ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE: MFT ESPS ENGAGE WITH MEMBERS ALL SUMMER LONG

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October/November 2018 - Volume 21, No. 2

The Minnesota Educator publishes every other month. It is one of the union's print and digital publications to educate, inform and organize the community of members. The Educator is reported, edited and designed by union staff members. The paper is printed in LSC Communications' union shop in Menasha, Wisconsin. Find copies of the Educator online at www.educationminnesota.org. Go to the News menu, then Minnesota Educator.

To reach the publication for queries, story or commentary ideas
Email: educator@edmn.org
Mail: Minnesota Educator
41 Sherburne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103

To report a change of address or end duplicate mailings, contact the Education Minnesota membership department.
Email: membership@edmn.org
By web: www.educationminnesota.org and choose the Contact Us link to send a change of address.

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Phone: 800-652-9073 or 651-227-9541
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Minnesota Educator (ISSN 1521-9062) is a bimonthly publication.
Periodicals are postage-paid at St. Paul, Minnesota, and additional offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Minnesota Educator, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103-2196.

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The Minnesota Educator is published for members to share news about education issues and training opportunities for educators as well as union and political news that affects public education in Minnesota.

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Front cover photo:
Minneapolis ESP member and summer organizer Saida Omar talks with another ESP about the value of the union and how to sign up for membership during lunch at the district’s ESP professional development workshop day in August.

The Campaign 2018 coverage in this issue is an independent expenditure prepared and paid for by Education Minnesota PAC, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, in support of the named candidates. The independent expenditure material is not approved by the candidate nor are the candidates responsible for it.
SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE POLITICS OF DIVISION

Nine Minnesota high school students immediately knew what they would change in their school if given a chance: Reduce the racial conflicts they saw in the halls every day.

The students were enrolled in a special for-credit class for future teachers. They answered the question from American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten without hesitation. The tension was always there, they said. Students used hurtful stereotypes and language. Often they assumed bad intentions based on nothing but appearances. It was a constant distraction.

Yes, they agreed the 2016 presidential campaign made the situation worse, but that was almost a year ago. Why, they asked, haven’t their educators done more to improve the school climate?

After leaving the suburban high school, I was struck by how close to the surface the issue was for the group, who were white, black and brown students. I was also surprised by how eager they were for their educators to step in.

There is no doubt in my mind that students all over Minnesota feel the same tensions and pressures, waiting and hoping for their own educators to help. We know from scholars this atmosphere isn’t natural. For at least 50 years, a few powerful people in our society have inflamed racial hatreds for personal or financial gain. They have sold fear in exchange for dollars and votes. The toxic byproducts of that business are what our students and communities feel today.

For example, President Trump promises to build a wall to keep out Mexican immigrants, whom he has called drug dealers, criminals and rapists. His administration already turned the dehumanizing language into policy by taking away children at the border. Hundreds of them are still not reunited with their families.

Jeff Johnson has echoed Trump’s stand on immigration in the race for Minnesota governor. A key part of Johnson’s campaign is a promise to prevent the federal government from resettling refugees—people forced to flee their homelands— into Minnesota from abroad or other states.

In education, the influential State Policy Network, which receives funding from the Koch and DeVos families, has recently started pushing a new kind of taxpayer-funded voucher called a “Child Safety Account.”

According to a description from The Heartland Institute, parents “who feel, for whatever reason, their child is unsafe at school” could receive taxpayer money to attend a private or virtual school, or even use it for homeschooling expenses.

If there is a more egregious tool to accelerate the segregation of public schools, I can’t think of it. In her 2017 book “Fortress America,” University of Minnesota history professor Elaine Tyler May wrote about the dangers of the manufactured fear, usually about race, that has affected America for so long.

“If Americans distrust and even fear one another as well as the government, and have no commitment to the public good, then the basic social and political practices that ensure a healthy democracy cannot survive,” she wrote.

If we can accept that a few powerful billionaires and their politicians have spent decades deliberately distracting us with fear mongering, we must also believe that educators and other Minnesotans can come together to heal the divide.

Voting is one, small way of speaking out for our students and our communities against the politics of division. For those educators still struggling to find their voices on race, this is the easiest action you will ever take.

This fall, we have the power to pick leaders who believe in all of our children and the mission of public education. When we come together, we can ensure this will be a state we’re proud to leave our kids.

Together,

Twitter: @DeniseSpecht

Denise Specht
Check out our new Election 2018 microsite, EdMNvotes.org!

Education Minnesota has launched a website dedicated to help get out the vote for the election this fall.

EdMNvotes.org has information for Education Minnesota’s worksite action and digital engagement leaders, as well as any member across the state, to use in motivating their friends and colleagues to be a voter this fall.

Online resources include sharable social media graphics like cover photos and profile pictures, videos featuring Education Minnesota members talking about what issues are important to them this election and ways to talk to your friends, family and colleagues about those issues.

Also available will be a customized ballot feature so members can see who will be on their local ballot when they go to their early voting or Election Day polling place.

Where are you reading your Minnesota Educator?

Thank you to everyone who sent in a photo of where you are reading the new Minnesota Educator magazine. Congratulations, Rosemari Kroll from Edgerton for being this issue’s winning submission!

We’re going to keep the contest going! Email a photo to educator@edmn.org or share it on social media using #mneducator of where you are reading your Minnesota Educator to be entered into a drawing to win a $50 gift card!

Submissions are due Nov. 10. Happy reading!

Getting social!

Educators use social media as a way to connect with their communities, colleagues and the world. We will feature Education Minnesota member’s and local’s posts each issue! Make sure to follow Education Minnesota on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube and Pinterest!

Members in the news!

