

Council #10



CUDAHY • FRANKLIN • GREENDALE • GREENFIELD • OAK CREEK • ST. FRANCIS • SOUTH MILWAUKEE

South Milwaukee Band Performs at WEAC Teacher's Convention



Happy Holidays to all of you from Nancy Koeckenberg, Linda Riesen, Val Gabriel, Ted Kraig, and Shorty Ott.

The Problem with Walgreens

During the week prior to Thanksgiving, it came to light that Walgreens pharmacies, with almost no notice, intended to stop filling prescriptions for Wisconsin public school employees and their families covered by WEA Trust. This move was part of an ongoing corporate dispute between Walgreens and CVS Caremark the pharmacy benefit manager used by WEA Trust.

From the beginning of the crisis, WEA Trust worked vigorously to protect the interests of our members, rapidly notifying everyone who could be affected, providing concrete information on how to transfer prescriptions and successfully causing a court injunction that delayed Walgreens' action until November 29.

On December 3, Reg Weaver, the President of the National Education Association wrote a letter to Walgreens on behalf of its 3.2 million members. Among other things, President Weaver wrote the following:

"I cannot tell you how disappointed we are with Walgreens and your decision, and how saddened we are that you have taken this action against our members who care for school children across America. We understand that you have not severed ties with all the clients you have with CVS Caremark, but that you chose to single out WEA Trust and the public school employees they serve. Of all the companies against whom you could have taken such an action, you chose to stop servicing our colleagues..."

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Council #10 Website
www.weac.org/council10

MAKE CONNECTIONS

SE Bargaining Conference
January 12, 2008 – See your
local president or chief
negotiator or contact Council
#10 for a brochure.
Registration deadline is
January 4, 2008.

Winter Conference – February
22 – 24, 2008 – in Appleton.
Register Early! Online
registration begins December
15, 2007. Last year's
conference was filled by the
end of December. See
www.weac.org Events



While Walgreens contends that it is the pharmacy America trusts, your recent action has broken that trust with our members in Wisconsin and with their 3.2 million NEA colleagues. In order for that trust to be restored, we hope you will change this course of action and continue to service our Wisconsin members.”

How Do Our Congressional Representatives Rate?

Two recent votes by our Representatives in Congress are significant when it comes to where they stand on issues important to children and education. In both cases, strong bi-partisan majorities supported important improvements for children in education funding and access to health care, only to have the legislation vetoed by President Bush. In both cases supporters came just short of the necessary two-thirds majority to override Bush’s veto.

First, in October, President Bush vetoed legislation to continue and expand the highly successful State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). Over the past ten years, SCHIP has helped reduce the number of uninsured children by one-third. Most of the funding necessary for Wisconsin’s successful Badger Care program come from SCHIP funding. However, many millions of children remain uninsured or underinsured, and funding levels need to increase just to maintain the gains that have already been made.

Second, in November, President Bush vetoed budget legislation necessary to maintain and improve funding for a huge variety of educational programs. Bush’s proposed budget offers \$4.5 billion less in funding for programs like Head Start, special education funding, Title I funding for disadvantaged students, and would wipe out 45 education programs altogether. Wisconsin alone stands to lose \$72.7 million in educational funding and hundreds of qualified teachers, due to Bush’s cuts.

Here’s how our local Representatives in congress voted on these items:

Representative	Health Care for Children (HR 976)	Federal Education Funding (HR 3043)
Paul Ryan	<i>Supported Bush’s Veto</i>	<i>Supported Bush’s Veto</i>
Gwen Moore	<i>Voted to Override Bush’s Veto</i>	<i>Voted to Override Bush’s Veto</i>
James Sensenbrenner	<i>Supported Bush’s Veto</i>	<i>Supported Bush’s Veto</i>

What you can do: In December, Congress will again be voting on whether to override President Bush’s vetoes. Please contact your Representative and urge them to support children and education by voting to override the President’s vetoes of these bills.

For direct email access to your representative and more information, visit the legislative action page of the NEA’s website at www.nea.org, or the Cyberlobby page of WEAC’s Members only website, www.weac.org.

Member Ads

Door County Cabin for Rent. Accommodates up to 12 people. Cabin is near Baileys Harbor in a rural, woodsy setting. Available year-round. Electric heat, many amenities, fireplace, open concept living, dining, kitchenette, sleeping loft with 4 beds, large deck with furniture, gas grill. Call (414) 427-8420 or (920) 839-2715 for additional information and educator discounts.