



ANOKA HENNEPIN LOCAL 7007

Friday Blast

Valerie Holthus, President

December 17, 2021 Vol 4 No. 13

Pay Day Friday!



This Friday our paychecks will include our retro pay for regular contract pay, overloads, extension days, and any hourly pay amounts submitted through payroll.

Retro payments for ESAs, including curriculum writing, will be paid on Jan 28th. Please check your paycheck information to be sure you have received all that has been bargained for you.

As the District messaged you earlier this week, the **full working agreement** can be found on the district website. Hard copies of the working agreement should be distributed to teachers in buildings by the second week in January.

Thanks to the bargaining team for all the hours spent in negotiation and mediation meetings: John Wolhaupter (Lead Negotiator), Mark Corcoran, Jon Plotz, Luke Amundson, Traci Intihar and Brandon Voss. Additional thanks go to David Kundin and Anna Dougherty, Education Minnesota field staff.

Education Minnesota Vice-President Bernie

Burnham is elected as President of Minnesota AFL/CIO.



AHEM President, Val Holthus, served as a delegate to the MN AFL/CIO convention on Tuesday (pictured here with the other Education Minnesota delegates). The delegation reviewed finance reports, the constitution and bylaws, the strategic plan, the legislative agenda, and elected a new President: our own Bernie Burnham.

Congratulations, Bernie!

Trivia Question

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

AHEM offers professional development for CEUs and for college credit to move up on the salary schedule. SEED is a course that offers 3 college credits or 27 hours of CEUs.

Fill in the blank: What does the acronym, SEED, stand for?

Answer: "Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity"

Congratulations to Kristi Romo, CPHS, Krista Carlson, Anoka High School, and Anna Erdman, CBPA

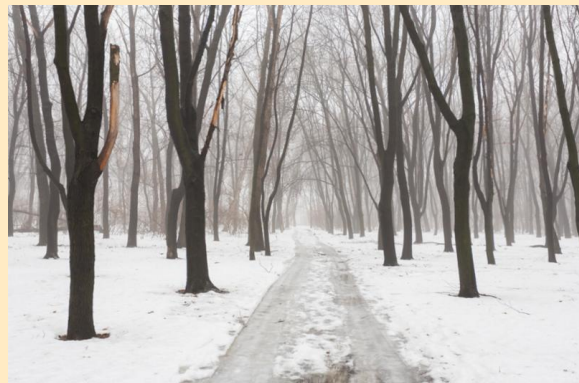
This week's Question:

First three correct answers will win a coffee gift card.

The voice of the Grinch in the classic cartoon film of Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is most famous for portraying what Hollywood monster?

- A. Frankenstein
- B. Dracula
- C. The Invisible Man
- D. Wolfman

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



Q-Comp Administrator Position Open

Anoka Hennepin will be hiring a new full-time 12 month Q-Comp Administrator. This position will be posted today, Friday, December 10 - Thursday, December 30. Interviews and a hiring decision will take place in mid-January, with a position start date of July 1, 2022.

Minimum qualifications required for the role include a current valid MN K-12 principal license & have demonstrated the ability to manage and effectively provide leadership to an educational program. Preferred qualifications include at least 7 years of experience in education. A full list of other qualifications and responsibilities will be found in the posting for the position.

Interested candidates must apply online using Applitrack, the district's online application system.

If you have any questions, contact Sarah Hudson, AHEM Q-Comp Coordinator, 763-506-1378, Sarah.Hudson@ahschools.us



Application windows have just opened for National Education Association Foundation Spring 2022 round of grants to educators and for the 2022-23 Global Learning Fellowship program.

Currently there are three grant programs for educators, each providing grants between \$1,500 and \$5,000. The deadline to apply for the Spring 2022 round is **February 1, 2022**. Below are the links to each of the programs' application pages:

- [**Student Success Grants - NEA Foundation**](#)
- [**Learning & Leadership Grants - Educator Leadership Grant - NEA Foundation**](#)
- [**Envision Equity Grants - NEA Foundation**](#)

The Foundation's Global Learning Fellowship is a year-long, cohort-based professional development opportunity for educators. The deadline to apply for it is **March 1, 2022** here is the link to the webpage for our **Global Learning Fellowship**.

Additional Legal Services Added for Members Only

The Education Minnesota/NEA/AFT Legal Services Policy is a cooperative

Education Minnesota/NEA/AFT program that is designed to ensure that members receive appropriate legal assistance in matters relating to their employment.

New legal coverage has been added to the Legal Services Policy for Long Term Disability. If the legal department determines that a member's claim for long term disability benefits has been denied and warrants litigation or mediation against the insurance carrier, Education Minnesota will cover up to \$9,000 in attorneys' fees and \$3,000 in litigation costs.