Education Minnesota members are often interviewed in their local newspapers or TV station. We will feature a quote each issue!

“"Our students benefit when we work together, not just on the curriculum but on how to become better human beings. It’s up to us to create environments that make it safe to be imperfect. Every kid matters, every educator matters, every heart matters and we need each other to make all of this work."" — 2018 Minnesota Teacher of the Year Kelly Holstine gave a speech to teachers at her alma mater district, Fairmont, which was covered in the Aug. 29 issue of the Fairmont Sentinel
SUMMER ORGANIZING BRINGS THE UNION TO ITS MEMBERS

Any given weekday last July, Saida Omar could be found knocking on doors in an apartment building or down a street in Minneapolis with a list, a clipboard and a membership form in hand.

That’s because Omar spent her summer as part of the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers Education Support Professionals summer organizing program.

The program employs five to six ESPs through grant funding. They work part-time, receiving an hourly stipend plus mileage expenses, and meet one-on-one with ESPs about the value of the union.

During the school year, Omar is a family liaison at Jefferson Community School. She was approached by Shaun Laden, the MFT ESP president, to see if she wanted to be a part of the organizing program.

“This is a passion,” Omar said. “I believe the union can represent us.”

This is the MFT ESP local’s third summer with the program, which has received funding from the National Education Association Center for Organizing, as well as Education Minnesota.

“We try to identify new people each summer to participate,” said Laden. “It’s an organizing tool in itself, too. People often go into a building steward role after going through the summer program.”

On average, the union gains 125 new member after the summer organizing blitz.

The organizers get a roster of non-members and reach out in whatever way is most comfortable for them or makes the most sense, whether it’s making phone calls, going door-to-door like Omar or visiting worksites of the summer school programs.

The organizers get support from Catina Neal, an ESP who works full-time for MFT doing organizing all year.

“I never did door knocking before,” said Omar. “But I asked Catina for help and we went together so I could see how she did it.”

After that Omar said she was door knocking three to four hours a day, three to four times a week.

“I had a lot of people whose addresses and phone numbers were not correct,” she said.

“I had to make contact with people three to four times to actually connect with them.”

Hearing from one of their peers about the importance of being a union member is an impactful way to organize, said Tequila Laramee, another summer organizer.

“It was important for them to hear that I was an ESP, too,” she said. “I wasn’t just a ‘union lady.’ I am just like them and I am sharing my experience with the union.”
Sharing her experience with the union is exactly why Marquita Mosby joined the summer organizing program.

“I’ve been in the district 20 years, but I didn’t know what the union stood for until five years ago,” Mosby said. “I get a lot of pushback that people don’t know what the union does for them. But I tell them that we need all voices and how can the union help you if we don’t know what the issues are.”

Not understanding what the union really does for its members was the theme of most of the other organizer’s conversations, too.

“When people would say they don’t think the union does a lot, I would share my experiences,” said Omar. “After I talked with them, only one person really said no.”

Hiring their own members to do the organizing has been a crucial part of the program’s success, said Laden.

“It’s really about mythbusting the status quo of who is a union member,” he said.

Omar, who is Somali-American, focused on members in her community.

“When I said I worked for the union, people were surprised and think it’s really nice they are employing people like me,” she said. “They don’t always think it’s welcoming.”

Larmee worked directly with ESPs in the Minneapolis Kids school-age child care program, since she has worked in that program.

“Minneapolis Kids employees feel like the union is not for them, because our wages are too low,” she said. “But I am able to talk about what the union has been doing specifically for Minneapolis Kids.”

Mosby knows that being a part of a team is what is best for all ESPs.

Her worksite, Olson Middle School, has 100 percent ESP membership.

“Most people just want more information,” she said. “I stress the importance of us all being one.”

**Funding and organizing grants available:**

*Education Minnesota:* [www.educationminnesota.org/members-only/member-engagement/Resources](http://www.educationminnesota.org/members-only/member-engagement/Resources) (You must be logged in to see these resources.)

*NEA:* [www.nea.org/grants/62027.htm](http://www.nea.org/grants/62027.htm)
NBCT NETWORK PROVIDES VALUABLE SUPPORT

The process of becoming a Nationally Board Certified Teacher takes time and effort, but the Minnesota National Board Certified Teacher Network provides teachers with support during and after their application.

“The members of this network are there to help you every step of the way,” said Joe Weyer, a math teacher in Roseville, who recently became certified. “I don’t think I would have made it without these people in my corner.”

“I read that less than 50 percent pass the NBCT process on their first try,” said Brad Ollmann, a music teacher from St. Paul. “For me, the difference between passing and failing was not doing it alone.”

The network and its support services are available to active Education Minnesota members.

“This shows that the union is really about excellence in teaching and promoting professional development among its members,” said Ben Lathrop, an English teacher in St. Paul.

Jodi Hansen, a science teacher in Worthington, was the first person in her district, and even in her area, to be certified, so having others to communicate with about the process was vital to her success, she said.

Keith Steadland, a physical science teacher in White Bear Lake, said he encourages others to pursue the program.

“I grew a lot as a teacher,” he said. “It’s a really good feeling. This is a journey of professional development.”

Learn more about the Minnesota National Board Certified Teacher Network by visiting their booth at the MEA conference or at www.educationminnesota.org/resources.aspx#National-board-certification.

Education Minnesota members can also apply for a scholarship to help offset the costs of National Board Certification through our foundation. Go to edmnfoundation.org for more information.
Faculty at St. Cloud Technical and Community College know that when students don't have money, they aren't able to buy books or gas to get to campus. So, they decided to help.

