



MINNESOTA EDUCATOR

A publication for the members of Education Minnesota

May 2018

Choose Union

Delegates to the 2018 Education Minnesota Representative Convention stood together and reaffirmed their union membership, and put forth actions to strengthen the union and its members.

- Learn more about the actions taken at the convention on page 3.
- Read about the award-winning educators honored on page 4.
- Kick off the celebration of Education Minnesota's 20th anniversary on page 5.

Aim Higher Act pushes for what students, educators really need

The Minnesota Legislature continues its work this session, with bills passing that would take money away from schools and create a rating system for schools based on test scores.

But Education Minnesota has introduced legislation that talks about what schools really need to help students lead healthy, successful lives and keep educators in the profession.

Our Aim Higher Minnesota Act, SF3926/HF4382, looks beyond the easy fixes and establishes class size limits, funds the state portion of special education costs and allows schools to hire enough counselors, nurses, social

workers and other student support services to meet students' needs.

The Aim Higher Minnesota Act also:

- Reestablishes the online special education system to reduce the paperwork burden.
- Provides money for home visits to strengthen parent involvement.
- Creates educator data teams so educators can better use assessment data in their teaching.
- Funds the educator loan forgiveness program so educators can afford to stay in the profession.
- Creates trauma-informed

and restorative practices training programs for teachers to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline.

- Increases state funding for the safe schools levy to give districts the flexibility to make much-needed safety improvements to buildings and/or hire additional support staff.
- Establishes a 1:290 student-to support staff ratio.
- Ensures that education support professionals are paid for e-learning days.
- Funds professional development for all education support professionals.

Members can urge lawmakers to support the Aim Higher Minnesota Act by signing our petition at <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/tell-legislators-to-aim-higher-on-public-education>.

While the Aim Higher Minnesota Act looks to raise educator voices and support students, other bills moving through the Legislature aim to do the opposite.

A ballot measure that would amend the state constitution to dedicate certain sales tax revenue to transportation projects is being heard in the House and Senate.

If approved, voters would

decide in November whether sales tax revenue from motor vehicle repair and replacement parts should be used exclusively for roads and bridges. It would not increase the current tax rate. This means there would be less state funding available for public schools, nursing homes and public safety. The amendment would lock in spending for just one area, handcuffing legislators and cutting off important discussions on how we spend taxpayer money.

Republicans House and Senate leaders have unveiled education spending plans for

Legislature, page 6

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Read the article about Deer River's full-service community school project. Then answer the question, "What would you like to see your school do (or what is it already doing) that fits into the full-service community school model?" and send it to us via email, Twitter or Facebook to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Target gift card.

Email us at educator@edmn.org or post on Twitter or Facebook using #MNEducator. Find us on Facebook at Education Minnesota and on Twitter @EducationMN. Answers will be run in next month's Minnesota Educator.

Congratulations to last month's contest winner, **Jill Nysse** of Winona. See a selection of answers to last month's question on page 2.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

President Denise Specht discusses the power of educators to affect policy. **Page 2**

Representative Convention delegates take action on items to better support educators, the union movement. **Page 3**

ESP of the Year, Peterson-Schaubach Leadership Award winners honored at Representative Convention. **Page 4**

Education Minnesota begins celebration of 20th anniversary of the MFT, MEA merger. **Page 5**

Member activism, worksite action leader training ramps up ahead of 2018 election. **Page 6**

Deer River's DeAnna Hron wins national award for her work building the district's full-service community school. **Page 8**

Volunteers needed for the National Education Association Representative Assembly in Minneapolis this summer. **Page 9**

Technology in Schools series. Edina Schools are bringing virtual reality into classrooms. **Page 10**

Legal brief. Sharing lessons learned about union power as service concludes. **Page 11**

Registration is now open for Education Minnesota's Summer Seminar professional development conference. **Page 12**

Educators in Minnesota can affect policy. Let’s keep it that way.

Twenty years ago, the leaders of two competing unions of educators in Minnesota set aside their differences for the common good.

Those leaders of the Minnesota Education Association and the Minnesota Federation of Teachers choose a new path because they dreamed of a better future for their members and their students.

They didn’t know what would happen, but they went forward. They were bold in uncertainty, strong under pressure and endured the criticism of even their friends.

At our 2018 Education Minnesota Representative Convention at the end of April, we celebrated the educators who merged their unions in 1998 to create our union.

Their decisiveness has benefited us all. Minnesota educators enjoy higher compensation than educators in states with weaker unions do. We can negotiate for more affordable health insurance. We still have defined-benefit pensions.

Minnesota educators work in newer schools, with more resources, than educators in the South and West who are walking out. Our civics



Denise Specht, president

materials are new enough to mention the word “Obama.”

That’s no accident.

The lobbying and political programs of Education Minnesota have kept the funding of public education near the top of the legislative agenda for a generation.

Which is not to say public education is without problems. Too many students, particularly students of color, are falling behind. Too many teachers are leaving the profession too soon.

But those problems, and many others, are still within our power to fix. Many of our colleagues in states with laws more hostile to unions cannot say the same.

We can affect worksites

for the simple reason that 20 years ago a group of people very much like us had the courage to look over the horizon and decided to “choose union,” the theme of this year’s convention.

An old maxim says the bravest people are those who have the clearest vision of the success and danger ahead of them, but go out and meet it anyway.

The leaders in the 1990s had that sort of courage. It continues today in a new generation of activists.

Eighteen new bargaining units joined Education Minnesota since January 2016. Many of these educators overcame threats and intimidation to organize their worksites.

Those new units included more than 500 paraprofessionals, education assistants, custodians, behavior specialists, media assistants and teachers.

There are now 76,000 active members of Education Minnesota—not counting retirees and students. Our membership has never been larger and we remain the biggest union in the state.

In many ways, our union is prepared to the meet the challenge of an adverse ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in

the *Janus v. AFSCME* case.

By this summer, we anticipate the justices will force unions of public sector employees to provide the benefits of negotiated contracts to people who do not have to pay for them.

The network of billionaires behind this lawsuit, led by the notorious Koch brothers, will have finally achieved their goal of bringing right-to-work laws to every public-sector worksite in the nation. Because they failed so often in state legislatures, they had to turn to the courts.

