2256 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54311
www.gbea.org

The Green Bay Education Association (GBEA) represents the public policy, labor and professional interests of its 1,800 members which include regular, special education, resource, Head Start, English Language Learners, and bilingual teachers; nurses; library media specialists; guidance counselors; social workers; school psychologists and audiologists who work in the Green Bay public schools.

Dear fellow Chamber of Commerce member:

Governor Walker recently released his budget repair bill. The bill requires:

- Green Bay public school teachers to contribute 50% of their monthly pension contributions. This is estimated to be 5.8% of salary for 2011.
- Green Bay public school teachers to pay at least 12% of monthly health insurance premiums.

The Green Bay Education Association (GBEA) would like to share with you the following:

- In the 1970's the school district and teachers bargained that the employer would pay the employee pension contribution and the teachers would take a pay freeze. Over time the school district has actually realized significant savings.
- The Governor implies that public employees are unreasonable when it comes to contributing to their pension or health insurance. However, the GBEA has been willing to discuss changes raised by the district to save money. This has not included pension contributions, but mainly benefits.
- Currently the collective bargaining agreement requires teachers to pay towards their health insurance premium. A single person has a 6% premium share and employees who cover a spouse or family have a 12% premium share. However, the wellness program provides an incentive to enable employees to reduce their premium share by up to 6%.

We believe it is important for you to realize the economic impact the Governor's plan has on the Greater Green Bay area. For teachers this will be a significant pay cut, since it is unlikely they will be able to offset these forced contributions with increased earnings. In addition, unlike when concessions are bargained with the employer, the school district will not be able to keep any of the savings. Instead the money will be used to fix the state budget.

The repair bill will decrease Green Bay Area Public School District teachers' earnings by more than $7 million. That is $7 million that will not be spent in our local stores, restaurants, and gas stations or on entertainment. In other words, teachers and you, our fellow Chamber member, will feel the full economic impact.

So, if you believe as we do, that these are decisions that should be made between the employer and its employees, not by Madison politicians, please contact your legislators.

Your Green Bay Public School Teachers

GBEA
Green Bay Education Association

2256 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54311
www.gbea.org

Governor Walker's repair bill will have a negative economic impact on the Greater Green Bay Community!