“We know a lot of students struggle, have extra jobs and need extra help,” said Vicky Kapitzke, a Spanish, ESOL/ESL, English and reading faculty member. “A few of us had the idea to do some kind of giveaway to help ease the burden.”

Vicky and her husband Bob, also an instructor at SCTCC, as part of their local chapter of the Minnesota State College Faculty union, brought the idea to the administration, who said no.

The MSCF chapter members then went to the campus’ other unions, MAPE and AFSCME, and asked if they wanted to join in the effort.

“We have a common cause and work for the same employer, so it was nice to be able to work together to help our students start the semester off on the right foot,” said Bob.

Jackie Bauer and Anne Rhodes from MAPE and AFSCME worked with MSCF to bring the idea back to the administration. This time, they said yes.

“This is something MSCF, MAPE and AFSCME did for students,” Vicky said. “Being together gave us the power to get this accomplished and get it approved.”

The campus holds an event at the beginning of every semester, which features all of the clubs and programs the college has to offer. The unions thought it was the perfect place for the giveaway.

The first “Great Big Giveaway” was held last spring, and another took place this fall.

Each union had members bring in gently used or new items that could help set up an apartment, as well as clothes, books and baby items. Union members also donated their time to work at the event.

“Everyone from everywhere brought stuff,” said Vicky. “The baby items went fast. The cleaning supplies were immediately gone.”

At the spring event, students were hesitant to come up, wondering if it was really free and if they could take multiple items, said Vicky.

“This fall, students came with bags,” she said. “It’s becoming a natural thing, a part of what happens on this campus.”

For some, it was an emotional experience.

“One student said she had been homeless and now was trying to set up their first house. But she couldn’t afford to get books, get food and set up the apartment,” said Vicky.

A young mother took a lot of the baby stuff, including clothes, books and bottles, and started crying as she thanked the event organizers, Vicky said.

One faculty member was interested in donating food, but the administration was hesitant.

“She went and got gift cards to a local grocery store,” said Vicky. “But she also got coupons, so their money could go further.”

While the main catalyst for the event was to help students, Vicky said it has also has had a big impact on their union.

“We have tried to do events to create solidarity,” said Vicky, who is also the local membership chair. “But this was tangible, and for one day where you can all contribute and help. We had people from all areas of MSCF, who don’t normally come to union meetings, right there with us donating things and their time.”

“It was a really good way to get our members involved in something that impacted our students. We even gained some members because of it.”

MSCF members Bob Kapitzke, Pam McBroom and Clare Opatz-Osgood worked at the student giveaway event this fall.
Contributions to this foundation will provide financial support for innovative programs initiated by Education Minnesota members, locals and affiliates that promote educational access for learners and excellence in teaching. Grants also support professional development for education support professionals and higher education faculty.

In accordance with Education Minnesota Bylaw Article 2, Section 3, Subd. c, I hereby request the following:

Please refund to me $____ (maximum $5) of my Education Minnesota foundation assessment that will be contributed to the Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning for the 2018-19 academic year.

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING FIELDS ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: ____________________________
Last 4 digits of SS#: _______________________
Address: ________________________________
City, State, ZIP: _________________________
Local/Affiliate: __________________________
Signature: ________________________________
Date: ________________________________

A request for refund of the Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning assessment will not affect Education Minnesota membership rights or benefits but will make you ineligible to receive a grant from this foundation. Retired members are not assessed, thus do not qualify for the refund.

DEADLINE FOR REFUNDS:
Refund requests must be received by the Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning:
1) By Oct. 31 for continuing members; or
2) Within 30 days of signing a membership application for new members.

CHECKS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THE END OF NOVEMBER, AFTER ALL FORMS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED.
NO PHOTOCOPIES ACCEPTED.

Return this form to:
Education Minnesota Accounting Department
Attn: Refund Request
41 Sherburne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196
2018 MEA CONFERENCE

The 2018 Minnesota Educator Academy (MEA) conference Oct. 18 features a lineup of more than 80 workshops and dozens of educational exhibits.

You can earn relicensure credit, network with your peers and win prizes at Minnesota’s largest professional development event for educators.

To plan your visit, check the schedule grid inside this special section, then head to www.educationminnesota.org/events.aspx#mea for complete workshop details. Or download our mobile event app!

What to expect this year:
- The conference is one day only this year and open to Education Minnesota members only.
- Thursday’s workshops start at 8:45 a.m. Thursday. Passing time is 15 minutes. Register in advance at www.educationminnesota.org/events/mea/2018-MEA-details. Same-day registration will be available starting at 7 a.m. if space allows.
- Our exhibit hall will be smaller and on the ballroom level with the workshops.
- There will be no general session. Instead, attendees will have the opportunity to attend five workshops throughout the day instead of four.

QUICK FACTS

When: 7 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 18
Where: Saint Paul RiverCentre, 175 Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul
Admission: Free and open to Education Minnesota members only.

Workshops: 8:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m.
Exhibits: 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

WHERE TO PARK:
CLOSEST RAMPS
• RiverCentre Ramp, 150 W. Kellogg Blvd. (Space is limited!)
• Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 W. Kellogg Blvd.
• Smith Avenue Transit Center, 145 N. Smith Ave.

FEATURED SPEAKERS
Jitu Brown, the national director for Journey for Justice, will kick off the day sharing how to use community organizing to fight against the privatization of schools.

Minnesota Teacher of the Year Kelly Holstine will talk about how educators can take care of their own mental health to have a more positive impact on students. Erin Walsh, who runs Minneapolis-based Mind Positive Parenting, will explore social media and its affects on adolescents.

A panel of educators will discuss how to use restorative practices to transform school climates. And Dr. BraVada Garrett-Akinsanya will talk about the impact historical trauma has on children.