Their goal is to weaken the labor movement so we’re less able to resist their other priorities, such as reducing public spending on education and health care, eliminating regulatory protections for worker safety and the environment and tipping the tax code even further toward the richest people and the most powerful corporations.

However, we can take comfort in the fact that our union has anticipated every tactic we’ve seen so far from the opposition groups that we expected to weaponize the ruling into campaigns to urge our members to drop their membership.

Our preparation will make it difficult for these groups

to mislead our educators, of which nearly 90 percent have already renewed their membership in Education Minnesota. More than half of our fair-share fee payers converted to full membership.

The ruling in the *Janus* case will make 2018 as significant for the future of our union as 1998 was to our past. Although we face a difficult road ahead, the state of our union is strong and growing stronger.

I expect a future president of Education Minnesota will read this column in 20 years and note that it was today’s local leaders who built the union that broke the Kochs’ momentum in American politics.

To achieve that goal, we must be smart enough to see the dangers and opportunities ahead, and brave enough to meet them head on. We cannot freeze with fear of criticism or failure, but we can seize this moment and go forward...

Together,

Denise

Twitter: @DeniseSpecht



Gov. Mark Dayton made his final appearance at the convention as a sitting governor. He shared his accomplishments to help make public education in Minnesota a priority, and called educators are “heroes—underpaid and undervalued heroes.” President Denise Specht gave him a framed copy of the Minnesota Education Association’s 1982 endorsement of his first U.S. Senate race. She said it celebrated his 35-year commitment and dedication to education.



(From left) Leaders from the St. Paul Federation of Teachers, East Central United Educators and Education Minnesota-Buffalo were honored with awards from the American Federation of Teachers for their recent anniversaries. East Central United Educators and Education Minnesota-Buffalo both celebrated 50 years as a union, while the St. Paul Federation of Teachers is 100 years old.

MINNESOTA EDUCATOR

To reach the newspaper for queries, story or commentary ideas

Email: educator@edmn.org

Mail: Minnesota Educator
41 Sherburne Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55103

To report a change of address or end duplicate mailings, contact the Education Minnesota membership department.

Email: susan.lynskey@edmn.org

Phone: 651-292-4805

By web: www.educationminnesota.org and choose the Contact Us link to send a change of address.

May 2018 – Volume 20, No. 9

The Minnesota Educator publishes each month. It is one of the union’s print and digital publications to educate, inform and organize the community of members. The Educator is reported, edited and designed by union staff members. The paper is printed in RR Donnelley Co.’s union shop in Long Prairie, Minn. Find copies of the Educator online at www.educationminnesota.org. Go to the News menu, then Minnesota Educator.

To inquire about advertising in the Educator or on the website

Email: ilissa.morrow@edmn.org

Phone: 651-292-4864

For general inquiries and business at the state headquarters

Phone: 800-652-9073 or 651-227-9541

For information about union activities, work and resources, go to www.educationminnesota.org.

Follow Education Minnesota on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest.



[www.facebook.com/
EducationMinnesota](https://www.facebook.com/EducationMinnesota)



[www.twitter.com/
EducationMN](https://www.twitter.com/EducationMN)



[www.pinterest.com/
EducationMN](https://www.pinterest.com/EducationMN)

Minnesota Educator (ISSN 1521-9062) is a monthly publication. Periodicals are postage-paid at St. Paul, Minnesota, and additional offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Minnesota Educator, 41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103-2196.

Minnesota Educator. All rights reserved, but readers are welcome to reproduce any article in whole or in part on the condition that they give credit to Education Minnesota.

The Minnesota Educator is published for members to share news about education issues and training opportunities for educators as well as union and political news that affects public education in Minnesota.



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Denise Specht
President

Paul Mueller
Vice President

Rodney Rowe
Secretary-Treasurer

Sara Gjerdrum
Executive Director

Brandon Rettke
Director of Public Affairs

Kieren Steinhoff
Editor

Eric Widi
Art Director





Convention delegates work to remain a strong, united union

The annual Education Minnesota Representative Convention is the union's business meeting, and while there were business items discussed, the overall feel of the event was one of unity.

Whether it was kicking off the celebration of Education Minnesota's 20th anniversary as the nation's first merged education union or taking action on items to bring more health care options to members, all was done to improve the lives of educators in Minnesota.

In the face of attacks like the court case *Janus v. AFSCME* or bills at the state legislature to minimize educators' voices in the classroom, members put forward action items aimed at recruiting and retaining educators in the profession, as well as in the union.

Action items that passed on the convention floor to help keep our unions strong and the best educators working in schools and on campuses include:

- Education Minnesota will support locals and intermediate organizations in developing and implementing local membership plans by providing relevant training, tools, resources, and support systems to ensure locals and IOs successfully recruit and retain members.
- Education Minnesota will continue to provide grants to locals, through an application process, to support the development and implementation of local membership plans with a focus on recruiting and retaining members.
- Education Minnesota will continue

to use existing programs and resources to advocate for high-quality, accessible, affordable and sustainable health care for all. This shall include, but not limited to, concepts such as universal health care, Medicare for all, and single-payer health care systems.

Also passed was an action item that supported the union's work prior to the November election. Delegates approved Education Minnesota establishing the following days of action to unite members in voting, worksite and political action:

- United early voting day:
Friday, Oct. 19
- United grassroots engagement days – days to organize together at work and on campus, and to call and canvass educators and community members:
Sept. 20 and 22, Oct. 4, 11, 13, 16, 25 and 27
- United get-out-the-vote days:
Nov. 3 and 5

More information on those days and the activities planned around them will be in future issues of the Minnesota Educator.

Education Minnesota President Denise Specht ended her report to the convention with a call for all delegates to reaffirm their choice to be a union member. Delegates held signs saying the word "union" similar to the image from the movie, "Norma Rae," and took photos to share on social media. The collage on this page includes a selection of those photos shared on Twitter.

Courrier, Noll receive top honors

Two of Education Minnesota's award-winning educators were honored at the 2018 Representative Convention.

Robin Courrier

Robin Courrier, the president of the Mankato Teachers' Association, was named this year's Peterson-Schaubach Leadership Award winner.

