



ANOKA HENNEPIN LOCAL 7007

Friday Blast

Valerie Holthus, President

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Meet Virtually with Lawmakers at the Lobby Day

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*If you a member of Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota residing in senate district 37 (Blaine and Coon Rapids) we invite you to attend a virtual lobby day **Friday, February 25 4:15-5:00pm**. 4:15-4:30pm briefing - (attend if possible)*

Hear from Senator Jerry Newton, Representative Erin Kogel(37A) and Representative Nolan West (37B) and let your story as an educator be told.

Use the link below to register:

<https://forms.gle/DUHocHuS15tcaECd9>

Trivia Question

Congratulations to the winners of last week's trivia question!

Every site in Anoka-Hennepin has an AHEM union representative. How many sites are there? (Hint: There are sometimes more than one site in the same building, and some sites include more than one building)

c. 55

This week's Question:

First three correct answers will win a coffee gift card.

The latest round of negotiations allowed our bargaining group to join a different insurance program if our members vote to do so. One of the options is PEIP, or the Minnesota Public Employees Insurance Program, which has shown an average pool increase of 2.5% over the last 10 years. Which health plan network is NOT included as one of the plans available with PEIP?)

Congratulations to Laura Craig,
Eisenhower Elementary, Denise
Borck, *Jackson Middle School*,
Kevin Overgaard, *Blaine High
School*

- a. Health Partners
- b. Blue Cross Blue Shield
- c. Preferred One
- d. Aetna

Please email your answer to
valerie.holthus@edmn.org

Sick Leave Reimbursement Steps

The link below is to be used by an employee who is requesting reimbursement of sick days as a result of testing positive and being diagnosed with COVID-19 between January 3 and March 11, 2022. The employee may be eligible to be reimbursed for up to 5 days time off due to required COVID-19 quarantine. To be eligible, the employee must first enter their absence(s) as personal illness (sick leave). Submission of this form will be reviewed by Human Resources (Labor Relations & Benefits/Employee Services' departments) and confirmed with the employee's supervisor. Review and processing will take place mid-April. For leave requested after February 4, the employee should maintain a copy of their lab confirmed test result as it may be requested for confirmation. All applications must be submitted by March 25, 2022.

<https://forms.gle/g5FhQqvJyTexdo1e6>

Contract Connections #2

The Salary Schedule

The salary schedule on page 40 of the contract, or working agreement, is an attempt to quantify and compensate teachers for the effect that increased experience (“Steps”) and education (“Lanes”) have on their ability to influence student learning.

Over the years, many factors have shaped the current salary schedule such as District budgets, changes in state funding, and different priorities by both union and district negotiations teams. [Click on this link](#) to see how the salary schedule has changed over time.

Our existing salary schedule is the sum total of choices made over 40 years. With each round of bargaining, the negotiations team strives to maintain a fair and equitable distribution of compensation across all levels that maximizes the use of the available funding. While pay remains at the core of the negotiations process, many of the priorities identified by members fall outside the salary schedule itself.

Future articles will explore some of these other aspects of our work.

John Wolhaupter
AHM Lead Negotiator

Upcoming Campaign Leadership Training Conference

Help turnout the pro-public education vote! We are facing many serious challenges in this election, so that is why we need to build powerful teams of member leaders to design and lead local get-out-the-vote programs this spring and fall.

Please register today and join other AHEM members for the upcoming campaign leadership training conference, scheduled virtually for March 5 from 9 a.m. to noon. [Here](#) is the registration link. Please register by March 3.

Thank you!

New Communication Method

AHEM will begin using *Constant Contact* to send communications with our members instead of relying on the District e-mail system. Communicating through this platform should improve confidentiality of our messaging and allow us to communicate more effectively with you, our membership.

Coming Up

- Presidents Day, District closed – Feb. 21
- [ESI: When Can I Afford to Retire virtual seminar](#), 6 pm – Feb. 23
- School Board Meeting, 6:30pm, ESC – Feb. 28
- Executive Board, 4:45pm, AHEM – Feb. 28



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