

Education Minnesota

Education Minnesota calls for resignation of Minneapolis police union president

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ST. PAUL, Minnesota. June 2, 2020 – Education Minnesota joined on Tuesday with the AFL-CIO in its call for the removal of Lt. Bob Kroll from his position as president of the union of police officers in the Minneapolis Police Department.

Education Minnesota President Denise Specht said that Lt. Kroll must resign or be removed by his membership for Minneapolis to heal from the horrific killing of George Floyd in police custody.

“Educators and other members of organized labor are committed to seeking racial justice,” Specht said. “There is no place for leaders who support or defend racist actions and policies in our movement. Through his actions and words, Lt. Kroll has shown himself unfit to lead in the modern labor movement.”

“We know the dangerous culture of the Minneapolis Police Department will not be changed overnight by the removal of a single leader, but it’s a start,” Specht said. “Our union also supports the investigation by the Minnesota Department of Human Rights announced Tuesday and hopes it leads to sweeping changes within a department that no longer has the trust of the black, brown and indigenous citizens the department’s officers have sworn to protect and serve.”

“With our union family in the AFL-CIO, we stand in solidarity with everyone marching in the streets demanding justice for George Floyd and all the other people of color harmed and wronged by the department,” Specht said. “We join with black residents who have seen too much injustice at the hands of the Minneapolis Police Department, but find no accountability, no remorse and too few steps toward a better future with the department. Their calls for justice and reform must be heard.”

The Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis is not affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

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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