

STRONGER TOGETHER



ANOKA HENNEPIN

Valerie Holthus

President

March 24, 2023

Vol 5, No.25

Friday Blast



Press Release 3/17

The union locals of the largest school districts in Minnesota held a press release at the state Capitol on Friday, March 17. The locals that were present represented an astounding 20% of the state's students. In the press release it was announced that all of our largest districts are filing their intent to bargain simultaneously. We communicated a message that we are all united in bargaining for a contract that gives students and educators what they need.



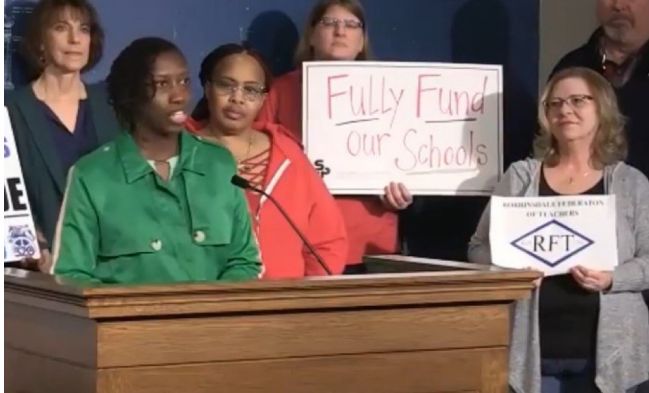
AHEM was represented by President Val Holthus, and Amna Kiren, Andover HS, and Natasha Brown-Guhin of Anoka HS. Amna spoke about the needs of her English language learners and Natasha spoke about the need for smaller class sizes. St. Paul teachers spoke about school safety, and Minneapolis educators

advocated for fixing the teacher shortage and attracting BIPOC people to teaching.

Dakota County United Educators (DCUE) spoke about requiring more resources and mentioned that teachers know best what their students need. Osseo teachers spoke about teachers of

color mentorship programs and mental health needs and smaller special education caseloads. Robbinsdale mentioned that ESPs and paras need to earn a living wage, at least \$25.00 per hour.

Thanks to Natasha and Amna for giving up the last day of spring break to advocate for your students, your colleagues and your profession!



Save the Dates!

- ***Pension Town Hall: March 29th***
- ***Capitol Rally for Public Education: May 20th***

Pension Town Hall: March 29th, 5 p.m.

Members will be able to meet with Rep. Kaohly Her, Chair of Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, and Rep. Dan Wolgamott, LCPR member and lead author of our pension bill ([HF2222](#)), for a [virtual legislative forum on pension issues](#) March 29th starting at 5 p.m.

During this time, we will hear their perspectives on pension legislation and the overall legislative landscape. Education Minnesota members will be able to join via Zoom from 5-6 p.m.

Registration: <https://cvent.me/VrD3ZB>

Rally for Public Education at the Capitol

Members and supporters of public education will rally at the Minnesota State Capitol May 20th to give a final push to legislators to fully fund public education. The rally begins at 1 p.m., with

lunch and sign-making at Education Minnesota headquarters beginning at noon.

More details to come!

**NOW
IS THE
TIME**

**RALLY FOR
PUBLIC
EDUCATION**

Saturday, May 20
1 p.m.
State Capitol

Lunch & sign-making at
noon at EdMN office



New Jewish Educators Affinity Group

Are you an Education Minnesota member who identifies with the Jewish religion? Are you looking for a safe space with your Jewish peers to share unique experiences, celebrate the culture and brainstorm ideas to counter the rise of antisemitism within our schools? If these ideas resonate with you, please consider joining our NEW Jewish Educators Affinity Group and attend a [post-Passover pizza party April 13.](#)

Details:

Post-Passover Pizza Party

Thursday, April 13

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Station Pizzeria, 13008 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka

Together, we plan to grow and design this new Jewish affinity space within our larger Education Minnesota community. Contact [Melissa DelRosario](#) to join this group and sign up for the event.

Identity Theft: It's here, there and everywhere.

The threat of identity theft continues to grow, whether from savvy cybercriminals looking for a quick payday to fraudsters using emerging tactics to harvest your information.