The Peterson-Schaubach Leadership Award is given annually to an Education Minnesota leader who has made outstanding contributions to Education Minnesota or its locals through demonstration of Education Minnesota's Statements of Principle. It is the union's highest honor.

Courrier has a long history of leading in education and the union at the local, state and national level.

She has been the president of the Mankato Teachers' Association for almost two decades, serves on the Education Minnesota Governing Board and is a National Education Association Director.

Courrier also works as the lead teacher at Bridges Community School in Mankato, where there is no principal and she is both a teacher and does administrative work.

"Robin's work has been a shining example of a life of



Mankato Teachers' Association President and National Education Association Director Robin Courrier was honored at this year's Representative Convention for her education and union leadership at the local, state and national level.

service. Her firm commitment to the principle of team and unity, has led her to serve as a voice for educators and work collaboratively with a broad spectrum of stakeholders in the service of students, families and the community," said Don Sinner, Education Minnesota-Lakeville president who nominated Courrier.

"She is superwoman," said Linda Howe-Wensel, an elementary special education teacher in Mankato. "She is so busy supporting all of us."

Diane Noll

Diane Noll was honored as Education Minnesota's 2017 Education Support Professional of the Year.

Noll was named ESP of the Year last fall, but recently returned from the NEA ESP conference and gala where she was honored as our state's nominee for the national ESP of the Year award.

Noll is an administrative assistant at Albany Elementary School. She formerly was the president of the Albany Education



Diane Noll, a member of the Albany Education Assistants & School-Related Personnel and Education Minnesota's 2017 Education Support Professional of the Year, was honored at this year's Representative Convention.

Assistants & School-Related Personnel.

"She watches out for the custodians, the food service, for us paras. It's not all about her, it's about everybody else, and making everything tick around here," said Jean Kollodge, a paraprofessional at Albany Elementary School. "She knows in the end, if everybody's happy, it reflects onto the students here at Albany Elementary. She sees that big picture and that's why I think she's so special."

Her colleagues describe

her as "the glue that holds it all together" and the "face and the voice of Albany Elementary." They also said that Noll takes those roles very seriously.

"She's not just here to pick up a paycheck. She's here because she loves the kids, she loves the community and she loves the school. And that shows every day. I've never seen Diane with a frown on her face," said Karl Kise, Albany's community education coordinator. "She's always got a smile."

Planning for retirement?

Attend an upcoming ESI workshop this spring or summer

May workshops for members with a TRA pension unless otherwise noted	All summer workshops 9:30 a.m. Registration 10 - 12:30 p.m. Workshop	June and July workshops for members with a TRA pension unless otherwise noted
May 1 Woodbury Education MN Office 2042 Wooddale Dr., Suite 100	June 14 Windom Education MN Office 560 Second Ave.	July 10 MN Landscape Arboretum 3675 Arboretum Dr.
May 10 Duluth Education MN Office 639 E. Central Entrance	June 18 St. Cloud Education MN Office 3051 2nd St. S., Suite 200	July 10 MN Landscape Arboretum *for members with a PERA pension
May 15 Davanni's - Golden Valley 663 Winnetka Avenue N.	June 19 Prairie Woods - Spicer 12718 10th St. N.E.	July 11 Apple Valley Education MN Office 6950 146th St. W., Suite 114
		July 12 Brooklyn Park Education MN Office 9210 Wyoming Ave. N., Suite 200

Topics to be discussed include:

- Local contract information including what to look for in your contract before you retiree
- Pension education including learning how benefits are calculated
- Financial planning including how to bridge the gap between what you will receive from a pension and what you need to retire
- Asset protection including how you can protect your assets and savings

Watch your email for the link to register or you can contact Deb Skog at Deborah.skog@edmn.org or 651-292-4856 (please leave your name(s) and which session you would like to attend)

Seating is limited
Register early to secure your spot.
Spouses/guests are welcome

41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103
651.292.4856 800.642.4624
esi.educationminnesota.org

*Paid for by ESI, not by dues. ESI is self-insuring. Members provide benefits, service and consumer education for members. *Services offered through Advanced Advisor Group, Member FINRA & SIPC Investment Advisory Services offered through Educators Financial Services. A Registered Investment Advisor. 440 Emerson St N Ste 4, Cambridge MN 55009 (877) 403-2374 Advanced Advisor Group and Educators Financial Services are affiliates under common control DSWA EPS Advisors and are not affiliated with Education Minnesota/ESI

Celebrating 20 years of unity

Sept. 1, 2018, will mark 20 years since Education Minnesota was formed. The Representative Convention April 27-28 served as the kickoff to the celebration of our union's two decades of unity.

The merger brought together the Minnesota Education Association (MEA) and Minnesota Federation of Teachers (MFT) in what was the first merged union in the country to be recognized by both the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association. There had been previous mergers before, but ours was a recognized, accepted merger by both national unions.

"Before the merger, there were two organizations—the MEA and the MFT—who were both doing the same things, but just a little differently," said Education Minnesota Vice President Paul Mueller, who discussed the history of the merger and its importance at the convention. "But because there were two groups, that inherently created a world of competition, fighting among colleagues, smear campaigns in publications and a division that really served no purpose."

Mueller was the president of the Brooklyn Center local union at the time of merger and remembers feeling like the unions had a lack of power at the local, state and national level, because they were too busy fighting with each other.

"I began my teaching career in the early '80s and I can tell you, the amount of time and money that was spent just to decide which union, MEA or MFT, would have bargaining rights was huge," he said. "That meant those resources were not being put into professional development, lobbying at the Capitol or racial equity work—any of the things we value in our union today."

The merger celebration included video interviews with the leaders of the MEA and MFT about the catalyst for the merger, how it came together and the successes we have had because we are one, united voice for educators and students. The videos are available on Education Minnesota's YouTube page.

Why it happened

The Public Employees Labor Relations Act (PELRA) started what would be catalyst for the fighting between the MEA and MFT to be the exclusive representative for an individual school district's employees.

