exclusive purpose is public policy advocacy and development, and in particular, both enactment of President Obama's legislative agenda and the identification and advancement of other goals for progressive change at the state and local level." Check it out at <http://www.barackobama.com> and look forward to more information in next month's newsletter.

PAC, Party & National Campaign Information

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Walker Watchdog



From wisdems.org: February 06, 2013

ICYMI: BREAKING: Scott Walker's Middle Class Tax Hike

As he positions himself for a Tea Party run for president in 2016, Scott Walker's administration is proposing a radical sales tax hike that would totally abandon the notion of shared sacrifice and transfer Wisconsin's tax burden on to the back of Wisconsin's middle class.

Walker officials floated his Middle Class Tax yesterday as a way to replace the state income tax.

Michael Brandl, a Racine native and Ohio State University finance professor, said Wednesday of the Walker proposal, "It has been well known since the 1960s that sales taxes are much more regressive than income taxes. What that means is those in the middle and working classes are going to bear more of the burden of taxes than are the wealthy if the income tax is replaced by a higher sales tax."

Said Democratic Party of Wisconsin Chair, Mike Tate, "Scott Walker's Middle Class Tax is an attack on Wisconsin's middle class so that Scott Walker can position himself to the right of the rest of his Tea Party rivals for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination. This type of tax has long been discredited and seen rightly for what it is: An all-out assault on the economic security of the middle class. Scott Walker should immediately stop movement toward the Middle Class Tax."



◆◆◆Donations Needed◆◆◆

We need contributions to help with the many things the LCDP does.

We ask that you consider a donation of any size for the LCDP as we provide for events and the 2014 Office for next year's elections.

Please send a contribution to LCDP, P.O. Box 1861, La Crosse, WI 54602-1861.

You may also go to our website at www.laxdems.com and contribute with Act Blue online.

La Crosse County DEMOCRATIC PARTY P.O. Box 1861 La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

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Attention all Party Members:

The Newsletter is now online. If you don't receive the online newsletter and have not received online updates through the campaign, please update your address by sending an email to: laxdems@yahoo.com or visit us online at: www.LaxDems.com

Become a member of the La Crosse County Democratic Party

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I would like to support the LCDP with a donation of \$ _____

Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. You contribution may be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

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*Federal Law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

Make checks payable to: La Crosse County Democratic Party P.O. Box 1861 La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

I recommend contacting as a possible member:
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Phone _____
Email _____

You may also join or donate online: www.LaxDems.com