Update No. 29

We’re continuing our work to pressure decision makers to support funding and the reforms we need. Schedules are changing, targets are moving and we’ll be adapting as we go to the shifting environment.

If you’ve missed any past updates, they’re available on our website.

Pivoting the Virtual Lobby Day

The schedule and availability of the Legislature is often impossible to predict. On Thursday, during our scheduled Virtual Lobby Day, the House is hearing the Education Finance bill, and the Senate is hearing the Veterans, State Government and Environment bills. There will be few, if any, opportunities for legislators to come off of the floor to attend our meeting. A number of the legislators who had already confirmed for our lobby day have let us know they will no longer be available, and we expect others to share similar concerns in the next day.

Here’s our pivot:

April 27 is now a Pension Day of Action

Join educators from around the state Thursday, April 27, to lobby your legislators to fix teacher pensions! Sign up here. Educators should connect directly with their legislators to set up time, but we’ll also have staff available to direct folks and help pull legislators from floor sessions.

Schedule:

1-1:30 p.m.: Legislative briefing and discussion at Education Minnesota headquarters.
1:30-4 p.m.: Time to connect with your legislators, observe legislative business from the gallery and potentially attend committee hearings.
4-4:30 p.m.: Debrief at Education Minnesota headquarters.

We’ll verify membership for educators who want to join in on our briefing and debrief, but all educators are encouraged to join us at the Capitol and meet with their legislators.

Remember, we will also continue to consider the May 20 rally to be a final push to get funding and improvements across the finish line and into final bills.
Action Targets
Pressure is needed on the governor and the commissioners appointed by him. The commissioners often have a more direct line to the governor than legislators do.

Contact the Minnesota Management and Budget and Minnesota Department of Education commissioners with our new, easy-to-use call to action to ask them to join our fight. Our goal is to emphasize the priority of pension reform now and for them to share that message with the governor. You can also use another recent template to contact your own legislators and Gov. Walz.

Update on the Q&A with Adam Janiak
If you haven’t already signed up, there is still time to register for the Wednesday Q&A. It will be a short update on what’s currently happening and a chance for members to ask questions.

This is a member-only session and will be facilitated by Adam Janiak. Wednesday, April 19, at 7 p.m. Register here.

May 20 Rally
One of our actions to get all of our education bills across the finish line will be an educator Rally on May 20. This will be another opportunity for members to show decision makers how important investing in educators is right now.

Information and register here.

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If you’ve missed any past updates, they’re available on our website.

If you have any questions, please email Adam Janiak.

Keep organizing, sharing and talking to your colleagues about our plan. Sign up and forward this Education Minnesota Pension Updates signup today or use the QR code below!