

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christine Lamitina
Christine L@seiuhcwi.org
414-573-5511

May 5, 2011

## School Vouchers for the Wealthy Sparks Outrage

Voucher Program Supporters and Opponents Come Together at Town Hall Meeting to Decry Walker Budget Proposal

**Milwaukee**: On Thursday at 5:30 PM community leaders--including long-time school voucher supporter Polly Williams and MPS School Board President Michael Bonds--will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the expansion of the school voucher program to wealthy parents sending their kids to elite private academies.

Governor Walker's budget shifts tens of millions of dollars from Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) to private schools by expanding the voucher program, including providing the wealthy with private school vouchers. This proposal will take resources away from our already overburdened public schools. In addition, Governor Walker calls for more cuts to MPS including \$71 million in cuts in 2011-2012 and \$94.9 million in 2012-2013.

The event is co-sponsored by the Good Jobs & Livable Neighborhoods Project of Citizen Action of Wisconsin, MICAH, Milwaukee Area Labor Council, AFT Local 212, SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin, and the Polly Williams Institute.

What: Town Hall Meeting on Extension of Vouchers to Wealthy Families

Where: Parklawn Assembly of God Church, 3725 Sherman Blvd, Milwaukee.

When: Thursday May 5, 5:30 to 7 PM

**Who:** Former Representative Polly Williams (the original legislative sponsor of the Milwaukee School Choice Program), MPS School Board President Michael Bonds, community leaders.