

Just as Lacrosse School Superintendent, Jerry Kember, tried to get a clear picture as to what the district's financial state would be in the coming weeks.....another bomb was dropped.

Wisconsin's public school administrators are being advised to approve preliminary layoff notices for staff by the end of the month -- even before they find out how much the state is expected to contribute to their budgets.

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards is urging local school officials to decide on staff cuts by Monday, or risk having those layoffs challenged later in court. State law requires school districts to provide staff layoff notices by March 15 for the following school year. Teachers must also receive a preliminary notice 15 days before that.

The state's collective bargaining law has allowed school boards to delay that deadline with the union's permission. Association attorney Barry Forbes says those deadlines could be wiped out with the passage of Governor Scott Walker's budget repair bill.