STRONGER TOGETHER



Valerie Holthus President May 20th, 2022 Vol 4, No. 32



FRIDAY BLAST

Education Minnesota Summer Seminar is Back On!

In 2022, Summer Seminar is planned on being held in person, with educators gathering at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minnesota from Monday, Aug. 1-Wednesday, Aug. 3.

All Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota members are invited to attend. AHEM will pay for whichever registration option you chose; you can come for all of summer seminar or a portion of it. You can room with friends or stay in your own room.

Not only is there excellent professional development for both your career in education and in unionism, but there are lots of fun opportunities available for you and your colleagues to participate in like Bingo, Karaoke night at the legion, yoga in the park, ice cream social and more.

Check out the <u>Education Minnesota Summer Seminar Registration Page</u> for the agenda, course catalog and registration. Remember, when you register, select that Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota will be paying for your registration.

Hope to see you all there!

Are You Retiring? Apply for Continuous Membership!

Retiring teachers have an opportunity to stay connected to the union through continuous membership. Continuous membership allows most members who retire after Sept. 2015, are at least 55 years old, have been a member for at least ten years and are an active member at retirement, to join at **no additional annual cost**. However, members must register online for the retired membership. They should register online at www.educationminnesota.org.

By staying connected to the union, retirees have access to professional development and member benefits including NEA life insurance they may have purchased. In addition, retirees who do day to day subbing will continue to have liability insurance under the retired membership. Retirees are also a vital part of the union as we continue to fight for full funding of public education. As a reminder, the membership doesn't transfer automatically, they must register online at www.educationminnesota.org

TICKET THIS!

AHEM Members-Only Ticket Program



Valleyfair Ticket Savings!

Regular Admission Price: All Ages: \$34.36

AHEM Member Price:
All Ages \$32.00 (Maximum of 5)



MN State Fair Ticket Savings!

Regular Admission Price: Adults (13-64) \$17 Seniors (65+) and kids \$15

AHEM Member Price:
All Ages \$12 (Maximum of 5)
Children (4 and under) Free

CLICK HERE TO ORDER

Trivia Question

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

The answer to last week's question

This week's Question:

First three correct answers will win a

was:
Which building can the below mural be found?

5. None of the Above This mural is located inside Champlin Brooklyn Park Academy (CBPA)

Congratulations to:

Caroline DeKrey, CBPA
Sarah Edmundson, ESC, QComp
Jamie Bernu, CBPA

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



coffee gift card.

What was NOT brought to us by labor unions?

- a. Sick Leave
- b. The weekend
- c. Health Benefits
- d. Equal pay for equal work
- e. Collective Bargaining
- f. Pensions
- g. Workman's Comp
- h. Grievance Procedures
- i. Child Labor Laws
- j. Parental Leave
- k. Civil Rights
- I. Social Security
- m. Minimum Wage
- n. Workplace Power
- o. Environment Protections



Join the NAC!

Thanks to those of you that have already volunteered to be on the Negotiations Advisory Committee (NAC)! The Negotiations Team will be reaching out soon with more information.

In case you missed it, the NAC will be an advisory group to help inform the Negotiations Team as we head into the next round of bargaining in the summer of 2023. The NAC will consist of representatives from groups that may be less represented in the process than traditional classroom teachers. Some examples might be counselors, adult basic education, nurses, or early intervention program teachers. This is by no means a comprehensive list.

NAC members will be points of contact for the Negotiations Team for the area that member represents. In some cases, NAC members may be asked for input on how contract language proposals would affect their area. Preliminary plans are to have the committee as a whole meet about once per trimester during the 2022-23 school year.

Think you've got the NAC? It's not too late. You can apply to join the

Negotiations Advisory Committee using this form! (Note: The application has a list of potential areas we are looking for representation from. If you believe we missed your area, please add your area using the form. We apologize in advance for any oversights that may happen in a local the size of AHEM.)

Interested in learning more before committing? You can email the Negotiations Team at ahemnegotiations@gmail.com with any questions.

While over a year remains before we begin meeting with the district again, the work starts now!

In Solidarity, Your AHEM Negotiations Team

Union Wear Still Available

We have some extra pieces of union clothing, and if you are interested in buying one or more, please email Becky.marshman@edmn.org. You can still use your \$25 credit if you haven't done so.

Men's 1/4 Zip: Size L, \$36

Pink Women's Fleece: Size M \$36

Men's Performance Full Zip: Two Size L \$42 Women's Performance Full Zip: Size XL \$42

Hooded Sweatshirt: Size XL \$37

Long Sleeve T-Shirt: One L, Two XL \$25

Women's Softshell Jacket: Color: Black, Size M, \$42



Volunteers Needed

In 2022, we have the power through our democracy and union to vote for public education and protect our collective bargaining rights.

But we need educators at the forefront of that movement. Please help interview or screen political candidates for possible endorsement, so we can put the candidates in office who we know will support us, our students and our profession.

Please email <u>anokahennepinem@gmail.com</u> to volunteer to be a screener. No experience necessary.

Legislative Updates

Pledge to Vote: The 2022 election season is in full swing, and the stakes are as high as any presidential election. Fill out your Pledge to Vote cards and return them to your building union leaders. If you haven't yet received one, let your building representative know!

MN Legislature: The good news- the legislature and governor have agreed upon a broad spending framework- 4 billion in investments, including 1 billion for education, and 4 billion in tax cuts. The bad news- the education omnibus bill (**HF4300**), because of political games, has shown no recent progress. Continue to write to your legislators about your priorities. **State leaders, help our schools!**

One important priority is special education. Part of the omnibus bill would:

- Increase Student Support Personnel Aid
- Criteria change for Specific Learning Disability that includes sunsetting the outdated discrepancy model
- Statewide MTSS (MTSS)- Formerly called Response to Intervention (RTI)

Show your support now: support-minnesotas-students-and-families

Governor's Race: Last weekend, Republicans chose Scott Jensen as their candidate, while the Democrats, and Education Minnesota, continue support for Governor Walz. Scott Jensen sees educators as bureaucrats, and public schools as failed institutions with burdensome costs. Governor Walz instead believes in the strength of public education. Through a robust engagement effort with educators, school leaders, students, and families across the state, his administration has developed a comprehensive plan aimed at restoring and expanding investments across the state.

Capital Connection

Click here to view your Weekly Capital Connection

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will." Frederick Douglas

Coming Up

- When can I afford to Retire? <u>Click for more details</u>
- May 20-21: DFL Convention, Rochester, MN
- May 21: Armed Forces Day
- May 23: Last Day of Legislative Session
- May 23: Executive Board Meeting 4:45pm
- May 23: School Board Meeting 6:30, SEC
- May 25: AHEM Recognition Dinner
- May 30: Memorial Day
- May 31: EdMN Degrees, not Debt Webinar 4:30-6:30pm, <u>Click here for more details and to register.</u>
- June 21: ICYMI Minnesota Statewide Virtual Job Fair for Educators 3-7pm,
 Click here to Register and Click here for More Details



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