"In districts where there were both representatives of the EA and the FT, elections took place to determine who had the majority of support," said Larry Wicks, the former executive director



Leaders of the merger were honored at Education Minnesota's Representative Convention on Friday night. Those in attendance were (back row) Daryl Schmidt, leader of the DCUE merger; Harley Ogata, president of the MEA staff union which also merged; Carmen Peters, former MEA and Education Minnesota secretary-treasurer; Larry Wicks, former MEA and Education Minnesota executive director; Jim Smola, leader of the DCUE merger; Bob Astrup, former MEA president; (front row) Chris Rasmussen, widow of Bill Rasmussen, a member leader from Foley; Greg Burns, former MFT assistant to the president and Education Minnesota director of field services; Louise Sundin, member leader from Minneapolis; Elaine Rothman, member leader from Edina; Judy Schaubach, former MEA and Education Minnesota president; and Ray Mackey, AFT leader.

MEA prexy admits negotiation failures! Unfortunately, Hill offers no solutions

Locals reject federation challenges; Eveleth teachers choose EA affiliation

MFT-MEA vie for votes in representation elections

Headlines from the Minnesota Federation of Teachers and Minnesota Education Association's publications calling out the other organization in the fights for members.

of the MEA and Education Minnesota. "Whoever won the election, they became certified as the exclusive representation. That began the codified fighting of the EA and the FT."

The fighting also moved to the state level. Politicians and decision makers in education were able to use the two organizations as bargaining chips and try to make them take different positions.

"We were doing things or making decisions based on what we thought the other organization would or wouldn't do," said Judy Schaubach, former MEA and Education Minnesota president. "Whether it was in the political arena or at the local level, in the back of our minds, we were always thinking, if we take this position are we going to lose members to the other organization because they will take a different position?"

The push for merger really started at the local level. Rank-and-file members were tired of the fighting and didn't see a real reason for there to be two separate unions.

The first merger came in the Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan district.

It was not an easy process,

said Greg Burns, former MFT assistant to the president and Education Minnesota director of field services.

"Everyone came together as one and there were tears of joy," said Burns. "These fights were so bitter. Colleagues wouldn't talk to each other."

In total, thirteen local unions merged before the state organization.

Locals who merged before 1998 were:

- Brainerd United Educators
- East Central United Educators Association
- Dakota County United Educators
- Education Lake Superior
- Education Minnesota-Hill City
- Hibbing United Educators
- Spring Lake Park United Educators
- United Educators for Tri-District 6067
- United Teachers of South Washington County
- United Technical College Educators
- Win-E-Mac Teachers United and Allied Education Workers
- Foley United Educators
- Stewartville United Educators

How it happened

This was not an easy process for the state organizations to come together and create a new organization.

There were meetings, after meetings, after meetings at every retreat center throughout Minnesota.

"There were hard conversations about overcoming and dispelling the myths that were being created as we tried to one up each other in the pursuit of the exclusive representative right," said Mueller.

Educators across the state saw that as well and stepped up to take charge. A merger transition team and advisory board were both formed.

A set of guiding principles was created and approved by the leadership of each organization.

"We were constantly going back to members," said Schaubach. "We would put together our principles of merger. We'd bring them to the governing board for approval, to the convention for approval. Every step of the way, we continued to get support from the membership. We never got ahead of them."

It also wasn't easy to get this idea of a merged state union past the two national

groups. Even though the nationals were considering merger at the same time, they were never able to come together.

Our successes because it happened

Education Minnesota, the labor movement and public education in Minnesota has faced tremendous challenges in the last 20 years. And the leaders of the merger agree, that if there were still two unions, those challenges would have been harder to face.

"When we were looking at creating a framework for alternative compensation, people got onto those committees and struggled with those tough issues. They maybe disagreed on philosophy issues, but it was never about what organization they came from," said Schaubach.

"Right away there were things that we were able to do as a single organization that we wouldn't have been able to do separately," said Burns. "Or they wouldn't have been as good."

While it was a long, difficult process, all of the leaders of the merger movement agree it was worth it.

As Education Minnesota moves into a new era, we know that because of our merger, we can remain a strong, united voice.

"Our history proves that Minnesota educators can take on the impossible," said Mueller. "We did it 20 years ago and we will do it again as we remain a strong, powerful voice for another 20 years."

"With all of the challenges that we have facing us, it's not going to be easy," Schaubach said. "But you can do anything when you're all together, speaking with a single voice. You just can't give up. We learned that through this endeavor."

Momentum begins for worksite political leaders

Education Minnesota members across the state are beginning work on the 2018 campaign.

A new piece of the union’s campaign plan includes training and activating members as worksite action leaders.

Worksite action leaders are at the forefront of Education Minnesota’s campaign plan because we know member voices are essential to our success in electing pro-public education candidates in November.

No one can do it for us, or will do it for us. There are two kinds of power: organized money and organized people. We are the organized people.

“This is personal, but the solution is political,” said Tim O’Neill, a philosophy professor at Rochester Technical and Community College. “This is about protecting my family and preserving everything I hold dear.”

“We may not be able to sway the Supreme Court, but we can influence Minnesota politics. We can elect an education-friendly, pro-union governor and Legislature. We

can send our own people to St. Paul to represent us. That is why, when my friend and union sister, Jamie Mahlberg, decided to run for the Minnesota House, I stepped up to manage her campaign. Everything I love is under attack, and the only solution is political action. I cannot not act.”

There are some numbers that illuminate strategic opportunities and challenges in the 2018 election:

- 8,770 – Margin of victory for Gov. Dayton in 2010.
- 33,000 – Education Minnesota members who skip voting in midterm elections.
- 145,000 – The margin of votes in a generic pro-union vs. anti-union statewide election. To safely elect a pro-union governor, 145,000 Minnesotans who did not vote in 2014 need to vote in 2018.
- 1,206 – Worksites and campuses in Minnesota with at least 10 members

Would you like to get involved in the 2018 campaign in your worksite and local union? Learn more about how to become a worksite action leader, digital engagement leader and more at www.educationminnesota.org/advocacy/2018-election/get-involved.

who did not vote in 2014.

Education Minnesota is focusing its campaign plan on member engagement and outreach at the building level. That is where the worksite political action leaders come in.

Research shows that members who didn’t vote or weren’t active have not been motivated by our traditional campaign tactics like mailing and phone calls.

Worksite action leaders will relate to their colleagues and cut through the stereotypical campaign “noise,” as well as help to make the campaign about real issues that will improve educators’ work and home lives.