Conference Highlights

DOWNLOAD OUR EVENT APP
Navigate MEA with ease with our event app for mobile devices. The app allows attendees to create their own schedules, locate sessions and exhibitor booths with ease, learn about and network with speakers, exhibitors and other attendees, stay up to date with event announcements and more! Visit https://crowd.cc/s/1XvZO to download the free app.

FREE CHILD CARE FOR MEMBERS
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Ballroom H
Need someone to entertain and care for your children while you receive quality professional development? Education Minnesota is offering free child care for members during the MEA conference. Registration is required, so sign up now at http://www.educationminnesota.org/events/mea/child-care.

HELP US PROMOTE MEA!
Post on Instagram and Twitter about your favorite MEA moments, using #MEAmn18, for a chance to win a 256GB iPad Pro. Each post counts as one entry.

Read more on page 16.
### MEA Workshops: Oct. 18

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<td>SEL IN THE CLASSROOM: QUICK WAYS TO INTEGRATE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SKILLS INTO ACADEMIC LESSONS</td>
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<td>MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: MOBILE ANALYTICS</td>
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<td>Change Makers Through Knowledge to Action</td>
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<td>The Dire Need for Incorporating Multiethnic Literature in All Content Areas</td>
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<td>Elections 2018: Opportunities to Engage Students</td>
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Schedule subject to change. Go to www.educationminnesota.org for more information.
**MEA Exhibitors**

26 Letters
All Are Welcome Here
AMAZEWORKS!
American Indian Center, St. Cloud State University
American Lung Association in Minnesota
Association for Nonsmokers – Minnesota
Bare Books/Treetop Publishing
Bell Museum and Planetarium
Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota
Carpenters & Joiners Training Center
Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy
Commonwealth Annuity
Concordia Language Villages
Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center
Education Minnesota ESI
Educators Lifetime Solutions – Long-Term Care and Life Insurance
EFS Advisors
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
Festival of Nations
Girls Who Code
Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission
Hamline University
Islamic Resource Group
Know the Truth
McDonald’s Twin Cities Co-Op
Melrose Center
Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom
Minnesota Children’s Museum
Minnesota Department of Education
Minnesota Field Trip & Activity Library
Minnesota Forest Industries
Minnesota Health Insurance Network
Minnesota Historical Society
Minnesota Humanities Center
Minnesota Opera & Minnesota Orchestra
Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
Minnesota Public Employees Insurance Program
Minnesota Public Employees Science Teachers Association
Minnesota State University, Mankato, College of Education
Minnesota Vein Center
Minnesota Youth for Human Rights
Minnesota Zoo
MSBA High School Mock Trial Program
NEA Auto & Home Insurance California Casualty
NEA Member Benefits
Nickelodeon Universe
Orway Center for Performing Arts
PerksConnect
PrairieCare Child & Family Fund
Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
Science Museum of Minnesota
SEA LIFE Minnesota Aquarium
Securus ID
Seven Corners Printing
St. Cloud State University
Taconite Rocks!
Teachers Retirement Association
Tradition Mortgage
Travelers Auto & Home Insurance
Twin Cities PBS
United Educators Credit Union
University of Minnesota Extension Youth & Money
University of Minnesota: Office of Teacher Education (College of Education and Human Development)
Valleyfair
Voyageur Outward Bound School
Winona State University – Rochester
YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities

**TAKE CREDIT**
You may be able to earn general continuing education credit for attending the MEA conference. Pick up an attendance certificate at the end of any workshop you attend. In addition, some sessions might help you fulfill state relicensure requirements in reading instruction, identifying early-onset mental illness in students, positive behavioral interventions, differentiated instruction, technology, English language learners and suicide prevention. Check with your district’s continuing education committee on whether you will receive credit.

**DONATE BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN IN NEED**
7:30 a.m.–3 p.m.
Donate new and gently used books and school supplies for children in need. The drive is organized by Education Minnesota Community Outreach. Bring donations to the Outreach and Grants booth outside Ballrooms A and E.
School supplies and monetary donations will go to Kids in Need, which provides school supplies to teachers in high-poverty schools and a backpack program that delivers supplies to children in rural areas. You can donate money online at www.kinf.org/donate. Books will be distributed throughout Minnesota. Any extras will be donated to the Minnesota Literacy Council, which serves Minnesotans of all ages.

**STOCK UP**
7:30 a.m.–3 p.m. – Exhibit hall (Ballrooms E, F and G)
Dozens of exhibitors will display education-related products, services and programs. See below for the full list.

**WIN PRIZES!**
7:30 a.m.–3 p.m. – Exhibit hall (Ballrooms E, F and G)
Make sure to get your MEA conference bag near registration. Inside it, you will find an exhibitor game. Visit the exhibits, ask for their letter and complete the phrase to be eligible to win prizes.
Political Action Committee Refund Request

Thousands of members of Education Minnesota decide to contribute to the union’s political action committee. The PAC is one of our main tools to bring the educator voice to the policy debate by electing people who will listen. Those PAC dollars are used to win local levies and to back candidates and organizations that support lower class sizes, high standards and professional educators.

In accordance with Education Minnesota Bylaw Article 2, Section 3, Subd. b, I hereby request the following:

___ Please refund to me $25 of my contribution to Education Minnesota’s dues that will be contributed to the general account of Education Minnesota Political Action Committee for the 2018-19 academic year.

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING FIELDS ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: ____________________________
Last 4 digits of SS#: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City, State, ZIP: ____________________________
Local/Affiliate: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

A request for refund of the Education Minnesota Political Action Committee contribution will not affect membership rights or benefits. Retired members are not assessed, thus do not qualify for the refund.

