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Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Update No. 51

Thank you to everyone who has used our easy-action email system to send a clear message to the governor, majority leader and speaker that we need a budget target that allows for pension improvements. We've had 2,461 submissions so far. Last session, the most sent pension email had over 4,000. We can get there! If you haven't, or even if you have, please [send this email](#) today.

Last week's TRA board meeting

The TRA board is extremely important in our advocacy work at this moment. We need them to direct their actuaries to cost out potential legislative proposals so we can be ready to advocate on Feb. 13, the first day of the 2024 legislative session.

Before the meeting, our Pension Advisory Group members submitted [this letter](#) to the TRA board members and staff, and five members stepped up to speak in support of the letter during the meeting. Joe Wollersheim, Todd Richter, Marty Fridgen, Dan Foss and Jeanne Brown-Kruesel gave powerful, targeted and effective testimony. This resulted in the board reconvening to call a special meeting on Dec. 13 to decide costing direction earlier, so we can set up to be ready for the legislative session. After much discussion, the board voted 5-2 on discussing legislative costing and priorities on Dec. 13 rather than Jan. 17.

Please attend the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 13 at the TRA office in St. Paul if you are able to. We need as much support as possible for the TRA board to take meaningful action. Boost and share [this Facebook event](#) to increase turnout.



Informational pension presentations

Last year, we held 36 in-person and virtual pension information sessions across the state, reaching over 1,000 members. Our staff continue to hit the road to talk about TRA pension plan essentials, legislative priorities and action items. We have nine of these sessions scheduled in the coming months, with the first being virtual on **Nov. 30 from 4:30-6 p.m.** This session is open to all Education Minnesota members who are interested in learning more about their pensions and the work they can do to fight for improvements.

[Sign up here.](#)

If your local is interested in hosting a pension information session, please connect with your local president and send an email to pensions@edmn.org.

Local pension organizing

Many incredible educators have begun organizing Pension Action Leaders (PALs) in their locals. To achieve the investment we need for pension improvements, we need to stand together and invite our colleagues into this work. Check out our updated [10-minute meeting document](#), and start making PALs! If you're already doing this work or would like to do this work, please fill out this [Pension Organizing Pledge](#).

Also, please share our [pension rally event](#) on Feb. 29 with your friends and colleagues. We need as many people at the Capitol as possible that day to raise our collective voice for pension improvements! Use [this flyer](#) to increase turnout from your local!

Pre-registration is open for our Political Conference

Save the date and pre-register for the Education Minnesota Political Conference from Feb. 2-3 at the Radisson Blu at the Mall of America.

Pre-registration is available [here](#).

Sessions will include:

- Electoral and legislative strategy on *educator pension improvements*.
- Winning school board elections and referendum campaigns.
- Protecting the pro-labor and public education House majority.
- Getting out the vote of educators and pro-education voters.
- Meetings with statewide elected officials and state legislators.

Registration fee of \$25 includes hotel room and meals.

Resources:

Organizing and Action	General Information
Tips for contacting your legislators	Education Minnesota pensions webpage
Find your legislators	EdMN Capitol Connection e-newsletter
LCPR members	TRA document on pension basics
Education Minnesota Pension Advocacy Network	PERA member resources
Get involved flyer to share with colleagues	Public pension terminology

If you've missed any past updates, they're [available on our website](#).

If you have any questions, please email pensions@edmn.org.



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