Update No. 50

Happy election day, members! Please make sure to get out and vote if you have local elections in your area. More information here.

LCPR listening session
Last week, we had an incredibly successful and meaningful showing at the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement listening session in Duluth. Though it was a general listening session on all pension plans, more than 85% of testifiers were educators on TRA improvements, and we had more than 100 educators in the room. We sent a clear message: we need legislators to invest in our pension to lower penalties and have our retirement fund act as the recruitment and retention tool it was created to be.

Thank you to everyone who showed up, to all of the educators who raised their voice and to everyone that tuned in to the livestream. Video of the hearing is still available in the Education Minnesota Pension Advocacy Network Facebook group.

Now, we need to thank the legislators that showed up to hear us and remind them to take an active role in the fight for investment. Please use this easy action form to send a note to those legislators.

LCPR members have expressed interest in doing another listening session before the legislative session starts on Feb. 13. We'll keep you updated!
TRA board meeting on Wednesday
Tune in or join us in-person for the TRA board meeting at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8. Our Pension Advisory Group members have submitted this letter advocating for TRA to cost important proposals that will ultimately help us build legislation and advocate for improvements in the 2024 legislative session. A few members from the Pension Advisory Group will attend the meeting in-person to advocate for these costing options during the public comment portion of the meeting.

For more meeting details, click here.

Pension Advisory Group meeting
The PAG is hard at work -- organizing locals, setting priorities and advocating for pension improvements. Our last virtual meeting was Oct. 26, and you can find notes on the meeting here. The next in-person meeting will be on Saturday, Dec. 2 and an agenda will be posted to the Pension Advocacy Network Facebook group before the meeting.

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](https://view.email.nea.org/?qs=d2a568a59a8511a8e745cda7bea4ba0049e211370a80029d4c804b874a961fafd7ca297379b3e6b27d4f34d53d104005).

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:**

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If you’ve missed any past updates, they're [available on our website](https://view.email.nea.org/?qs=d2a568a59a8511a8e745cda7bea4ba0049e211370a80029d4c804b874a961fafd7ca297379b3e6b27d4f34d53d104005).

If you have any questions, please email [pensions@edmn.org](mailto:pensions@edmn.org).