



ANOKA HENNEPIN LOCAL 7007

Friday Blast

Valerie Holthus, President

January 14, 2022 Vol 4 No. 15

Virtual Political Conference 2022

Our vote and our power to collectively bargain, stand up for fully funded schools and fight for racial justice

Overview: For democracy to work for all of us, every voter must have our voice heard and our vote counted. That includes all 86,000 educators in Minnesota in 2022. On Nov. 8, 2022, we will come together to vote for governor, attorney general, state legislators, school board members and other state offices.

REGISTER NOW!

- On Saturday, Jan. 29, join educators virtually from across Minnesota to kick-off a historic election campaign to get out the vote for collective bargaining rights, fully funded public schools and racial justice.
- Ask questions of Gov. Tim Walz, as a part of the 2022 Education Minnesota gubernatorial endorsement process.
- Attend two interactive sessions to gain an introduction to the most pressing issues to educators in 2022 and learn about our plan to get out the vote of every educator in Minnesota.

Trivia Question

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

By the end of this school year how many teachers have taught in Anoka-Hennepin for over 35 years?

This week's Question:

First three correct answers will win a coffee gift card.

Historically education professionals consisted primarily of women. However, in recent decades this trend has been

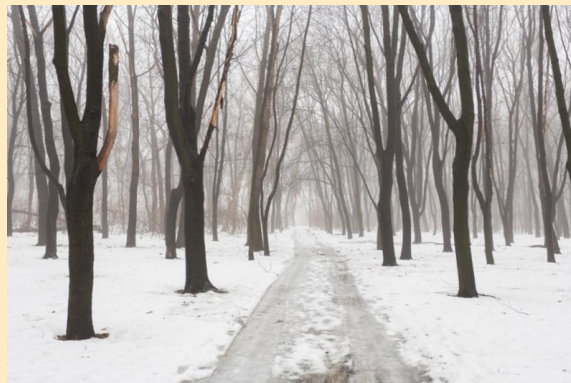
Answer: C. 16 – 20 There are 19 teachers in A/H that have taught for 35+ years.

Congratulations to Betsy Nordin, *Oak View Middle School*; Bobbi Anderson, *Coon Rapids Middle School*; Cory Forslund, *Anoka HS*.

changing. What is the percentage of current AHEM members who indicate they are female?

- a. 59%
- b. 66%
- c. 71%
- d. 78%

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



Coins for the Community



Thank you, AHEM members! Because of your generosity, we have raised over \$4,000 for the Torbenson family. This is an all-time record for a Coins for the Community fund drive. We wish the best for Lisa, a teacher at Sunrise Elementary, and her son Neil, a student at Jackson Middle School. Even in these dark times, a ray of light and hope can be found to support one of our own.

Double Pay for Teaching During Prep Time

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was agreed to on Wednesday between the District and AHEM to double the pay for teachers who cover a classroom during their prep.

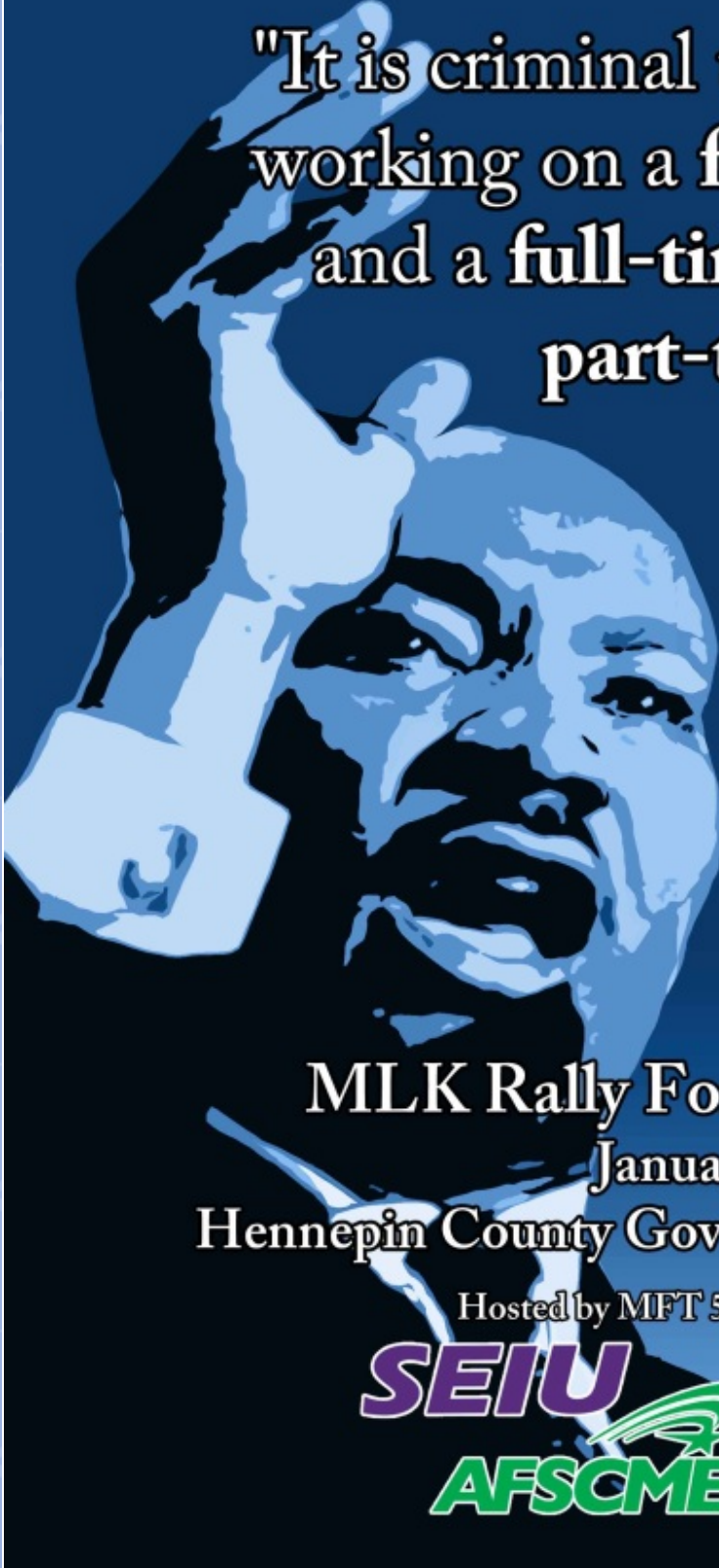
If a teacher accepts a request to do so, they will be compensated at the rate of \$45 for an elementary school hour prep time and the same for a six and seven period day school, or \$54.00 at a five period per day school.

