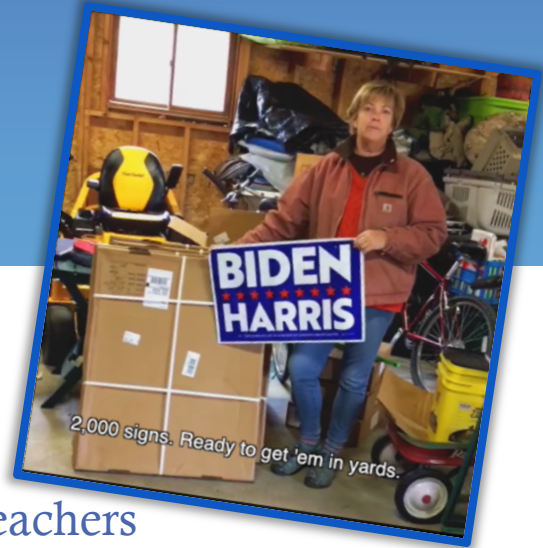




Yard signs, yard signs,  
and more yard signs in rural Wisconsin



Laurie Fox

President of Butternut Federation of Teachers

In the fall 2020 presidential contest between Donald Trump and Joe Biden, Laurie knew she wanted to help. Trump's policies had been disastrous for small school districts like hers, and she believed a Biden administration could help turn the tide. But she wasn't sure how best to make a difference. Laurie tells the story best: "I was contacted by [AFT-W Political Director] John Yaggi to see if I was interested in working with an organization that was distributing Biden/Harris signs in rural communities. I connected with John Russell from ruralvote.org and agreed to do my part in this election by receiving and distributing 2000 yard signs. After much communication and connections with several people in Wisconsin, my husband, our labrador Rosie, and I drove in a couple directions and handed over signs to people who had other people to deliver them to. I met some others who share my priorities for this country, and it was encouraging to me. I appreciate being a part of something positive, yet not feeling like I had to spend countless hours doing it."



The rural town of Butternut resides in the southernmost part of Ashland County, housing a little over 450 people. The downtown is a block long. With a recent graduating class of 12, the Butternut School District employs 25 teachers. Laurie Fox is president of the Butternut Federation of Teachers (AFT #3371) there.