

STRONGER TOGETHER



ANOKA HENNEPIN

Valerie Holthus

President

December 16, 2022

Vol 5, No.14

Friday Blast

SEASON'S GREETINGS



MEA Online will be down for maintenance starting Jan. 1, 2023. Please direct questions to meaonline@edmn.org

Treasurer Election Results

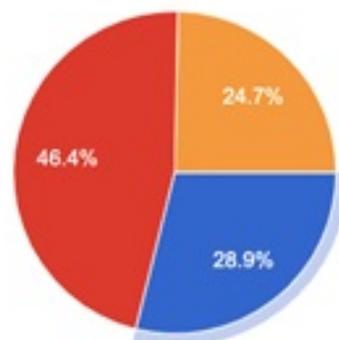
The preliminary results are as follows:

672 total members voted

- 312 votes or 46.4% for Kate Tverberg
- 194 votes or 29.8% for Stacy Lindberg
- 166 votes or 24.7% for Julie Vandebrook

Select one candidate for AHEM Treasurer

672 responses



- Stacy Lindberg
- Kate Tverberg
- Julie Vandebrook

The election results will be certified at the Union meeting Monday, December 19th.

Contract Connections

Volume 2, Number 5

Save the Date! January 18th, 2023

The AHEM Negotiations Team will be holding online listening sessions for AHEM members on January 18th, 2023. Members of the team will be online from 3-7pm. There will be a short presentation/ orientation at the top of each hour, but you can join at any time that works for you. Most of the will be set aside for the negotiations team to hear from you all.

The online listening session is taking place of the cluster meeting the team has held the last several rounds of bargaining. Our hope is that this format will be more convenient and allow more of you to be directly involved in sharing your ideas with the team. Depending on the number of people on the Zoom at a given time, there may be breakout rooms with a focus on particular topics like salary, insurance, 403(b), or other contract language. The goal of these sessions is to gather information from all of you to help the negotiations team align goals and priorities for the upcoming round of bargaining with the issues that are most important to you all.

We look forward to seeing and hearing from you over the upcoming months, starting with these meetings on January 18th. You can RSVP here:

<https://forms.gle/qtRZBC6Q2EQCdf287>

The negotiations team can be reached anytime at
ahemnegotiations@gmail.com

In solidarity,
Your AHEM Negotiations Team
John Wolhaupter - Lead
Luke Amundson
Mark Corcoran
Traci Intihar
Jon Plotz

TRIVIA TIME!

The answer to last week's question was:

The game that has green, gray and tan boxes:

Wordle!

Congratulations to last week's winners:

*Amber Ringwelski, Wilson Elem
Carol Raeker, Adams Elem
Tom Vermillion, University Ave. Elem*

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

What language is this powerful word, and what does it mean?

Wópidá

Please email your answer to Valerie.Holthus@EdMN.org

***Special consideration goes out to Lena Stevenson, Brookside Elem., for her answer to the trivia question:**



However, if you are colorblind, a high contrast color is available :)

Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Update No. 8

A big welcome to members new to Education Minnesota's Pension Updates! Past editions are [available on our website](#).

Why is it crucial that we all organize members now?

The ultimate decision-makers for pension changes are the Legislature and the governor. So, it is essential that we have members across the state in every legislative district who are active, educated and engaged. The most powerful communication happens when a constituent contacts the state senator and representative who represent them. We need to continue to build our power across the state, which leads to our next call to action.

[Click to continue to article](#)

[Click here for past articles](#)

Union Safety Advice

AHEM Advice regarding Staff Safety

What should I do if I witness students fighting?

Call for help, and do not intervene, especially if you are not CPI certified. Do not put yourself in harm's way, and do not touch the students. Focus on keeping other students away from the situation. I know it is hard to witness students hurting one another, but your health and safety are more important. Also, unfortunately, getting involved getting involved runs the risk of a PELBS or MDE investigation since students can become injured with staff engaging in holds or restrictions without training.

What if there is danger and no one is responding to my calls (via radio or phone) for help?

You have the right to call 911 if your students or you are in danger and no one from the office is responding to your calls for help.