In 2015, ESI partnered with Securus ID to offer members access to high quality identity theft plan recovery services. A complimentary* Essential plan membership is provided for every ACTIVE Teacher, ESP and Retired member. To date approximately 11,100 members have registered for this

benefit.

Members can register for the complimentary plan [here](#). They just need to enter their name, local, personal email and Education Minnesota member number. Members can look up their number at educationminnesota.org/member-id-lookup/.

[Here](#) is a flyer which provides a link to the website to register as well as additional information on upgrade options and discounts on family plans.

Securus is available to answer questions and provide additional assistance at 877-833-9041 or by email to info@securusid.com.

**Complimentary plan provide by Education Minnesota ESI Member Benefits*

Scholarship Opportunities

Click each to find out more information about each scholarship opportunity!

- [**Attention AHEM members with graduating seniors: make sure you take advantage of this benefit of membership!**](#)
- [**The Minnesota AFL-CIO is proud to have scholarships available for union members and their dependents.**](#)
- [**Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship**](#)



Degrees Not Debt Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Greetings!

We have some exciting news and updates for student loan borrowers -- particularly those with Parent PLUS Loans. The Biden-Harris administration continues to find ways to provide relief to the millions of Americans burdened with education debt: both their own and debt incurred by family members.

Click to Read On!

Contract Connection



Vol 2, No. 12

Welcome to Contract Connection, an email for Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota members. This email will contain the most up-to-date information on our negotiations with the district, as well as member organizing and opportunities for you to be involved in your union's bargaining process!

Post-Spring Break Updates

Thank you to those of you that completed the negotiations survey. Over 1,300 members submitted a response to the survey for a response rate of about 46%. The negotiations team will need some time to review and analyze the responses before we can share back information with all of you. Many, many of you took the time to share specific ideas, with one of the open response questions yielding over forty pages of comments. As the team reads through what you have shared, we will combine it with ideas you have shared previously to develop the goals and priorities for the upcoming round of bargaining.

On Friday, March 17th AHEM filed our Intent to Bargain notice with the district. This notice is the official notification to the district that opens the bargaining process. It will still likely be two months or more before we start actually meeting with the district team. Several other large locals also filed their notices that same day and joined AHEM in a press conference at the capitol advocating for the many needs across the educational spectrum. Together the locals represent educators supporting and teaching 20% of students across the state. We achieve more together!

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

In Solidarity - WE, not ME

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 Minneapolis teachers joined the janitor's strike in:

B. 1951

Congratulations to last week's winners:

Leila Youakim, ESC-QCOMP
Jessica Rowles, Oakview MS
Lois Zak, Sandburg Ed Center

Please reply to this email to submit your answer.
anokahennepinem@gmail.com

3 winners will be selected at random to win a coffee gift card. Submit your answer by 11:59pm Friday (day of Blast) to be entered to win!

Fill in the missing word.

PERIGREE : APOGEE

PERIHELION : _____

1. Aphelion
2. Elliptic
3. Ornerly
4. Nadir

Government Relations

By Aaron Balzer, Government Relations Chair

Lobby Days/ Coffee & Politics

Coffee & Politics

District 35

- Rep. Stephenson (confirmed)

Caribou Coffee @ 101 West Main Street, Anoka 55303

Saturday, April 1st, 10:00 a.m.

Sign Up Here:

<https://forms.gle/GxWGFwvHojdrgSbj6>

Coffee & Politics

District 32

- Rep. West (confirmed)

Caribou Coffee @ 10400 Baltimore Street NE, Blaine, 55449

Saturday, April 22, 10:00 a.m.

Sign Up Here:

<https://forms.gle/wAivUFHrYnHDMrmo9>

ANOKA HENNEPIN EDUCATION MINNESOTA

LOBBY DAY

TUESDAY, APRIL 18TH

5:30 - 7PM

SEN. HOFFMAN (CONFIRMED), SPEAKER HORTMAN (TENTATIVE)

VIRTUAL

SIGN UP HERE: [HTTPS://CVENT.ME/DXAQ3D](https://cvent.me/dxaq3d)

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE MEET WITH OUR LAWMAKERS FROM DISTRICT 34 TO DISCUSS THE IMPORTANT TOPICS BELOW:

- Students and educators benefit from more high-quality time together.
- Healthy spaces for educators and students are a requirement for academic and professional success.
- Provide every student with access to great educators, including educators who reflect the diversity of race, place, gender and age of Minnesota.



