

## Area Schools Closed Today in Anticipation of Protests

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Several schools in the area have called off school in anticipation of protest actions against governor Walker's proposal to strip most public workers of much of their collective bargaining rights. La Crosse, West Salem, Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau, Bangor, and Holmen are among the districts that are closed as teachers are expected to convene on the state capitol. A vote is nearing in the capital on the collective bargaining rights issue as well as other proposals to have union workers pay more of their own pensions and health care costs. Law enforcement and firefighter unions are exempt from the proposed changes.