Another piece of the worksite action leader’s work will center on getting people out to vote.

Whether it’s holding early voting parties at their

building or hosting happy hours after you get a group of colleagues to go vote on Election Day, these educators will be working to encourage others to get out and vote.

Education Minnesota is also hoping to do more outreach with members through digital platforms.

Educators interested in becoming a local digital engagement leader can help the union share information about the election through social media, video and texting platforms.

Gubernatorial endorsement

The Education Minnesota Political Action Committee is planning to screen gubernatorial candidates at their meeting in May. That does not mean they will endorse at that time, but it does mean all candidates will have completed all

of the components of our endorsement process.

The five-step process to earn 2018 Education Minnesota gubernatorial endorsement:

- 1) Participate in the public candidate forum at the Education Minnesota Political Conference, November 2017.
- 2) Spend a full- or half-day shadowing educators at work.
- 3) Engage in a pocketbook and community issues roundtable conversation with educators.
- 4) Complete a candidate questionnaire that will be shared publicly.
- 5) Participate in a screening interview with the Education Minnesota PAC board.

Videos of the candidate forum and the roundtables are available on Education Minnesota’s Facebook page.

Online “Believe in ‘We’” ads to run year-round

Across the state—in online banner ads, on Facebook and Instagram feeds, YouTube videos and even audio services such as Spotify—the latest phase in Education Minnesota’s “Believe in ‘We’” ad campaign will help tell the simple stories of the incredibly powerful relationships students and educators build every day in our schools and colleges.

The new phase of the campaign is called “Believe in Me/Believe in ‘We,’” and it’s our first foray into a completely online, year-round advertising campaign.

Digital users will see educators interviewing students to not only hear about their dreams, but also the reasons behind those dreams and their hope for how they can make a difference. Along the way, our educator interviewers will be “teaching,” encouraging and expanding on the students’ thought processes. The goal is to show, even more than tell, the special and critical bond and role professional educators have in making a better tomorrow possible.

The videos and audio clips for the campaign were recorded in metro area and Greater Minnesota schools and higher education campuses in February and March.

Look for the ads appearing on your social media channels, and be sure to like and share using the hashtag #BelieveInWeMN. Learn more and see all of the videos at www.BelieveInWeMN.com.

Education Minnesota
Sponsored ·

Public schools give every dream a chance — which, this student says, makes for a more diverse tomorrow.

Discovering differences.
See more conversations.

Learn More

Education Minnesota
April 12 at 3:11pm ·

Every student dreams. But only one place gives every dream a chance: public schools, staffed with professional educators.

Tomorrow's YouTube star.
See more dreams.

BELIEVEINWEMN.COM

Learn More

Legislature *from page 1*

the rest of the biennium with little to no new funding.

House Republicans outlined \$35 million in new spending, while Senate Republicans proposed no funding increase for the state’s preschools through colleges. Gov. Mark Dayton wants to spend an additional \$83.7 million on public education.

Gov. Mark Dayton also has proposed investing \$137.9 million of the current budget surplus to prevent the layoffs of hundreds of Minnesota teachers due to budget cuts.

“This infusion of one-time money will keep Minnesota teachers in the classroom for another year, prevent the teacher shortage from getting worse and keep class sizes from increasing in dozens of districts,” said Denise Specht, president of Education Minnesota. “This won’t fix the chronic underfunding of special education, the driver of the current crisis, but it will buy time for the state and federal governments to find a long-term solution.”

The House and Senate are also voting on their education policy bills, as of press time.

The House bill includes language that would create a five-star rating system to judge schools based mostly on their test scores. The bill the Senate passed on May 1 eliminated that proposal.

Both the House and Senate bills expand the grounds for the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board to revoke or suspend a teacher’s license and create a working group to review special education delivery and costs.

The Senate education omnibus bill also still includes the provision to establish locally determined academic balance policies.

Stay updated on what is happening with these bills and more at www.educationminnesota.org/advocacy.aspx#at-the-legislature or on Education Minnesota’s Twitter and Facebook pages.

House File 4437
State general sales tax revenue related to motor vehicle repair and replacement parts allocated exclusively to fund roads, and constitutional amendment proposed

Stillwater teacher Bevin O’Brien testified against the constitutional amendment that would dedicate state funds to transportation. She said, “How can you say you want our schools to be safer, but at the same time, remove the resources that can make that happen? Our students and schools are counting on you—please don’t divert funding away from us.”

WIN

A DODGE JOURNEY

FROM CALIFORNIA CASUALTY



Wherever your **JOURNEY** takes you...
WE'LL BE THERE.

Life is a journey with lessons to learn, detours to endure, but most of all experiences to enjoy. Navigate the road ahead in the comfort of a 2018 Dodge Journey courtesy of California Casualty.

Enter today > **WinAJourney.com**

©2017 CCMC. No quote or purchase necessary. Photo may not be representative of actual vehicle package/color. See website for complete details. NEA, NEA Member Benefits and the NEA Member Benefits logo are registered marks of NEA's Member Benefits Corporation. AH260518

NEA® Auto and Home Insurance Program
nea Member Benefits |  California Casualty
In partnership with

Deer River teacher wins national community school award

DeAnna Hron, a kindergarten teacher at King Elementary in Deer River, was recently named the 2018 Educator Leadership Award winner by the Coalition for Community Schools.

Hron has been a champion for her district’s implementation of the full-service community school model.

“It’s a passion to make sure my community has what it needs,” said Hron. “And our students won’t be successful if they don’t have what they need.”

Deer River applied for grant funding to start work on building the services for their community school after the Minnesota Legislature allocated \$500,000 in the 2015-17 biennium.

“I see the unmet needs of students in the community and then I am looking at my classroom and am trying to meet their needs there,” Hron said in an interview with the Minnesota Educator last year. “My kids need these things, but I can’t do it all. That’s where the community school model comes in.”

The district was able to use the grant funds to hire a site coordinator, Chad Evans, who nominated Hron for the award.

The Coalition for Community Schools, housed at the Institute for Educational Leadership, is an alliance of national, state and local organizations in education K-16, youth development, community planning and development, family support, health and human services, government and philanthropy as well as national, state and local community school networks.