**District 34 encompasses Dayton, Champlin, and Brooklyn Park.*

Contacting your local legislators is important. Prioritize those who represent your area, focus on positive messaging, and be sure to be accurate in your facts.

<https://www.leg.mn.gov/leg/legdir>

Use [Who Represents Me?](#), to quickly find out your local representatives:

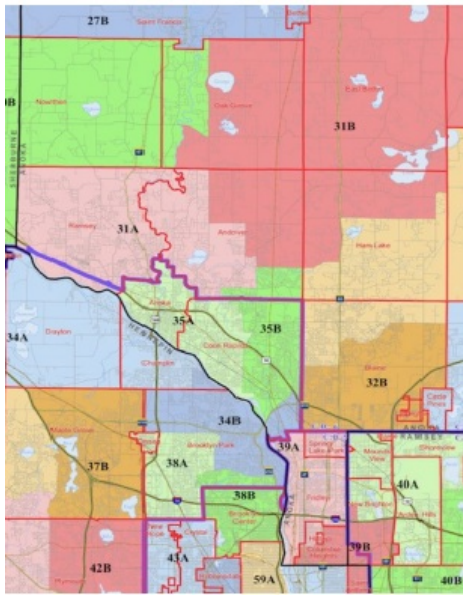
Legislator Districts

This map indicates the legislative districts as they overlap the Anoka-Hennepin School District.

Senate Districts are shown in a separate color, the House districts are shown in a red border within each color.

Each Senate District has two Representatives or Legislative Districts.

[Click here for an enlarged view of map.](#)



Senators Include:

SD 30 Eric Lucero (R)

SD 31 Cal Bahr (R)

SD 32 Michael Kreun (R)

SD 34 John Hoffman (D)

SD 35 Jim Abeler (R)

SD 38 Susan Pha (D)



Representatives Include:

Dist. 30B Paul Novotny (R) Nowthen

Dist. 31A Harry Niska (R) Ramsey, Andover

Dist. 31B Peggy Scott (R) Andover, Ham Lake

Dist. 32A Nolan West (R) Ham Lake, Blaine

Dist. 32B Matt Norris (D) Blaine

Dist. 34A Danny Nadeau (R) Dayton, Champlin

Dist. 34B Melissa Hortman (D) Brooklyn Park, Speaker of House

Dist. 35A Zach Stephenson (D) Anoka, Coon Rapids

Dist. 32B Jerry Newton (D) Andover, Coon Rapids

Dist. 38B Smantha Vang (D) Brooklyn Center

Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

[Click for Pension Update
No.21](#)

[Click here for most up to date
articles](#)

Capitol Connection



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

WELCOME TO
SESSION



Click to Read the
Latest

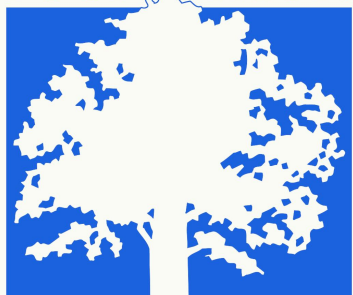
PD News

Professional development resources
for Education Minnesota members



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

EDUCATION MINNESOTA
FOUNDATION



for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

FREE PD grants from your union! Attention members!

If you forgot to apply for an Education Minnesota Foundation Professional Development Grant in the fall, there's still time to apply for the spring round of funding.

ESPs and teachers may request up to \$2,000, and higher education faculty may request up to \$3,000.

Applications are due Friday, April 7. [Visit here](#) to learn more and apply!

Click to Read

2nd Annual Iftar

2nd Annual Education Minnesota Iftar

Hosted by Education Minnesota Racial and Equity Organizer Londel French

Saturday, April 1 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**Minneapolis Federation of Teachers
67 8th Ave. NE, Minneapolis**

RSVP by March 28 at 5 p.m.