DEADLINE FOR REFUNDS:

Refund requests MUST be received by the Education Minnesota Political Action fund:
1) By Oct. 31 for continuing members; or
2) Within 30 days of signing a membership application for new members.

CHECKS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THE END OF NOVEMBER, AFTER ALL FORMS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED.

NO PHOTOCOPIES ACCEPTED.

Return this form to:
Education Minnesota Accounting Department
Attn: Refund Request
41 Sherburne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103-2196

Member engagement work for the 2018 campaign heats up

As the school year begins, Education Minnesota members are looking ahead to the November elections and beginning the work to help motivate their colleagues to vote.

More than 33,000 Minnesota educators did not vote in the 2014 gubernatorial election. The union has the power to change that in 2018 and is engaging members in a whole new way around being a voter.

Thousands of members have been trained as worksite action leaders, who will be sharing information on why and how people can vote in this election, including having early voting parties, talking about the issues that mean the most to their work and their families or engaging people in a conversation about voting on social media.

Education Minnesota members are also taking part in the union’s days of action. The campaign kicked off with events on Sept. 20 and 22. More days of action with Education Minnesota, as well as our labor partners, will be taking place up until Election Day. Go to edmnnvotes.org to learn more or to sign up and get involved.

Educators are also getting active in their local elections, such as levy referendums and school board races. Through the Education Minnesota Political Action Committee, locals can get monetary and staff support to help get out the vote for local races that have a direct impact on your classrooms and student learning.
Education Minnesota endorsed candidates

Education Minnesota screening teams have recommended the following candidates for election, as of Aug. 23. More endorsements will be available at www.educationminnesota.org before Election Day, which also includes information on our endorsement and local screening processes.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CD1: Dan Feehan*
CD2: Angie Craig
CD3: Dean Phillips
CD4: Betty McCollum
CD5: Ilhan Omar
CD7: Collin Peterson
CD8: Joe Radinovich

U.S. SENATE
Amy Klobuchar
Tina Smith

GOVERNOR
Tim Walz*

STATE AUDITOR
Julie Blaha*

SECRETARY OF STATE
Steve Simon

MINNESOTA HOUSE
1A: Stephen Moeller, Thief River Falls
1B: Brent Lindstrom, East Grand Forks
2A: Michael Northbird, Cass Lake
2B: Karen Branden, Rochert
3A: Robert Ecklund, International Falls
3B: Mary Murphy, Hermantown*
4A: Ben Lien, Moorhead
4B: Paul Marquart, Dilworth*
5A: John Persell, Bemidji
5B: Pat Medure, Grand Rapids
6A: Julie Sandstede, Hibbing*
6B: David Lislegard, Aurora
7A: Jennifer Schultz, Duluth*
7B: Liz Olson, Duluth
8B: Gail Kulp, Alexandria
9A: Alex Hering, Pillager
9B: Stephen Browning, Little Falls*
10A: Dale Menk, Brainerd
10B: Phil Yetzer, Crosby
11A: Mike Sundin, Esko
11B: Tim Burkhardt, Hinckley
12A: Murray Smart, Beardsley*
13A: Jim Read, Avon
14A: Aric Putnam, St. Cloud
14B: Dan Wolgamott, St. Cloud
15A: Emy Minzel, Princeton
15B: Karla Scapanski, Becker
16A: Tom Wyatt-Yerka, Marshall
16B: Mindy Kimmel, New Ulm
17A: Lyle Koenen, Clara City
17B: Anita Flowe, Willmar
18A: Dean Urdahl, Grove City*
18B: Ashley Latzke, Gaylord
19A: Jeff Brand, St. Peter
19B: Jack Considine, Mankato
20A: Barbara Droher Kline, New Prague
21A: Lori Ann Clark, Cannon Falls
21B: Jonathan Isenor, Wanamingo
22A: Maxwell Kaufman, Fulda
22B: Cheniqua Johnson, Worthington
23A: Heather Klassen, Butterfield
23B: James Grabowska, St. Clair  
24A: Joseph Heegard, Owatonna  
24B: Yvette Marthaler, Faribault  
25A: Jamie Mahlberg, Rochester*  
25B: Duane Sauke, Rochester  
26A: Tina Liebling, Rochester  
26B: Tyrel Clark, Eyota  
27A: Terry Gjersvik, Alden*  
27B: Jeanne Poppe, Austin*  
28A: Gene Pelowski, Winona*  
29A: Renee Cardarelle, Annandale  
29B: Sharon McGinty, Buffalo  
30A: Sarah Hamlin, Elk River  
30B: Margaret Fernandez, St. Michael  
31A: Brad Brown, Princeton  
31B: Sue Larson, Ham Lake  
32A: Renae Berg, Rush City  
32B: Jeff Peterson, Wyoming  
33A: Norrie Thomas, Wayzata  
33B: Kelly Morrison, Deephaven  
34A: Daniel Solon, Rogers  
34B: Kristin Bahner, Maple Grove  
35A: Bill Vikander, Ramsey  
35B: Kathryn Eckhardt, Andover  
36A: Zachary Stephenson, Coon Rapids  
36B: Melissa Hortman, Brooklyn Park  
37A: Erin Koegel, Spring Lake Park  
37B: Amir Malik, Blaine  
38A: Kevin Fogarty, Centerville  
38B: Ami Wazlawik, White Bear Township  
39B: Shelly Christensen, Stillwater  
40A: Michael Nelson, Brooklyn Park  
40B: Cindy Yang, Brooklyn Park  
41A: Connie Bernardy, New Brighton  
41B: Mary Kunesh-Podein, New Brighton*  
42A: Kelly Moller, Shoreview  
42B: Jamie Becker-Finn, Roseville  
43A: Peter Fischer, Maplewood  
43B: Leon Lillie, North St. Paul  
44A: Ginny Klevorn, Plymouth  
44B: Patty Acomb, Minnetonka  
45A: Lyndon Carlson, Crystal*  
45B: Mike Freiberg, Golden Valley  
46A: Ryan Winkler, Golden Valley  
46B: Cheryl Youakim, Hopkins  
47A: Madalynn Gerold, Chaska  
47B: Donzel Leggett, Chaska  
48A: Laurie Pryor, Minnetonka  
48B: Carlie Kotyza-Witthuhn, Eden Prairie  
49A: Heather Edelson, Edina  
49B: Steve Elkins, Bloomington  
50A: Michael Howard, Richfield  
50B: Andrew Carlson, Bloomington  
51A: Sandra Masin, Eagan  
51B: Laurie Halverson, Eagan  
52A: Rick Hansen, South St. Paul  
52B: Ruth Richardson, Mendota Heights  
53A: Tou Xiong, Woodbury  
53B: Stephen Sandell, Woodbury  
54A: Anne Claflin, South St. Paul  
54B: Tina Folch, Hastings  
55A: Brad Tabke, Shakopee  
56A: Hunter Cantrell, Savage  
56B: Alice Mann, Lakeville  
57A: Robert Bierman, Apple Valley  
57B: John Huot, Rosemount  
58A: Maggie Williams, Rosemount  
58B: Marla Vagts, Farmington  
66A: Alice Hausman, Roseville