Deer River started the process of building their community school last year by holding a needs assessment. They offered a meal and talked with students, parents and community members about what they felt their biggest needs were as a community.

Since then, the district has added a lot of services and this past September became a complete full-service



DeAnna Hron

community school. The school has a senior center and early childhood center on site.

“The seniors use the center two days a week,” said Hron. “They have their own separate entrance. They have done some serving in our cafeteria and worked registration for us at events. We hope to expand what they do in our schools, but it’s just nice to have them see our kids.”

The district also now has a community café two nights a week, where people can come in and eat or get to-go meals for their families.

“Kids can go to after-school programming, grab a to-go meal for their entire family and take the late bus home at 6 p.m.,” Hron said.

The district’s community school leadership team is still working on getting a wellness center for the community, as well as more opportunities for mental health services.

“One of the things we’re working on is tele-health—over the internet,” said Hron. “We struggle to get enough providers up here. It’s exciting to think that people will have the opportunity to get the help they need, even if it’s a phone call or chat.”

Evans is working on outfitting a resource room, so parents can come into school and use a computer and printer. Hron said they are considering opening it up to anyone in the community.

They have also developed a partnership with Itasca Community College to offer a class at the high school in Deer River.



Last spring, Deer River hosted a needs assessment to discuss what the community felt were the major projects needed in their full-service community school. From there, the team has worked to implement some of those ideas, such as a food shelf, grab-and-go meals and a senior center.

WHAT IS A FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOL?

A full-service community school welcomes community members as partners in school improvements, brings community services into the school and empowers the people closest to students to examine disparities. They put social, medical and before- and after-school academic services and enrichment activities where they are most accessible—on the school campus.

What programs and services might a full-service community school offer?

- Childcare, adult education, early childhood education, medical clinics, mental health services, food shelves and family literacy classes.
- Programs that help parents and community members develop deep involvement and leadership in their school.
- High-quality before- and after-school tutoring, college application help and specialized training and professional development for educators.
- Services that improve school climate and health, such as using restorative justice tactics, training teachers in social and emotional learning and offering school-based health centers.

Learn more about full-service community schools by reading Education Minnesota’s Educator Policy Innovation Center report at www.educationminnesota.org/advocacy/Educator-Policy-Innovation-Center/EPIC-reports.

“We have 16 people taking an introduction to business class,” Hron said. “The professor comes here. We give them access to technology. We’re also providing daycare for the students. We’re already talking about what class to offer next.”

One piece they are struggling with is providing dental care.

“We’ve discovered a lot of our kids aren’t covered and dentists won’t touch them,” said Hron. “Even kids with medical assistance is tough. We need to figure out how we can get kids to the dentist.”

Hron says another struggle is their location and trying to find partnership opportunities.

“I go to meetings with people from the other full-service community schools and Deer River is the only one that’s rural,” she said. “Everyone was talking partnerships with corporations. We’re struggling with finding partners because we don’t have this broad base. We are struggling with how we get more partners, even if they’re farther away.”

Another worry for Hron is funding. The grant funding from the state will be gone soon, and there is currently no sign of additional funding being approved.

“Having Chad as a site coordinator is huge. With talk of no funding, I don’t

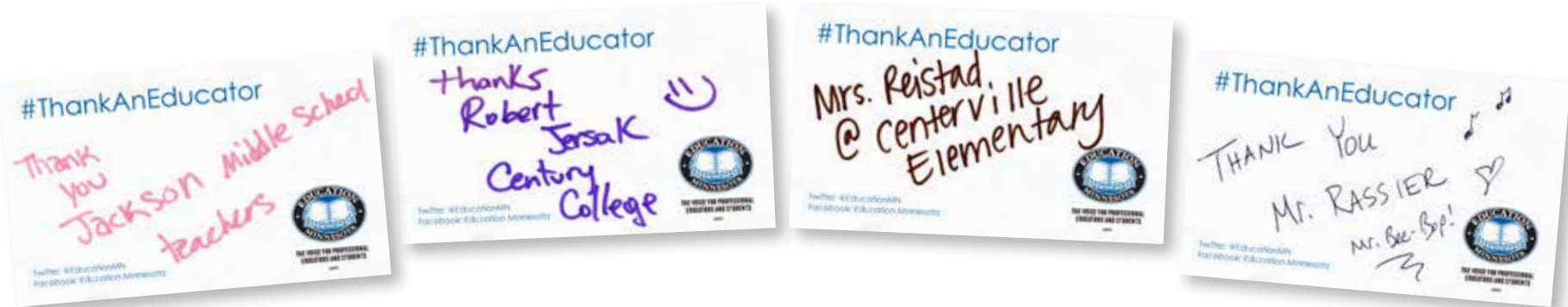
want our coordinator to have to find grant funding to pay for his own salary,” she said. “It’s a really great thing, but you don’t want to take it from somewhere else in the school.”

While it seems like a large undertaking, Hron said it is all worth it. The results may take some time, but she knows there are already benefits to the students.

“It’s been a little slow to get people into the idea that it’s not just a school from 8-3,” she said. “If parents can get the resources they need, it will show up in the students being happier, healthier and being successful.”

Thank you, educators!

Every year, thousands of kids and adults thank educators who were influential in their lives at Education Minnesota’s State Fair booth. We will feature a selection in each issue of the Minnesota Educator this year. Keep an eye out for your name!





Volunteers needed for 2018 NEA RA

With the 2018 National Education Association’s Representative Assembly being held in Minneapolis, June 30-July 5, volunteers are needed to help the event run smoothly.

Members can learn more and register for volunteer shifts at <https://goo.gl/6Cnpab>. Members can also contact the host committee at neara2018@gmail.com. Volunteers will receive a \$40 per day stipend, plus breakfast, lunch and parking. Volunteers can be Education Minnesota members, their friends, family or anyone over the age of 15.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

Delegate services

The delegate services committee provides services for delegates with physical challenges.

Information and registration

The information and registration committee provides volunteers for information booth and registration areas.

NEA Fund for Children

The NEA Fund for Children and Public Education is charged with soliciting voluntary contributions from NEA members, their family members, and NEA and affiliate staff for use in the campaigns of candidates for federal office.

RA telephone network

The RA telephone network committee is responsible for staffing and operating the microphone and telephone system used by delegates to communicate with the presiding officer and the assembly in order to participate in the association’s business.