Please click here to register online at:

<https://cvent.me/aLzMAe>

**Any questions should be directed to
Londel French at londel.french@edmn.org**



www.educationminnesota.org

Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers,
the National Education Association and AFL-CIO, 3400



Happy Birthday!!!



March 19 - April 1

Verna Wong
Rachel Ferguson
Meng Yang
Susan Martinson
Angela Ronay
Carrie Holly
Iliyana Beneke
Emily Bauer

Cory Canaday
Margaret Williams
Joseph Kraemer
Whitney Hansen
Jaqueline Oakes
Zachary Hahn
Katherine Vasil
Caylene Wilkinson

Derek Johnson
Jocelyn Rowe
Mary Bottineau
Sarah Davis
Mary Hunt
Tyler Danielson
Jacquelyn Chiabotti
Courteney Schumann

Kristine Richardson
Luke Shaw
Michelle Tuley
Karen Hartung
Matthew Smude
Kathryn Merriam
Melissa Wisniak
Kathleen Hauglid
Julie O'Brien
Kathleen Winters
Crystal Scott
Rebecca Thomas
Kelly Hetland
Susan Ashton
Kristin Kepner
Summer Lamontagne
Bruce Olson
Trinette Langner
Claire Eckman-Thomas
Kelly Gonnerman
Brian Olson
Malanie Niewendorf
Edith Menges
Hannah Hendry
Sarah Hjelmberg
Timothy Fitze
Jill Nelson
Justin Haughton

Emily Collette
Jaclyn Mingo
Angela Bjelde
Kayla Schroeder
Susie Toenjes
Casey Lensing
Jennifer Keenan
Lindley Fedder
Nicholas Salmi
Thomas Vermillion
Anna Morley
Carolyn Schlitter
Joshua Woodley
McKenzie Carlson
Lindsey Hawkins
Jaquelyn Andersen
Marissa Schneider
Alecia Pankratz
Janey Shampine
Cassandra Theisen
Christopher Jensen
Candace Johnson
Kimberly Kesti
Clark Sanders
Paul Schrempp
Chad Kettering
Tracy Kiefer
Brooke Northfield

Kayla Hewitt
Carlyn Wilson
Jeffrey Cervenka
Benjamin Richards
Lee Clauer
Janene Unke-Hanson
Lance Pettis
Cynthia Quist
Becky Jaeger
Tamara Soens
Jenny Partin-Olson
Clarissa Chambers
Jennifer Geiselhart
Alissa Geisenhoff
Elizabeth Manson
Keri Leecy
Kami Daley
Leslie Spry
Adam Blumberg
Kelsey Kratoska
Jodi Anderson - Wolhaupter
Colin Jorgenson
James Hauge
Cory Hubble
Jared Grams
Laurie Traxler
Madeline Luoma
Jay Juola

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

Coming Up

March 27 - Executive Brd Mtg., 4:45 pm, Virtual/ School Brd Mtg, 6:30 pm, SEC
April 1 - Coffee & Politics, District 35: [Sign Up Here](#)
April 6 - MN Twins Home Opener
April 5 - Passover begins
April 7 - Good Friday
April 9 - Easter
April 10 - Rep Assembly, 4:45 pm, AHEM
April 10 - School Board WS, 5:30 pm, ESC
April 12 - LCAT Meeting, 4:30 pm, AHEM
April 13 - Passover ends / SEED Meeting, 4:30 pm, AHEM
April 17 - Public School Volunteer Week
April 18 - Lobby Day w/ District 34, 5:30 pm, Virtual: [Sign Up Here](#)
April 22 - Coffee & Politics w/ District 32, 10 am: [Sign Up Here](#)
April 22 - Earth Day / Eid al-Fitr
April 24 - Executive Brd. Mtg., 4:45 pm, AHEM /School Brd. Mtg., 6:30, SEC
April 26 - Administrative Professionals Day
April 27 - Scholarship Committee Dinner, 4:30 pm, AHEM
April 28/29 - Education MN Representative Convention

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

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Coon Rapids, MN 55448 7634219110

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