

STRONGER TOGETHER



ANOKA HENNEPIN

Valerie Holthus

President

December 2, 2022

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Friday Blast



Spread the Word, AHEM

**WORKING
TOGETHER**
to Improve our
Student's
Experiences

Please join us! We want to hear from you as parents, caregivers, and members of the Anoka-Hennepin school community. Anoka Hennepin educators are eager to hear from you about how we can work together on improving our students' experience. Please join us in-person on 12/6 or virtually on 12/7 by signing up through the QR Code below.



ANOKA HENNEPIN

3200 Main Street Suite 360
Coon Rapids, MN 55448
WWW.AHEM.MN.AFT.ORG



Sick of subbing on your prep?

Know Your Rights!

We have been hearing from a lot of teachers that they are feeling burnt out from subbing during their prep all of the time, they are being pressured by administration to cover during their prep, and they aren't sure what to do about it.

Article X, Section 11, Subd. 3 outlines subbing during your prep (Pg. 15).

Essentially this language boils down to the fact that **you have the right to say no** if asked to sub during your prep.

Otherwise, if you agree to sub, you can either be monetarily compensated for your time or with prior approval of building administration earn substitute leave time up to an additional two days per year for subbing during your prep.

Here is the full language:(click to read)

Weekly Trivia

The answer to last week's question was:

When was the first time before 2015 that the U.S. men's soccer team fail to reach the final of the CONCACAF Gold Cup?

A. 2003

Congratulations to last week's winners:

Hannah Welle, Champlin Park HS
Christopher Hosey, Monroe Elem.
Duane Gast, Hamilton Elem.

The logo for 'TRIVIA TIME!' features the words in a bold, orange, sans-serif font, arched over a light blue, brush-stroke-like background. Below the text are two horizontal black lines.

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

What number comes next?

1, 2, 9, 64, 625, 7,776,

_____x_____

- a. 99,999
- b. 100,000
- c. 117,694
- d. 242,424

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

Minnesota choose education in the 2022 election. What does that mean for us? This is the year to finally improve teacher's pensions. Schools are strapped for workers. With increasing retirements and people leaving the field, this is worsening fast. Education Minnesota is proposing that we make education jobs more competitive by reforming our pension plan. Before Teacher's Retirement Association's December 12th meeting, we need to push the TRA Board to:

- Discuss improvements to member benefits.
- Discuss the costs and get actuarial estimates for improvements.
- Recommend and support benefit improvements.
- Recommend and support increased funding from the state of Minnesota for improvements.

Please email these members to show them you care about this issue!

Joe Stencil (appointed) - Minnesota School Board Association (MSBA) -
jstencil@minnesotatra.org

Laurena Schlottach-Ratcliff (appointed) – Minnesota Management & Budget
(MMB) - laurena.schlottach-ratcliff@state.mn.us

Denise Anderson (appointed) – Department of Education (MDE) -
denise.anderson@state.mn.us

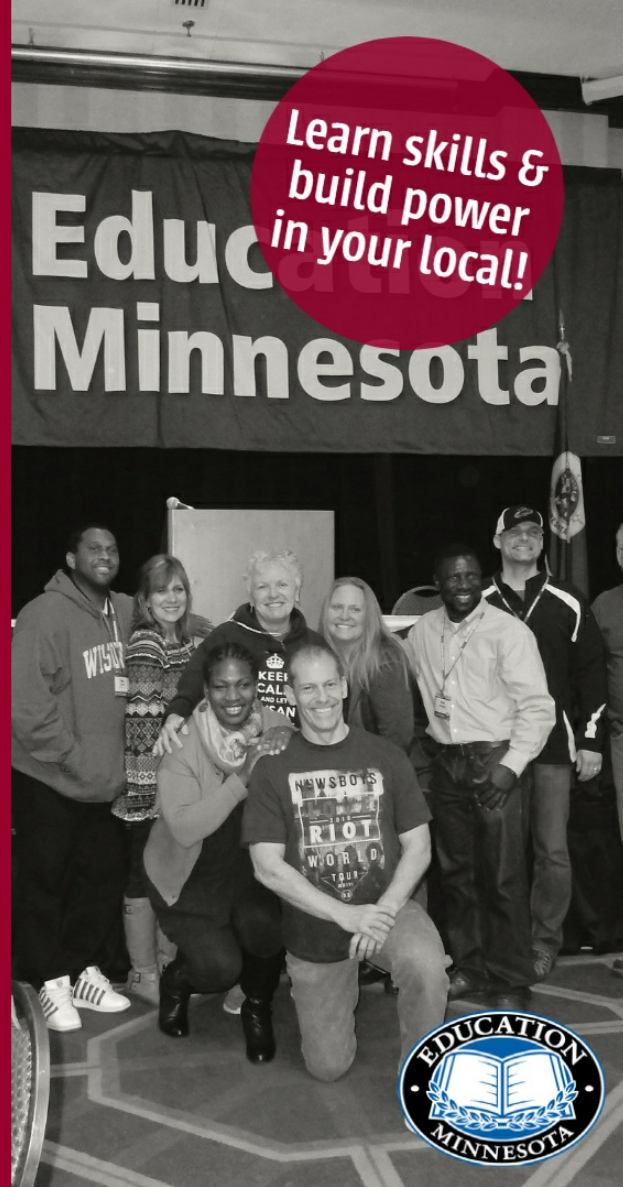
1. How does age 67 sound to you for retirement? Many of us are in that boat under our current pension. [Education Minnesota ESI Member Benefits](#) provides informational seminars on pension benefits for members. Check out the flyer for [“When can I afford to retire?” seminar dates](#)
2. Education Minnesota staff are working closely with legislators to author pension bills for improvements and funding. We need to do so with TRA now and with our local legislators. Find out: [who represents me?](#)
3. Be aware we have members in multiple pension plans and there are discussions about them as well. In addition, our fellow public employee groups have shared that they are planning to push for action on their pensions too.
4. Here is the link to the union pensions site to do your own research:
<https://educationminnesota.org/advocacy/at-the-legislature/pensions/>