Event services

The event services committee includes volunteer opportunities such as ushers, floaters, host committee room monitor for meals, HCR dinner, joint conference, and other special event help as assigned.

NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS!*

WITH A NEW OR USED VEHICLE LOAN

Enjoy this summer with NO PAYMENTS for 90 DAYS!

In the market for a new vehicle this summer? Take advantage of UECU's great rates while taking a vacation from your first payment for up to 90 days!

You could even refinance a current auto loan you have elsewhere to take advantage of this summer break from your payment.

Get Started Today!

Conveniently apply online at www.uecu.coop or visit any of our locations.

Apple Valley | Coon Rapids
Minnetonka | Woodbury

*Offer valid until August 31, 2018. Subject to credit approval and qualified borrowers may defer payments up to 90 days after loan signing. Interest will accrue from date of loan until payments begin and could result in a negative amortization. Refinanced loans must be from another institution. Federally insured by NCUA.

Virtual reality brings whole new world into classrooms

When third grade students in Edina Public Schools learn about the pyramids or the Great Wall of China, they take a “field trip” there.

Thanks to virtual reality viewers, smartphones and the Google Expedition app, students are able to “enter” a photograph and feel as if they are really there.

“I want to bring elementary students around the world,” said Meghan Eberhart, an elementary digital learning specialist in Edina. “The first time people do virtual reality, everyone has a first gasp or moment of whoa. That’s a lot of fun.”

Eberhart, as well as technology teachers at the middle and high school, are bringing virtual reality to their students thanks to grants from their district’s education foundation.

With her grant, Eberhart bought 25 phones and viewers that she brings around to the district’s six elementary schools.

At the high school, Jodi Ramirez, a computer science teacher, was able to buy one HTC Vive headgear, two paddles and two sensors.

With this equipment, students are able to get into entirely virtual worlds, move around, create art and more.

“Right now it’s about giving kids exposure to this world and just letting them play,” said Tim Berndt, a technology education teacher who, along with Ramirez, runs the equipment at the high school. “Right now, we’re not really tying it to any curriculum. We just want to let them experience what it looks like.”

Berndt also brings the equipment over to the adjacent middle school.

Since the high school only has one headset, students take turns moving through an app called STEAM that allows the students to walk on Mars, underwater, explore a Titanic exhibit and play games.

Berndt says he hopes to expand the collaboration with other departments.

Students are also able to play in the Tilt Brush app from Google, which allows them to use the paddles

to create artwork using mediums like snow, fire and smoke. Berndt has shown the app to art teachers and wants to try virtual field trips in social studies classes.

Ramirez uses the program in her architecture class.

Students design a house in their drafting software, bring it into the virtual reality world and are able to walk through the house to see if it is properly laid out.

“This challenges us, too,” said Berndt. “We want to learn more activities and put it into other areas of the school.”

Since she works at all of the district’s elementary schools, Eberhart has created a schedule for teachers to check out her kit of phones and viewers.

“I was able to jump from school to school to school to work with the media specialists and teachers, supporting them,” she said. “It’s been a really collaborative project within the Edina district.”

Some of the ways the elementary teachers have been integrating virtual reality in their lessons include showing fourth grade students photos from the states they are studying, exploring different careers like going to a workshop of an engineer or the International Space Station, and studying different habitats like the grasslands of Africa and then exploring them.

Google Expeditions, which is a free app, provides the 360-degree photo, so the students feel like they are in the place they are studying.

“Some of the photos are from high above, taken with drones, like the Grand Canyon,” said Eberhart.

In a lesson about how migrating families came to the U.S., students were able to look at a photo of people in New York when they were coming over from Europe.

“The students had to look at the clothing the people were wearing and share with their partners,” she said. “It’s great for the turn-and-talk culturally and linguistically responsive strategies.”

Getting students used to

the virtual world is a hurdle for Eberhart.

“We give kids a heads up that they are in charge of their viewing,” she said. “They can take it down if they are feeling sick. It’s just a lift viewer, so they can bring it up and down as needed.”

Berndt said with older students, there is already usually a familiarity with the technology.

“It takes them about two seconds and they usually have a handle on it,” he said. “They adapt and learn pretty quickly.”

Eberhart and Berndt are both grateful for their

district’s foundation and technology department for getting them set up with the equipment.

Both say that if educators are interested in exploring how the virtual world can fit into their classrooms, they suggest checking out the free apps available on their own smartphones first.

“Trying it with your own phone to see what they look like, and trying things out is an easy way to see if it would be a good fit,” said Eberhart.

There are also somewhat inexpensive options like Google Cardboard viewers that can be used with

TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS

smartphones.

“You need to check the viability with your technology department first,” said Berndt. “We needed ours to get the STEAM app installed on a special computer.”

Both are now interested in exploring augmented reality and how that can be used in the classroom.

“The sky is the limit with this stuff,” said Eberhart. “There are so many great things to do with this.”



Edina elementary students use the Google Expedition app to experience a 360-degree photo of what they are studying, such as the Egyptian pyramids or African grasslands.



Meghan Eberhart, an elementary digital learning specialist in Edina, purchased 25 smartphones and virtual reality viewers with funds from her district’s foundation. She travels with the kit through the district’s six elementary schools.



Edina teacher Tim Berndt shows how to move through a Titanic exhibit world on the STEAM software. Students are able to see artwork, a replica of the ship and even see people moving on the ship. They are learning to use the equipment in their technology education classes, but Berndt hopes to start integrating it more into different subject areas, such as art and social studies.



Edina middle and high school students are being introduced to virtual reality, through the HTC Vive headgear, paddles, sensors and STEAM software. Tim Berndt, a middle and high school technology education teacher, is able to bring the equipment and computer to his classes on a moveable cart.

Lessons learned as union service concludes

Dear Education Minnesota members,

After more than 30 years working in public sector labor and employment law, I'm ready to start a new life chapter—retirement! Before I go, I wanted to share a few lessons learned along the way.