January 17, 2022 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



"Rarely do we find men who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers and half-baked solutions. Nothing pains some people more than having to think."

Rev Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929-1968



"It is criminal to have people working on a full-time basis and a full-time job getting part-time income."

Public schools are a pillar of democracy and we, as workers in public schools, are fighting to democratize our working conditions, increase pay and improve the future for our students.

The Minneapolis Federation of Teachers invites all workers in Minneapolis to take part in an effort to build power in the workplace and in our schools.

MLK Rally For a Living Wage
January 17, 2022, 2:00pm
Hennepin County Gov Plaza, Minneapolis

Hosted by MFT 59

SEIU
AFSCME



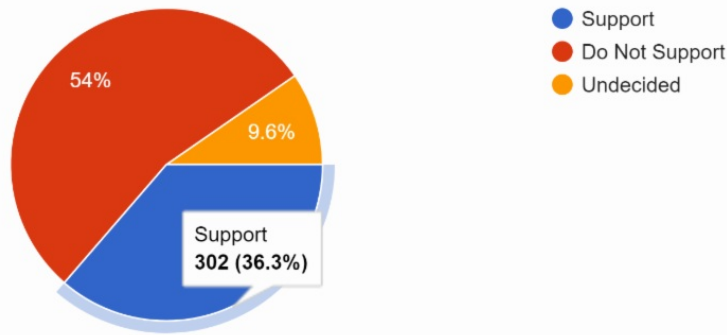
COVID Protocol Survey Results

Thank you for completing the survey regarding your level of support of the District's previous mask wearing policy. On Monday night the school board voted down a motion to eliminate a mask mandate on a 4-1 vote. Superintendent Law recommended we maintain mask wearing and the board, as a whole, agreed. The

Board is hearing the message from AHEM and our members that we **MUST** maintain safety of our staff to keep students in school, and the distribution of N95 masks and maintaining the mask mandate for elementary schools is an indication they are responding to our requests and concerns.

“Face coverings/masks will be recommended, not required for all persons at all grade levels in the district, K-12, unless the spread of COVID-19 is high in the school setting.”

831 responses



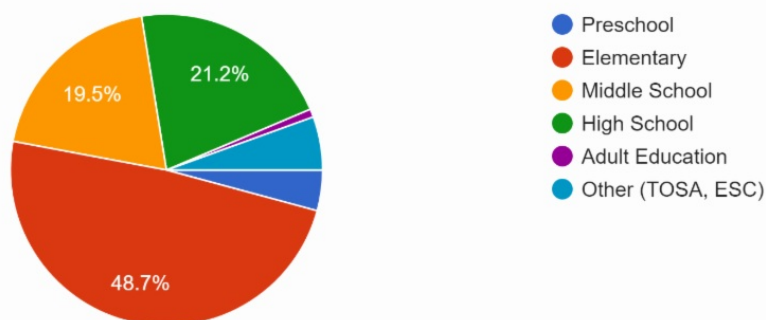
Please select the most accurate statement to why you disagreed to the previous question:

449 responses



At what level do you work?

831 responses



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

- Pay Day – Jan. 14
- 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 Officer filings Close – Jan. 25
- Pay Day – Jan. 28
- Education Minnesota Virtual Political Conference [**Register Here**](#) – Jan. 29
- Pay Day – Feb. 11



Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota
3200 Main Street, Suite 360
Coon Rapids, MN 55448