

**STRONGER TOGETHER**



**ANOKA HENNEPIN**

*Valerie Holthus*

*President*

*September 9, 2022*

*Vol 5, No. 1*



## Friday Blast

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### Don't Be Fooled

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The Center for the American Experiment, operating under various pseudonyms, has been sending propaganda to our members attempting to convince us to drop our union membership. This conservative think tank pushes the agenda of its corporate donors, a few ultra-wealthy who want to defund our classrooms and spend public money on private-school vouchers. They want to ultimately destroy unions and take away our collective power.

They're attempting to mislead us about the lessons we teach about history, sociology and government. Instead of supporting a more honest and complete education, they hope to divide us, so we don't join together to demand the quality education all our students need.

We can't let the prejudices of a few billionaires, and the politics they pay for, deny the next generation the education they will need to bring Minnesotans together to make a state where everyone can thrive.

They know without an educated public, their manipulations will keep them on top, and us on the bottom with an ever-increasing economic divide.

Teaching without a union membership is similar to driving without auto insurance. Student, parent and administration critiques have the power to make our jobs unbearable, and sometimes these critiques can go too far and turn into inappropriate, career destroying accusations. Your union has a team on the ready to support you with free, MEMBERS-ONLY legal service and liability insurance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or your local building representative.

***Valerie Holthus***

*President, Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota*

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## **SEED**

### **Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity**

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### **SEED**

**(Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity)**

**is back for our 31st year!**

We have amazing speakers this year and facilitators who are excited to work with AHEM members.

Through book studies, articles and films, guest speaker presentations, guided reflections, and intentional discussions, SEED seminars offer Anoka-Hennepin teachers and staff a monthly professional development opportunity to share their experiences and perspectives as it relates to facilitating an equitable education for all students. Learn more about SEED here: [SEED Hype Video](#)

Earn CEUs (27) for no charge.

Earn college credits through St. Catherine University

- 1) \$375 due at the end of October to AHEM
- 2) An additional payment to St. Kate's due in May. You may choose:
  - \$375 for 4 semester (6 quarter) credits OR
  - \$200 for 2 semester (3 quarter) credits

Please register online through LMS (under Lock and Key), go to "course catalog" and type SEED in the search box.

If you have general questions, please contact Beth Heimerl ([beth.heimerl@ahschool.us](mailto:beth.heimerl@ahschool.us)) or Beth Popalisky ([sweetlilyp@gmail.com](mailto:sweetlilyp@gmail.com).)

We look forward to working with you!

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# Contract Connections Vol 2 No. 1

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Greetings AHEM Members!

While our current contract with the district does not expire until June 30, 2023, the work of bargaining never really stops. Over the course of this school year, it is the mission of the AHEM Negotiations Team to engage with as many members as possible so we can work to address the issues that are most important to all of you. To that end, the negotiations team will be seeking your input in a variety of ways:

- Gathering information from building-based meetings led by your building representatives.
- Listening to feedback from building representatives and executive board members.
- Forming the Negotiations Advisory Committee to bring in the voices of the many groups represented in our contract with positions outside the classroom.
- Holding member listening sessions to hear from you directly.
- Collecting data from member surveys.

Our goal is to hear from as many of you as possible to best represent the diversity of needs and beliefs of you all at the bargaining table next summer. Preparing as a local for any actions that may need to be taken in support of the negotiations process will also be an important part of the work of both the Negotiations Team and LCAT this school year. You can always reach out to the negotiations team via email anytime at [ahemnegotiations@gmail.com](mailto:ahemnegotiations@gmail.com).

We look forward to the opportunity to represent you.

In solidarity,  
John Wolhaupter - Lead Negotiator  
Luke Amundson  
Mark Corcoran  
Traci Intihar  
Jon Plotz

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## Trivia is Back!!!

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**Put your thinking caps on and get ready for an new year of Trivia!**

The first three people to get the correct answer will receive a coffee gift card.

What union is AFL/CIO's latest affiliate?

- a. Arena Football League Players Union
- b. Screen Actors Guild
- c. Major League Baseball Players Union
- d. American Federation of School Administrators
- e. International Association of Firefighters



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## Win Free Books for Your Entire School!

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EdAction

**Enter the 2022 Read Across America Sweepstakes!**

**Win FREE books & celebrate a nation of diverse readers!**

Enter by September 15

nea NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Read across America NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers

nea NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION nea.org

The banner features a vibrant illustration of diverse people of various ages and ethnicities reading books. A large stack of colorful books is the central focus, with people sitting on and around them. The background is a mix of soft colors and patterns, including a pink polka-dot area.

Hi there,

Read Across America is the nation's largest—and our favorite!—celebration of reading for students.

**Now, you have the chance to bring the joy of Read Across America to an entire school when you enter our 2022 Read Across America Sweepstakes!**

This year's Read Across America calendar was created with this belief in mind: No matter who they are or where they live—kids need to read books that represent them. They deserve access to stories as diverse and complex as the society we live in.

Winning our sweepstakes not only brings these books into your school, but also opens new worlds and experiences to students in **every single classroom** in the public school of your choice.

## WIN FREE BOOKS!

The sweepstakes closes on September 15. Only one entry is allowed per person — but the more people that submit from your school, the more likely you are to win! Share the sweepstakes with friends, family, and colleagues to have them enter, too.

We can't wait to deliver a new set of books to a great public school **[Enter today to make it yours!](#)**

In solidarity,  
The National Education Association



## MNA 2022 Nurses' Strike

**Join nurses on the line!**  
**Monday, September 12-Wednesday, September 14**  
**7 a.m.-6:30 p.m.**

[Sign up to walk the picket line](#)

### COMMIT TO STRIKE SUPPORT

If you or your organization would like to support nurses on the strike line by donating food or supplies, please email Geri Katz at the link below or by sending an email to

[geri.katz@mnnurses.org](mailto:geri.katz@mnnurses.org).

### DONATE TO THE NURSE STRIKE FUND

Donate to the MNA Strike Fund to help nurses as they prepare to go on strike.

[Donate Here](#)

[Email us for food & supply donation info](#)

# Coming Up

## Absentee Ballots can be requested at any time.

- School Board Work Session – Sept. 12, 5:30pm ESC
- Membership Engagement Meeting – Sept. 14, 4:30pm
- AFL/CIO Convention – Sept. 18 – 20
- Building Rep, Membership Engagement Training Make-up Meeting, Sept. 21, 4:45 p.m.
- **First day to vote early in person: Friday, September 23**
- **Absentee ballots will be mailed to those who requested an absentee ballot, Sept. 23**
- School Board Meeting – Sept. 26, 6:30pm ESC
- Superintendent Focus Group for Teachers– Monday, Sept. 26, 5:00, ESC
- Superintendent Search Community Meetings, CPHS and CRHS
- AHEM Rep. Assembly – Oct 10, 4:45pm
- School Board Work Session- Oct. 10, 5:30pm ESC
- Education Minnesota MEA Conference-, Oct 20 & 21
- AHEM Exec. Board Meeting, Oct. 24, 4:45pm
- School Board Meeting. Oct. 24, 6:30pm ESC



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