**MINNESOTA SENATE**

13 (special election): Joe Perske, Sartell*

* indicates current or former educator
Five years ago, I gave a speech voicing my belief that teachers barricade American democracy against the threat of tyranny. Our work powers public education, which produces an educated populace of citizens. We are democracy’s last line of defense.

When this speech inflamed the far right, members of the Tea Party harassed me through Twitter, email and radio talk shows. Afraid, I went into political hibernation. In the 2016 election, I voted—but I did not knock on doors. I made no campaign contributions. I had no signs in my yard.

Was my silence a mistake? Undoubtedly. Today, American public schools are suffering as the 1 percent uses a conservative Supreme Court to attempt to empty the coffers of educator unions. They’ve taken the White House and hobbled the federal Department of Education. I know in my heart that I didn’t fight hard enough to stop this from happening.

In America, we believe in liberty and justice for all. We don’t have it yet, but we dream of it. In the struggle toward this dream, we have two opposing forces: labor, which creates wealth and income equality, in part through public education, and the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few, which is tyranny. Without access to the class mobility afforded by public schools, our people will become alienated from their inalienable rights. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness will belong to the few, who will rule over the masses in a state of unchecked tyranny: travel bans, gun violence, sexual assault, sweatshops, a sycophantic media, hate crimes, police brutality and internment camps for children—this is the dystopia toward which we are hurtling.

Most American children still have access to public schools, even though we’ve been hit hard by systematic underfunding, capricious policy decisions and union-busting laws. As long as public schools are still standing, educators can continue shielding children from political neglect. We rise up in the early mornings, we don our school-appropriate outfits, we take up in our arms papers we graded the night before. We go into our classrooms and throw open doors and windows, welcoming the light of ideas and stoking the fires of the abilities of our youth, defying the age-old drive of the mighty to keep the meek in the dark.

Every day, educators battle the apathy and selfishness of the billionaire ruling class. Our work fuels public education, the great leveler with the potential to transcend the massive wealth inequality that plagues our nation. Great teaching empowers every child, regardless of the circumstances of their birth, to seize their rightful opportunity. But great teaching isn’t enough to keep our public schools strong.

Across the nation, educators running for political office are showing by example how to do more. In addition to leading our classrooms, we need to lead our nation now. It’s time for us to advocate, contribute to Education Minnesota’s Political Action Committee and vote in greater numbers than ever before.

Make no mistake. Every attack on American public schools is an attack against equal opportunity. The 1 percent are working to dismantle our public schools and discredit our educators as part of their never-ending quest for cheap labor—a quest that threatens to trap the nation’s children in generational poverty.

If you haven’t yet joined the thousands of educators rising up to fight for our students, it’s time. Know the rules so you can safely speak truth to power. Contribute to the campaigns of candidates who will fight for our students. Vote for candidates who will fund our schools. Don’t give up when funding is austere—fight for better wages and better learning conditions.

Educators, rise up. We are our democracy’s last, best hope.

Megan Olivia Hall was Minnesota’s Teacher of the Year in 2013. She teaches science at the Open World Learning Community, a part of the Saint Paul Public Schools.
FILING FORM FOR OFFICER

This form must be filed with the Office of the Elections Committee of Education Minnesota. Please print clearly.

I, _____________________, wish to file for the following position:

OR

I, _____________________, wish to nominate ____________________ for the following position:

You may only select one position:

_____ PRESIDENT  _____ VICE PRESIDENT  _____ SECRETARY-TREASURER

Candidate information

Mailing address: ____________________________  City/State/ZIP: ____________________________

Local: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

Home phone: ____________________________  Cellphone: ____________________________  School phone: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________


Return completed form by fax to: 651-767-1266, or mail to: Office of the Elections Committee, Education Minnesota, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, or scan and email to elections.committee@edmn.org. Note: Education Minnesota includes an insert of all candidates in the Minnesota Educator published prior to the election in April and in a Voter Guide distributed at the Representative Convention. Candidates may submit a photo and statement for inclusion in these publications and the Education Minnesota website. The photo and statement must be submitted using the online submission form at www.educationminnesota.org. Statement and photo must be submitted by Dec. 20, 2018.