**2023 Collective Bargaining &
Organizing Conference**

**2023
Collective
Bargaining
&
Organizing
Conference**

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

**Register:
edmn.me/cboc**



Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Update No. 6

****Don't forget the call to action in our last update...contact board members before Dec. 12!****

If you've missed any past updates, they're now available on our [pension page](#).

Process overview for making pension plan changes

The contributions, benefits and all other components of our pension plans are defined in state statute. State statute can only be changed by the state Legislature and the governor. The process varies, but there are generally three levels of decision making and influence that are most notable.

[Read on to continue article](#)

[Click here for past articles](#)

AHEM Members When can I afford to retire? Seminar

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

Tuesday - December 6

or

Tuesday - December 13

4:40 - 5 p.m.: Registration

**5 - 6:30: Seminar/boxed
dinners/prizes**

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Pension Education

- Learn how benefits are calculated
- Understand defined benefit pension plans

Financial planning

- What can you expect from Social Security?
- Tax-deferred and tax-free savings
- Asset allocation and asset management / diversification / performance and fees
- 403(b) match and severance payment options

[CLICK HERE TO](#)

*Presented by: David Wolfe, EFS Advisors
Sam Simons, EFS Advisors*



If you are unable to join us for one of the upcoming seminars and would like to meet with a financial advisor, please contact David Wolfe at Cell phone: 612-747-3440 / Email: davidw@efsadvisors.com or Sam Simons at Office phone: 763-552-6044 / Email: sams@efsadvisors.com

ESI - Education Minnesota

41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103
651-292-4856 800-642-4624 Fax 651292-4815
esi.educationminnesota.org

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Member-Only P.D. Opportunities

**The following re-licensure classes will be available this trimester.
All classes will be virtual.
Sign Up Now!**

[December 6, 2022 \(Tuesday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Best Practice for English Language Learners Class](#)

[December 8, 2022 \(Thursday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies Class](#)

[December 13, 2022 \(Tuesday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Key Warning Signs - Mental Health Class](#)

[January 10, 2023 \(Tuesday\) ~ 5:00-7:00 pm ~ Accommodation, Modification and Adaptation of Curriculum, Materials and Instruction](#)

[January 12, 2023 \(Thursday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Reading Instruction Class](#)

[January 24, 2023 \(Tuesday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Key Warning Signs - Mental Health Class](#)

[January 26, 2023 \(Thursday\) ~ 4:30-5:30 pm ~ AHEM Suicide Prevention Class](#)

[January 31, 2023 \(Tuesday\) ~ 4:30-6:30 pm ~ AHEM Best Practice for English Language Learners Class](#)

Happy Birthday!!!



December 4 - December 10

Anthony Brunelle
Susan Hargroder
Kyle Thielsen
Bernard Ward
Stephanie Salek
Amber Delliger
Sarah Edmundson
Anthony Barbato Jr.
Elizabeth Nordin
Cliff Huff
Jill Beck
Madison Stokes
Amy Berg
Cheri Sell

Anne Chisholm
Jeffrey Wall
Kailey Johnson
Mindy Pazen
Chris Vanjoske
Amanda Schultz
Cullum Buetow Staples
Michael Mack
Elizabeth Banick
Megan Freeman
Mark Rode
Leah Gravink
Lori Hansson
Paul Heida

Heather Cotter
Stephanie Anderson
Anne Wallace
Michaela McCallum
Tracey Wahlquist
Rachel Cassem
Erika Luongvan
Sharon Johnston
Miranda Miller
Rebecca Defoe
Rachel Krueger
Rose Kleinbaum

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

Coming Up

- When Can I Afford to Retire: November/December:
 - [Click for Flyer](#)

• [Click for Registration/Dates](#)

- December 6 - Working Together to Improve our student's Experiences, 6:30p.m. - Lincoln Elementary
- December 6 - When Can I Afford to Retire, 4:40p.m. - AHEM Office
- December 7 - Working Together to Improve our Student's Experiences, 6:30p.m. - Virtual
- December 8 - SEED Meeting, 4:30p.m. - AHEM Office
- December 12 - School Board Meeting, 6:30p.m. - SEC
- December 13 - When Can I Afford to Retire, 4:40p.m. - AHEM Office

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

Anoka Hennepin Education Minne | 3200 Main Street, Suite 360, 7634219110,
Coon Rapids, MN 55448 7634219110

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