If you have any concerns about being denied long term disability (covid related, or otherwise), please contact your field staff, David Kundin at David.Kundin@edmn.org or Anna Dougherty at: Anna.Dougherty@edmn.org

Filling Opens for the Office of Vice President/Secretary on January 3rd

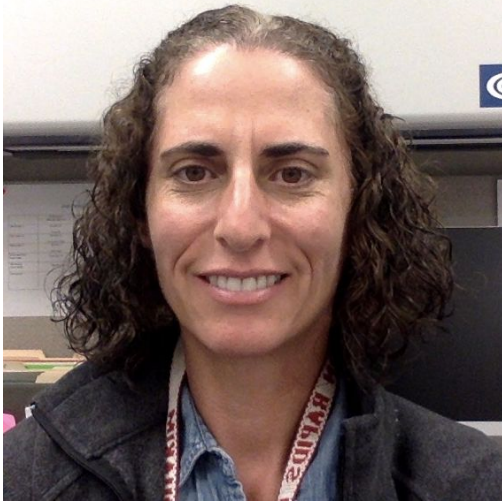
The term for all AHEM officers is three years, and each year there is one officer up for election. This year the office of Vice President/Secretary is up, and if you are interested in filing, please email jennifer.adriaens@edmn.org. Filing closes on January 25, 2022.

Get to Know Your Executive Board Member

The AHEM Executive Board is the leadership group that makes recommendations to the Representative Assembly, and has responsibility for fiduciary accountability, policy implementation and management of the activities of Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota. Representation on the Executive Board includes the officers, eight members from elementary, four middle school, four high school, one pre-kindergarten, two at-large and one Education Minnesota Governing Board member

Leila Youakim, Q-Comp Peer Evaluator/Coach

This is my 26th year of teaching, and my 19th in Anoka Hennepin. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Minnesota (1995) and a Master of Education degree in Science Education from the University of Minnesota (1998). I have licenses in 7-12 Life Science and 5-9 Middle School Science. This is my first year serving as a Q-Comp Peer Evaluator/Coach. I taught science at Coon Rapids Middle School prior to joining the Q-Comp



team. As for union involvement, I served as the head building rep and teacher's rights advocate for a number of years at CRMS before joining the executive board last year. This is my second year serving as an AHEM board executive member representing middle schools.

I joined the union my first year of teaching because, well that's what I was told I should do. Once I became more involved in the union, I soon realized its vital importance in ensuring that our member rights are protected. Being part of a collective voice is empowering in a profession that oftentimes gets taken for granted. My hope is that in these polarizing times we are all able to come together as a membership and continue to advocate for ourselves and our students.

New Communication Starting Soon

AHEM will begin using *Constant Contact* to send communications to avoid using the district email system. As you probably know, the district email system belongs to the district, and they have total access to our emails. Communicating through a different platform will ensure our emails remain completely confidential. Your building rep and/or your member engagement person will be given building member lists and they will ask you to verify your personal email. We hope you verify your home email to continue receiving your union's communications and be guaranteed that your personal email address will not be shared with anyone else.

AHEM wishes everyone a happy holiday!



Dec. 8, Bodhi Day, The enlightenment of Gautama Buddha

Dec. 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Catholics of Hispanic Descent

Dec. 20, Jewish festival of Hanukkah begins.

- Dec. 21, Yalda, the Zoroastrian celebration of the winter solstice.**
- Dec. 22, Yule, winter solstice, originating in Scandinavia, Wiccans, and pagan groups celebrate Yule.**
- Dec. 25, Christmas, Christians since the Middle Ages celebrate this day as the birth of Jesus.**
- Dec. 26, Zoroastrians observe the death of the prophet Zarathushtra, who lived in what is now Iran in about 1200 B.C.**
- Dec. 26, Kwanzaa, a weeklong African American and celebration of family, community and culture. The festival emphasizes Imani, Swahili for "faith."**
- Dec. 26, Boxing Day, Those descending from Commonwealth countries (Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand).**
- Jan. 1, New Year's Day**

Coming Up

- Combination Rep Assembly Executive Board Meeting – Dec. 20, 4:45 pm, AHEM
- First Day of Winter – December 21
- Winter Break – December 23 – Jan. 2
- Filing Opens for AHEM Officers, C&B, Q Comp, State, and National Delegates – Jan. 3
- School Board Meeting – Jan. 10, 6:30 pm SEC
- Representative Assembly – Jan. 10, 4:45pm AHEM
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Jan. 17
- Member Rights Advocacy Training – Jan. 22, 9am-Noon
- Executive Board Meeting – Jan.24, 4:45pm, AHEM
- School Board Meeting – Jan. 24, 6:30pm, SEC
- AHEM filings Close – Jan. 25



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