http://newiprogressive.com/images/stories/S5/school-bus-kids-s5.jpg 

Republican budget cuts in Madison cause local schools to face tough decisions and stiff budget shortfalls.

RHINELANDER, WI - Reality is setting in for many students and families in the Rhinelander School District. After years of Republican budget cuts in Madison, local schools are facing tough decisions and stiff budget shortfalls. Rhinelander families are being asked to support a school referendum on February 16th to offset the lack of state funding, maintain extracurricular opportunities and prevent teacher layoffs.

"Sen. Tiffany sold out rural schools to benefit the special interests behind Gov. Walker's presidential campaign," said SSDC Executive Director Matt Ullsvik. "Rather than restoring the funding he cut from local schools, Tom Tiffany continues to side with Gov. Walker and his expansion of taxpayer subsidies for private schools in Milwaukee."

"Families in Rhinelander shouldn't have to pay more to subsidize private schools in Milwaukee," added Ullsvik. "Unfortunately, parents and community members are witnessing the impact of Senator Tiffany's cuts firsthand. Fewer teachers, larger class sizes, and severe cuts to basic extra-curricular activities have become the norm for rural districts as Republicans continue to shift funding away from public schools and into private school subsidies."