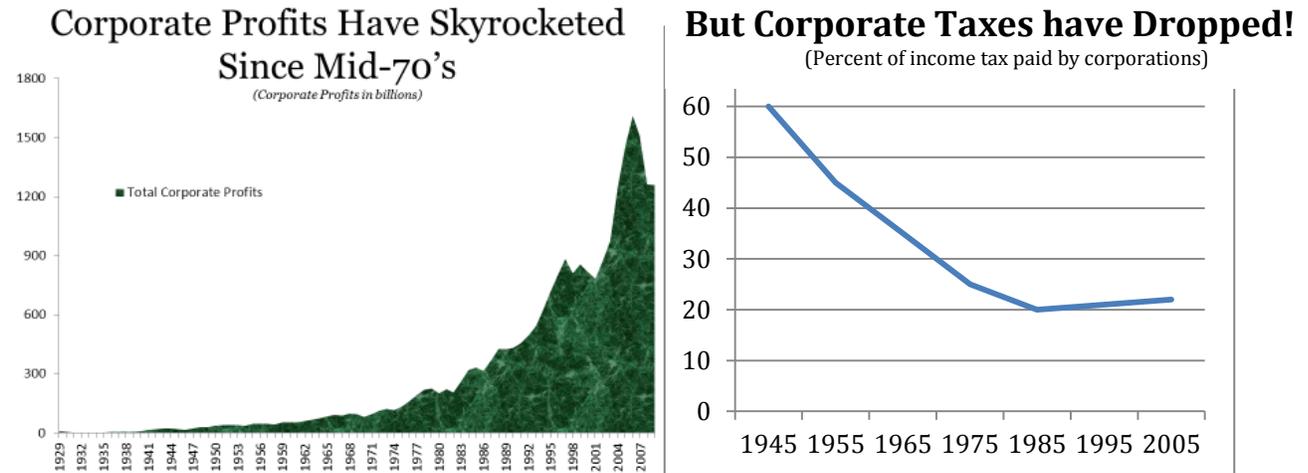


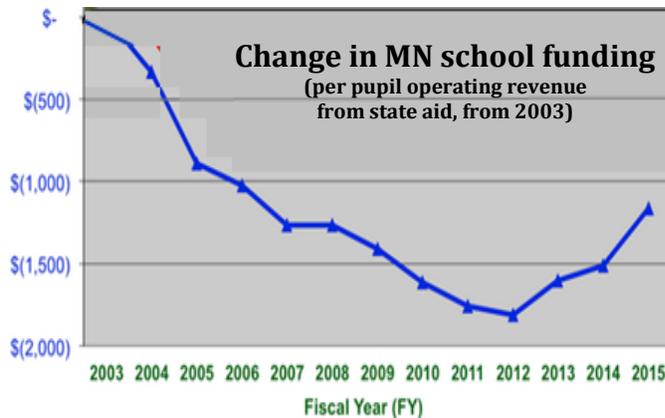


SEIU Local 26: Know your rights
Building Power at Work and in our Communities
 Discussion on education

A good union contract alone isn't enough to protect our families from the growing problems in our communities as the gap between rich and poor gets larger every day. In our member survey, many members said that poor education was a major problem in their community.



So it is no surprise that school funding has dropped as well...



“When big corporations like US Bank, Wells Fargo, and Target don't pay their fair share, teachers get laid off and priorities like education get cut. My kids love sports. I think you can learn a lot about life by playing sports but because of the cutbacks they no longer have access to the equipment they need.” - **Juana, janitor**

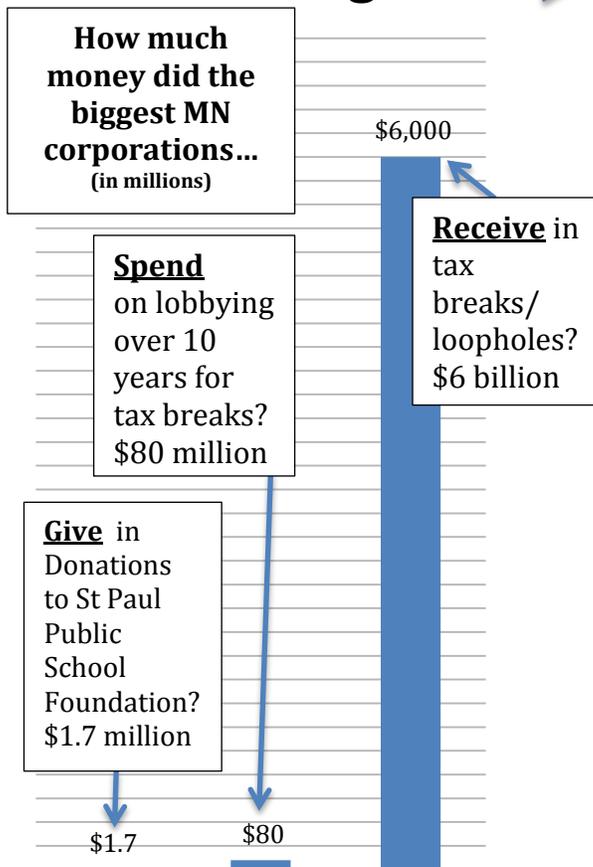


Who is losing?

- Cuts in school funding & services are especially destructive because MN already has one of the biggest racial achievement gaps in the country.

African American students in Minnesota in elementary school are more than three grade levels behind white students in math, and more than two grade levels behind whites in reading.

& Who is winning?



Just Wells Fargo and US Bank's foreclosures alone in Minneapolis over 5 years cost the MN school systems an estimated \$48 million in revenue (from kids being forced to relocate in the middle of the year)

Discussion Questions:

- 1) How have the children you know been impacted by the problems in education & funding?
- 2) What are the root causes of these problems? Who benefits, and who decides?
- 3) Should our union be involved in fights in the community on education and corporate taxes?