



N NTU

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## It's Time to Hold WEAC RA Elections!

It is that time of year again to hold elections for your local delegate(s) to attend the Representative Assembly (RA) which will be held in Wisconsin Dells, on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at the Kalahari. All three sessions of the RA will be scheduled and completed on Saturday. Delegate Report Forms from WEAC will be forthcoming in the near future.

Our Delegates will be housed on Friday and Saturday nights at The Wilderness Resort, 511 East Adams Street, in Wisconsin Dells. NTU will pay lodging (based on double occupancy), meals, and mileage. If you are interested in serving as a Delegate, please contact your Local President immediately. (NEST and CUT members, please call the appropriate NTU office if you would like to be a Delegate.)

NTU will be holding a joint WEAC Pre-RA meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at a location to be determined in the Park Falls / Lac du Flambeau area. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m. All Delegates attending the WEAC RA are urged to attend.

If you will be attending the WEAC RA as a Delegate, please **call the appropriate office immediately** so we can establish our rooming list. We will make your housing reservations.

Any member in good standing with their Local, NTU, WEAC, and the NEA shall be eligible for Delegate status. It is important to fill as many NTU delegate slots as possible. If your local will not be sending a Delegate, please call the NTU office and let us know as an alternate may be able to fill your slot.



### Read for the Trees and NEA's Read Across America

The National Education Association is building a nation of readers through its signature program, NEA's Read Across America. Now in its thirteenth year, this year-round program focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources.

NEA's Read Across America Day, NEA's national reading celebration takes place each year on or near March 2, the birthday of Dr. Seuss. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens, and books, and you can too!

This year's theme is green for a very special 2012 Read Across America celebration. NEA's Read Across America campaign will showcase the Lorax book as well as NBC/Universal's *The Lorax* (featuring the voices of Taylor Swift, Zach Efron, Danny Devito and Betty White). The film opens nationwide on March 2, 2012 and Universal, Dr. Seuss Enterprises, and Random House have joined NEA's Read Across America, creating new posters and classroom guides for the campaign. Read Across America will also develop new event ideas and materials to help you make this a Seussational celebration.

Looking for your 15 minutes of fame? SchoolTube has created a Read Across America channel designed to showcase student and educator videos from around the country. To sign up and share your videos, go to <http://www.schooltube.com/channel/neareadacrossamerica/>.

# THE JOB IS ONLY HALF DONE



NTU launched the next phase of the Walker Recall on Thursday, January 26. Twenty participants attended to learn about the Union's efforts to get out the vote. The group was made up of active members and those that have retired.

In the near future, all NTU leaders will be getting the information and will soon be asking you for help in this campaign. Given the recent success we had with the signature gathering phase of the recall, NTU is very optimistic that we will be successful in getting a new governor in office!

But, to be sure, it will take everyone's efforts. The recall election campaign will take two directions, one internal, a member-to-member campaign, and another external, members working with ten family, friends, and neighbors (FFN).

After all, democracy and government in Wisconsin should not depend on how much out-of-state money a politician can raise, how many ads they can put on the TV and radio, or how often they can run them. It should depend on how many people voted for them in the election. And, while Walker got more votes than Barrett in 2010, a million voters went through the tough legal process to sign a petition to have a recall election.

To put a less extreme person in the Governor's chair, we will need the biggest voter turnout we ever have had. In the 2010 election we had **864 NTU members not even vote!** While that number pretty much reflects the general voter turnout, educators need to be more involved in the process that controls their careers. It should be perfectly clear to everyone now what role politicians play in your paychecks and your job.

So let's work together this spring and endeavor to have a better voter turnout of our members and to increase that number tenfold by working with ten family, friends, and neighbors! Watch for details and get involved!

Corporate profits after taxes were estimated to be \$1.56 trillion, or 10.3% of the size of the economy. Until last year, the record annual share was 8.98%, set in 1929.

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## WILL HE SIGN IT OR NOT?

**Are you a part of the "We" generation?**

As reported in the last newsletter, the republican controlled legislature was considering changing the dates in Section 118.22 dealing with issuing non-renewals and renewing contracts. The legislature has now PASSED SB 2, which changes the dates in Section 118.22(2) from March 15 to May 15 and from April 15 to June 15, and it has been sent on to the republican governor for his signature. The rest of § 118.22 remains intact, including the provision that requires the board to give preliminary notice at least 15 days prior to giving written notice of refusal to renew.

You can predict as well as anyone whether or not he will sign it. If he signs it, the Secretary of State then has 10 working days to publish it and the new law will then take effect the day after publication.

Remember these dates are the latest something can happen. Boards may take action before the statutory deadline.