(For official use only)

This filing form was received on __________________ by __________________. Membership was verified on __________________ by __________________.

FILING FORM FOR NEA DIRECTOR

This form must be filed with the Office of the Elections Committee of Education Minnesota. Please print clearly.

I, _____________________, wish to file for the following position:

OR

I, _____________________, wish to nominate ____________________ for the following position:

_____ NEA DIRECTOR (position 1)  _____ NEA DIRECTOR (position 2)

Candidate information

Mailing address: ____________________________  City/State/ZIP: ____________________________

Local: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

Home phone: ____________________________  Cellphone: ____________________________  School phone: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________


Return completed form by fax to: 651-767-1266, or mail to: Office of the Elections Committee, Education Minnesota, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, or scan and email to elections.committee@edmn.org. Note: Education Minnesota includes an insert of all candidates in the Minnesota Educator published prior to the election in April and in a Voter Guide distributed at the Representative Convention. Candidates may submit a photo and statement for inclusion in these publications and the Education Minnesota website. The photo and statement must be submitted using the online submission form at www.educationminnesota.org. Statement and photo must be submitted by Dec. 20, 2018.

(For official use only)

This filing form was received on __________________ by __________________. Membership was verified on __________________ by __________________.
FILING FORM FOR NEA RA STATE-CREDENTIALED DELEGATE

This form must be filed with the Office of the Elections Committee of Education Minnesota. Please print clearly.

I, ___________________________ hereby submit my name for state credentials to the NEA RA to be held July 2-7, 2019, in Houston, TX.

OR

I, ___________________________ wish to nominate ___________________________ for state credentials to the NEA RA to be held July 2-7, 2019, in Houston, TX.

I further certify that the nominee is eligible for state credentials as a delegate from:

_____ Active Member – Election District: _____ (K-12; statewide affiliates; and school-related personnel)

_____ Category 2 (inactive NEA life member and not an Education Minnesota Retired member)

Please complete the following information:

Name: ___________________________ Local: ___________________________

Home address: ___________________________ City/State/ZIP: ___________________________

Home phone: ___________________________ Cellphone: ___________________________ School phone: ___________________________

School email: ___________________________ Personal email: ___________________________

Do not submit before filing period begins on Nov. 5. Deadline is 11:59 p.m. Dec. 14, 2018.

Return completed form by fax to: 651-767-1266, or mail to: Office of the Elections Committee, Education Minnesota, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, or scan and email to elections.committee@edmn.org. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within seven days after submitting, inquire by email to elections.committee@edmn.org. Note: Candidates may submit a photo and statement for inclusion on the Education Minnesota website. The photo and statement must be submitted using the online submission form at www.educationminnesota.org. Statement and photo must be submitted by Dec. 20, 2018.

(For official use only)

This filing form was received on ______________________ by ______________________. Membership was verified on ______________________ by ______________________.

FILING FORM FOR NEA RA STATE-CREDENTIALED DELEGATE – STUDENT

This form must be filed with the Office of the Elections Committee of Education Minnesota. Please print clearly.

I hereby submit my name for state credentials to the NEA RA to be held July 2-7, 2019, in Houston, TX. I further certify that the nominee is eligible for state credentials as a delegate from:

STUDENT

(must be an Education Minnesota Student Program member)

Please complete the following information:

Name: ___________________________ College: ___________________________

School address: ___________________________ City/State/ZIP: ___________________________

Home phone: ___________________________ Cellphone: ___________________________ School phone: ___________________________

School email: ___________________________ Personal email: ___________________________

Summer address: ___________________________ City/State/ZIP: ___________________________

Do not submit before filing period begins on Nov. 5. Deadline is 11:59 p.m. Feb. 15, 2019.

Return completed form by fax to: 651-767-1266, or mail to: Office of the Elections Committee, Education Minnesota, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, or scan and email to elections.committee@edmn.org. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within seven days after submitting, inquire by email to elections.committee@edmn.org. Note: Candidates may submit a photo and statement for inclusion on the Education Minnesota website. The photo and statement must be submitted using the online submission form at www.educationminnesota.org. Statement and photo must be submitted by Feb. 21, 2019.

(For official use only)

This filing form was received on ______________________ by ______________________. Membership was verified on ______________________ by ______________________.
The National Education Association Representative Assembly, the major decision-making body for the NEA, will take place next July 2-7 in Houston. All active Education Minnesota members are eligible to run for state-credentialed delegate for the NEA RA. Filings open Nov. 5 and close Dec. 14.

Elections will take place in local districts during the 15-day window beginning Feb. 4 and ending Feb. 22. Elections will be held on weekdays only during this period. Ballots will be mailed the last week of January to all local presidents in districts where an election is necessary. Nominations for state-credentialed student delegates open Nov. 5 and close Feb. 15. Elections will take place on a date to be determined in April, if necessary.

**FUNDING INFORMATION FOR STATE-CREDENTIALED DELEGATES**

To receive funding, state-credentialed delegates must be in attendance for the entire Representative Assembly, beginning with the first caucus meeting on July 2 through adjournment the night of July 7. State-credentialed delegates are expected to attend all caucus meetings and to be on the convention floor for all proceedings.

Funding includes: Airfare—travel arrangements to be made through the designated travel agent and direct-billed to Education Minnesota (alternative transportation will be reimbursed up to a predetermined amount); the cost of a double-occupancy room at the delegation hotel (to be direct-billed) for an authorized number of nights; and reimbursement for meals and other convention-related expenses (with original itemized receipts). Substitute costs for state delegates working in year-round school settings will be covered as outlined in the Education Minnesota Financial Policy for Governance and Members.

Mileage to and from the airport is reimbursable at 20 cents a mile, along with the cost of airport parking.