What should I do if I witness student(s) destroying property?

Again, do not engage in any physical way. You can re-direct them verbally or call administration for help. If they do not respond, and there is no imminent danger to the physical safety of anyone, then let it happen. Document what happened to

administration in writing as soon as possible.

What do you mean by imminent danger?

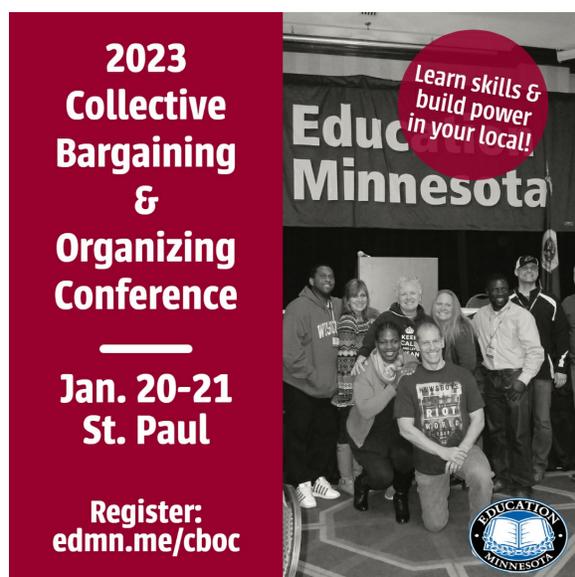
If a student could die, or be seriously injured, think broken bones, then intervene. Otherwise, so not touch the students.

What can I do if I am threatened by a student, I am afraid for my safety, and administration is not supporting me?

Document the threats, and if they happen more than once, you can file a restraining order against the student in the District Court, though courts are hesitant to issue restraining orders against minors, and the behavior will have to be demonstrably averse to your sense of safety, security, or privacy. You can also report the threats to local law enforcement. If you are feeling unsafe, please contact your Field Staff, so they can refer you to legal for a consultation on next best steps.

Please know that AHEM will support you in however we can in these difficult situations, please give Field Staff Anna, or David a call if you have any questions or need support 763-421-9110.

2023 Collective Bargaining & Organizing Conference



**2023
Collective
Bargaining
&
Organizing
Conference**

**Jan. 20-21
St. Paul**

**Register:
edmn.me/cboc**

Learn skills & build power in your local!

Education Minnesota

Education Minnesota logo



Happy Birthday!!!



December 18 - December 24

Kristin Weidlein
Tiffany Delong
Melissa Schuster
Rhonda Wissink
Genny Hemingway
Jennifer Johnson
Linda Germann
Ashlee Voigt
Shelby Sandstrom
Julie Moen
Susan Ficzeri
Emily Solin
Melissa Guenther
Ann Roehl
Sarah Sik
Melanie Hankins
Joshua Palmquist
Elizabeth Earleywine
Wendy Wallace

Joelle Tschida
Elyse Menssen
Cassandra Jefferson
Coral-Lyn Wyman
Maren Rueckert
Rachel Johnson
Holly Strand
Francisco Duran-Enriquez
Alysha Jordahl
Bich Lieu Nguyen
Jennifer Chastanet
Kelly Tokay
Rebecca Augustine
Caitlin Burns
Kelli Larson
Emily Stiyer
Terri Kramar
Kristine Davis
Victoria Loretz

Kelly Parsons
James Roo
Morgan Reel
Carol Thompson
Chelsea Regan
Heidi Rivers
Ryan Rengo
Amanda Anderson
Caleb Birkliid
Andrea Goddard
Bobbi Rzeszutek
Eric Bertram
Kara Schumann
Brett Buscher
Dhruvesh Patel
Olivia Dargis
Jesse Peterson
Laura Woodard
Amy Cummings
Rayna Morano

**If you don't see your name and you should, please email us to let us know!*

Coming Up

- December 18 - Hanukkah Begins
- December 19 - Combined Executive Board & Rep Assembly Meeting, 4:30p.m. - AHEM Office
- December 21 - First Day of Winter
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- December 26 - Kwanzaa Begins
- December 26 - December 30 - AHEM Office Closed

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