

Education Minnesota

Education Minnesota tells educators to protect themselves and students during coronavirus pandemic

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ST. PAUL, Minnesota. March 13, 2020 – Education Minnesota President Denise Specht said Friday that educators should take every reasonable precaution to keep themselves and their students healthy during the pandemic and she said the union is working with state officials on contingency plans if the situation worsens.

“Today, Gov. Tim Walz acknowledged the unique place Minnesota educators have in the state’s response to the pandemic, but that doesn’t mean individual educators should take chances,” Specht said. “Protect yourself through good hygiene, stay home if you’re sick, and if you’re especially vulnerable, work with your district to lower your risk of infection.”

In addition to developing plans for what happens next with state authorities and other education groups, the union is supporting a bill that guarantees districts will pay hourly workers, such as education support professionals, if their school closes due to the coronavirus outbreak.

About Education Minnesota

Education Minnesota is the voice for professional educators and students. Education Minnesota’s members include teachers and education support professionals in Minnesota’s public school districts, faculty members at Minnesota’s community and technical colleges and University of Minnesota campuses in Duluth and Crookston, retired educators and student teachers. Education Minnesota is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, National Education Association and AFL-CIO.

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