No funding is available for Category 2 delegates, those who are retired or inactive members.

Filing forms for state-credentialed and student delegates are printed on the opposite page.

**FUNDING FOR SMALL LOCALS**

This is a funding program aimed at helping locals with 150 or fewer members send a delegate to the Representative Assembly or the American Federation of Teachers TEACH Conference. Local presidents will receive information and details about how to apply.

---

**FILING FORM FOR GOVERNING BOARD – ELECTION DISTRICT**

This form must be filed with the Office of the Elections Committee of Education Minnesota. Please print clearly.

I, ________________, wish to file for the following position:

OR

I, ________________, wish to nominate __________________ for the following position:

GOVERNING BOARD – ELECTION DISTRICT: __________

(Three-year term: July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2022. Election district map located at www.educationminnesota.org.)

Candidate information

Mailing address: ______________________________ City/State/ZIP: __________________________

Local: ______________________________ Email: ______________________________

Home phone: ______________________________ Cellphone: ______________________________ School phone: ______________________________

Signature: ______________________________ Date: ______________________________

Do not submit before filing period begins on Nov. 5. Deadline is 11:59 p.m. Dec. 14, 2018.

Return completed form by fax to: 651-767-1266, or mail to: Office of the Elections Committee, Education Minnesota, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103, or scan and email to elections.committee@edmn.org. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within seven days after submitting, inquire by email to elections.committee@edmn.org. Note: Candidates may submit a photo and statement for inclusion on the Education Minnesota website. The photo and statement must be submitted using the online submission form at www.educationminnesota.org. Statement and photo must be submitted by Dec. 20, 2018.

(For official use only)

This filing form was received on __________________ by __________________. Membership was verified on __________________ by __________________.
Professional development

SOCIAL WORKERS CONFERENCE
This Minnesota School Social Workers Association will be holding its fall conference Oct. 28-30 at the Sheraton Minneapolis West in Minnetonka. The conference will also celebrate the association’s 50th anniversary. For more information or to register, go to www.msswa.org/events.

CAREER, TECHNICAL EDUCATION SUMMIT
This Career and Technical Education Works Summit, planned by Minnesota State and the Minnesota Department of Education, will be held Oct. 29-31 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park. The summit will feature workshops on innovative practices and workforce partnerships. For more information or to register, go to cteworksminnesota.org.

Classroom resources

FREE MILL CITY MUSEUM ADMISSION AVAILABLE
The Mill City Museum, through the support of the McKnight Foundation, is able to offer free museum admission and partially subsidized busing for students from qualified schools. Schools must be a public school in the Twin Cities seven-county metro area, have 50 percent or more students enrolled in the federal free and reduced lunch program and visit the museum in January, February or March. Funding is limited, so register soon. For more information, visit education.mnhs.org/mcknight-foundation-scholarship.

Grants

EDUCATION MINNESOTA FOUNDATION GRANTS
The Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning upcoming grant application deadlines include professional development grants for teachers, ESPs and higher education faculty and National Board Certified Teachers Scholarship, which are both due Nov. 2. The Bruce Vento Science Educator Professional Development Grant and classroom-focused grants are both due Dec. 14. For more information on the grants and how to apply, go to www.edmnfoundation.org.
MEMBERS WANT TO KNOW
ATTEND AN ESI WORKSHOP AT MEA

Register early to attend an ESI workshop at MEA

ESI supports Education Minnesota members by helping maximize their dollars, plan for the future, and protect their loved ones through programs, services and education.

Every year, approximately 3,000 members attend an ESI workshop. In addition, over 33,000 members participate in ESI Member Benefit programs.

Whether you are in early in your career, right in the middle of it, or near retirement, there is a workshop for you. Take time to attend one at the Minnesota Educator Academy on October 18, 2018.

Maximize Your Membership with Member Benefits
9-10 a.m., Room 1
When Can I Afford to Retire?
10:15-11:15 a.m., Room 1
Financial Concerns for Women
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Room 1
Financial Planning: Where Do I Start?
1:30-2:30 p.m., Room 1

ESI workshop opportunities

Visit the exhibits, now on the ballroom level!

Make sure to pick up your MEA bag near registration and complete the prize card inside to win one of ten $50 gift cards!

EDUCATION MINNESOTA

esi.educationminnesota.org  esi@edmn.org
41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103  651-292-4656  800-642-4624
Paid for by ESI, not by dues. ESI is self-supporting; revenues provide benefits, services and consumer education for members.
What do YOU want to know? Send questions to esi@edmn.org.
Nominations open Sept. 28 for the 2019 Minnesota Teacher of the Year award, and remain open through Nov. 15.

Nominations can be submitted online by accessing a simple nomination form on www.educationminnesota.org.

Eligible nominees must meet these criteria:

• Teach in a public or nonpublic Pre-K through 12th-grade school or ECFE or Adult Basic Education program, working at least 50 percent of the time directly with students.
• Hold a bachelor’s degree and a Minnesota teaching license.
• Have completed five years of teaching by the nomination deadline.
• Intend to teach during the 2019-20 school year.

The Minnesota Teacher of the Year is in its 55th year as the state’s official recognition program honoring excellence in education.

Education Minnesota organizes and underwrites the program, which means the union handles only the business of running the program, not the selection process.

Program and award support also comes from Education Minnesota ESI, Educators Lifetime Solutions, EFS Advisors, Flint Group, the Harvard Club of Minnesota Foundation, McDonald’s Restaurants of Minnesota, SMART Technologies and United Educators Credit Union.

Find out more about the selection process, eligibility, past recipients and more at www.educationminnesota.org/news/awards/teacher-of-the-year.