



AHTOCC Planning Team from left to right: Natasha Brown-Guhin, Gaoly Her, Verna Wong, Meng Yang and Angelina Momanyi

Greetings AHTOCC Member. This is our first attempt at a formal newsletter! The purpose is to keep you informed about the Anoka-Hennepin Teachers of Color Coalition and to provide opportunities to continue connecting with one another.

On October 11, the planning team met at the AHEM office to plan this year's events and strategize formal and informal ways to mentor, connect and build with teachers of color in the district. This year, we will continue to advocate and bridge relationships with teachers, especially with teachers of color that are new to Anoka-Hennepin. This profession is hard! We often isolate ourselves to get through the many day to day demands of work. However, we know that isolation often leads to unsustainable outcomes. Our initiative to care for and support one another as teachers of color is taking a powerful stance. In addition, there are teachers doing creative work engaging students critically and challenging dominate systems. AHTOCC hopes to provide another space to envision ways of carrying out this profession differently.

This year, we will have more of active presence in AHEM's Representative Assemblies, Executive Board Meetings, and Meet and Confer in the form of a standing committee. Retaining teachers of color is still a concern in Anoka-Hennepin. Working with the union is an important step to push for more equitable outcomes in our profession. We hope you can join us as we keep you informed.

RSVP to the Fall Event @ Roasted Pear

AHTOCC has traditionally planned three events a year, one per trimester. Join us for our annual Fall Gathering at Roasted Pear on October 25th from 5-7PM. [Please RSVP by October 18th.](#) Food will be provided. Hope to see you there!





Summer Recap: Bdote

On August 25, five AHTOCC teachers joined Roseville's affinity group (FOCUS) on a field trip to Bdote. Bdote, historically, has represented the joining of Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers. Today, it references various places along the rivers throughout Minneapolis and St. Paul that have deep ties to Dakota peoples, the original inhabitants of this land. The experience challenged participants to wrestle with erasures: Dakota language, history, traditions, and bodies in the process of gaining statehood. To learn more about Bdote, [visit here](#).

Professional Development Opportunity

Teachers from the Anoka-Hennepin Teachers of Color Coalition will be continuing their partnership with Augsburg University for a second year, offering another professional development opportunity for educators of color in the Twin Cities. Meng Yang and Angelina Momanyi will be the instructors. Both have valuable experiences and assets as outstanding educational leaders. Teachers who participated last year were able to access professional development funds to help offset the cost. Let us know how we can advocate for you to do the same. For more information, [see flyer](#).

Stay Connected

We are in the process of thinking through creative ways to self-organize and meet informally, whether it's inviting AHTOCC teachers to visit a school event, hosting a grading party, or simply coffee. If you are interested in staying connected beyond formal AHTOCC gatherings, [complete this google form](#).



The Anoka-Hennepin Teachers of Color Coalition is a collective of teachers of color dedicated to their own personal and collective empowerment through advocacy, mentorship, and partnership. [Click here](#) to visit our website.