

STRONGER TOGETHER



ANOKA HENNEPIN

Valerie Holthus

President

March 31, 2023

Vol 5, No.26

Friday Blast



Attention AHEM Members!



[*Click here to apply!*](#)

Scholarship Opportunity!

Do you have a child that will be a 2023 graduate? Don't miss out, have them apply for an Anoka Hennepin EdMN Scholarship! Deadline is April 7th at 11:59 p.m.

BETTER PENSIONS NOW

Educators Rally
4/3, 3:45 p.m. Capitol Rotunda



**Wear Purple
for Pensions!**

[Join us at the Capitol](#) on Monday, April 3, to rally and speak with your legislators in person about the importance of investing in pensions.

[Register online here.](#)

An optional members-only briefing on current pension legislation will be held at 1 p.m. at Education Minnesota headquarters. Sign-making materials will be available there. Members are asked to reach out to their legislators if they'd like a personal meeting to talk about pension reform. A rally in the Capitol rotunda is planned for 3:45-4:45 p.m.

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!](#) (April 7th Deadline)
- [The Minnesota AFL-CIO is proud to have scholarships available for union members and their dependents.](#) (May 1st Deadline)
- [Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship](#) (June 1st Deadline)



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!](#)

Trivia Time

The answer to last week's question was:

PERIHELION : _____

1. *Aphelion*

Congratulations to last week's winners:

Sara Dusbabek, Champlin Park HS
Janet Budach, Sandburg
Brianna Canfield, Sand Creek Elem

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!

Play Ball!

The major league baseball season starts today!

In the 2010 Minnesota Twins Target Field inaugural game, who did the Twins play?

- a. Kansas City Royals
- b. St. Paul Saints
- c. Chicago White Sox
- d. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
- e. Boston Red Sox
- f. MN Gophers

Government Relations

By Aaron Balzer, Government Relations Chair

MN Legislature:

Governor Walz and Democratic leadership announced a budget agreement last week, including a \$2.2 billion increase for state schools. This represents overall about \$275 per pupil to the basic funding formula. Also, in the agreement is \$3 billion for tax relief, \$2.3 billion for an all-cash infrastructure bill, \$1 billion for housing, and nearly \$670 million for a statewide paid family and medical leave program. This represents a significant state budget increase.

Thanks to Emilie Buesing for sharing this [Legislature Tracker](#) that shows where we are as a state on many different bills.

Pensions:

The governor and legislative leaders also set a budget of \$600million for reforming the state's public pension system, which on its own is far too low to fund what is being asked for. It appears that it would take over 2 billion to fix the system.

[Read our full statement on the budget announcement.](#)

NEW! April 3 – Pension Day of Action at the Capitol

[Join us at the Capitol](#) on Monday, April 3, to rally and speak with your legislators in person about the importance of investing in pensions.

[Register online here.](#)

An optional members-only briefing on current pension legislation will be held at 1 p.m. at Education Minnesota headquarters. Sign-making materials will be available there. Members are asked to reach out to their legislators if they'd like a personal meeting to talk about pension reform. A rally in the Capitol rotunda is planned for 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Issue-Based Lobby Day:

There is an upcoming issue-based Lobby Day for Pensions on April 20th: [\(Register\)](#). The Pension Advocacy Plan presentation is also [available on MEA Online](#). If you've missed any of the pension updates, they are all available here: <https://educationminnesota.org/advocacy/at-the-legislature/pensions/>. If you have specific questions on pensions, please email [Adam Janiak](#).

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.

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/GxWGFvHojdrqSbj6>

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>

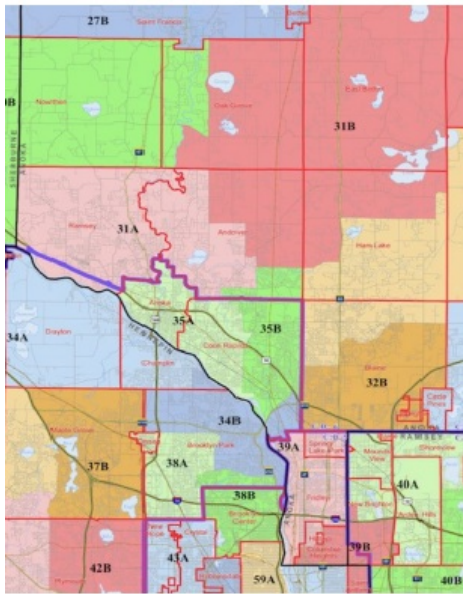
Use [Who Represents Me?](#), to quickly find out your local representatives:

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
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[Click for Pension Update
No.23](#)

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

Capitol Connection



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WELCOME TO
SESSION



Click to Read the
Latest

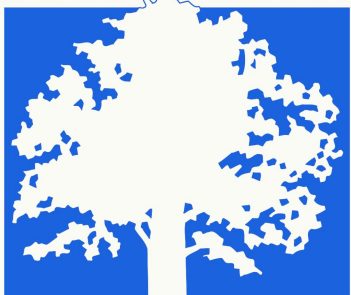
PD News

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



Save the Dates!

**NOW
IS THE
TIME**

**RALLY FOR
PUBLIC
EDUCATION**

**Saturday, May 20
1 p.m.
State Capitol**

Lunch & sign-making at
noon at EdMN office



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!

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.

Happy Birthday!!!



April 2 - April 8

Douglas Orr
Jill Behnke
Janet Budach
Leslie Witucki
Mark Ziegler
Colleen Engstrom
Rebecca Saffrin
Emma Ramaley
Michaela Swanson
Hayley Severson
Michelle Fahland
April Brozek
Hillary Hippen
Shannon Schmitz
Terrell Crawford
John Holgrimson

Jon Kohnen
Brian Long
Sarah Lanas
Brett Barta
Nathan Prince
Corinne Carney
Stephanie Gwin
Kelsie Meyer
Keith Packer
Paul Keeney
Michelle Hayes
Christopher Hosey
Rebecca Reith
Jamie Nelson
Ryan Tohm
Anne Perrin

Joseph Lofgren
Taylor Otto
Christopher Lewis
Ann Carlson
Dylan Sawicki
Eric Feigum
Casey Lodge
Zachary Swingen
Jennifer Harding
Sydney Zgutowicz
Stephanie Stenglein
Joseph Thiel
Brenda Abraham
Katherine Olson
Lucy Murzyn

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

Coming Up

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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