No. 5: The only absolute is that there are no absolutes. Never say never. Never say always. Individuality is the essence of humanity. My truth will never be completely the same as your truth. When we honor and acknowledge our respective truths, we will find shared truths. Our shared values will carry us to greater power. That person who looks or seems completely different from you? Don't believe it. Don't reject them. You share some interests, goals, ideas and hopes. Reach out. You will find common ground. I guarantee it.

No. 4: Our public schools are the backbone and rock of society. Period.

No. 3: There is no better life than representing and advocating for teachers and other school district and education system staff. School district staff live and breathe the vision that the



Christina Ogata

purpose and advancement of our society and education depends on an educated society, including the poorest and least advantaged among us. Without that, we will not advance. With it, we have no limits.

No. 2: We all carry a certain amount of implicit bias against people who are not like us. Whether the bias is based on race, religion, gender, economic status, geography, age or any other difference, we all experience it, live it, know it, react to it. We all need to acknowledge how our implicit bias affects our assessment of individuals and organizations. We all

need to recognize our implicit bias and fight against it. Please bare your soul and join me in challenging our individual and institutional prejudice.

No. 1: The power of the union. In the 1970s, my mother enlisted me to support the United Farm Workers in their fight for a living wage and tolerable working conditions. Ever since, I recognized unions as the primary source of power, awareness, enlightenment, education and beauty for workers and society. Forty years later, as I graduate into retirement and prepare for the November elections, I continue to embrace and evangelize these values. I invite each and every one of you to join me in the crusade for equity and influence. Join me in trumpeting Paul Wellstone's challenge: We all do better when we all do better.

In solidarity,

Christina Ogata
Education Minnesota
General Counsel

About Christina Ogata

Christina Ogata is retiring after more than four years as general counsel for Education Minnesota, after serving as an Education Minnesota staff attorney for 19 years.

Her career included the 1990 case *Aderman v. Washington County*, which required the county to honor its individual promises to provide health insurance to retirees; authorship of our brief in *Skeen v. State of Minnesota*, the 1993 case in which the Minnesota Supreme Court declared that in Minnesota, education is a fundamental constitutional right; the 2004 case of *Education Minnesota Greenway v. ISD 316*, in which the appellate court confirmed that an employer's unilateral freezing of wages and benefits during bargaining is an unfair labor practice; developing the "Chisholm promise" doctrine, which determines when school districts must honor their collectively bargained guarantees of health insurance for retirees; and a body of work involving racial integration, equity and inclusion from the 2000 lawsuit challenging

LEGAL BRIEFS

segregation in Minnesota's schools to the current organizational work addressing privilege and implicit bias.

In addition to her legal work, Ogata is an amateur classical musician and Latin music dancer, human relations activist, community participant and supporter of several nonprofit arts organizations.

In her first months of retirement, Ogata plans to devote her time to working toward electing pro-public education candidates in the November elections and catching up on 20 years of reading.

MEMBERS WANT TO KNOW

PLANNING SOLUTIONS FOR LONG-TERM CARE

What is the Education Minnesota ESI long-term care insurance offering?

The ESI Member Benefits sponsored program, Educator Lifetime Solutions, has partnered with Newman Long Term Care in offering sponsored long-term care insurance solutions to Education Minnesota members and their families. Together, they will work with you to uncover your family's specific needs and provide a complete range of long-term care solutions.

Why consider long-term care insurance?

A long-term care event can have a devastating impact on your retirement plans (or on your caregivers). Our newly expanded long-term care insurance offering can help you maintain the financial, physical and emotional health of your caregivers.

What makes our new partnership unique and valuable to you?

- More choices! This program offers policies from most of the industry's leading insurers, with new options for life insurance or annuities with long-term care benefits.
- More savings! Special discounts have been negotiated with some insurers specifically for Education Minnesota members, as well as their extended families.
- More expertise! Newman LTC has focused exclusively on long-term care insurance since 1990.

For more information contact
(877) 403-2374 www.educatorsltc.com LTC@NewmanLTC.com

41 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103 651-292-4856 800-642-4624 esi.educationminnesota.org esi@edmn.org

Newman LTC is a Trustant Financial Company. Securities offered through Advanced Advisor Group (AAG), Member FINRA & SIPC. Investment Advisory Services offered through Education Financial Services (EFS), a Registered Investment Advisor, 440 Emerson St N Ste 4, Cambridge MN 55008 (957) 403-2374. Advanced Advisor Group and Education Financial Services are affiliates common control D/B/A EFS Advisors and are not affiliated with Education Minnesota ESI or Newman Long Term Care. Educators Lifetime Solutions offers long-term care insurance and is affiliated with Advanced Advisor Group and Education Financial Services. Paid for by ESI, not by dues. ESI is self-supporting; revenues provide benefits, service and consumer education for members. What do YOU want to know? Send questions to esi@edmn.org

EDUCATION MINNESOTA OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER SEMINAR REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The school year is beginning to wind down and educators are thinking ahead to summer. But summer also means a wonderful opportunity for professional development at Education Minnesota’s Summer Seminar.

Summer Seminar is part of the Minnesota Educator Academy and offers high-quality professional development, leadership training and networking opportunities. It will be held July 30-Aug. 1 at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minnesota. All Education Minnesota members are invited for three days of personal and professional development, an opportunity to connect with other educators from across the state and to have fun.

This year will feature expanded course offerings, which means more professional development classes and more ideas on how to build a strong local union. Based on member feedback, this year’s Summer Seminar will also feature more member-led courses.

A few of the new courses that will be offered this year are:

- Systematizing Multi-Sensory Reading Instruction for Students With Dyslexia
- National Board Certification: Are You Ready for the Challenge?
- Take a Drink From the Formative Assessment Firehose
- Supporting Future Educators
- Are You Prepared? The Hormel Strike as a Case Study in Organizing
- Financial Education for Members Who Don’t Know Where to Start
- Bullying Prevention Best Practices

The link to register for Summer Seminar is <http://bit.ly/sumsem18>.

More information on attending the event can be found at www.educationminnesota.org/events/summer-seminar.

A poster with course offerings will be mailed to school sites in May.

The deadline to register is July 17.

After Summer Seminar concludes, Education Minnesota will reimburse each local for the registration cost of:

- One member in their first five years of working in education.
- One member of color.
- And one member who does not fall into either of those categories.

The registration cost of \$70 includes participant registration in courses, meals for all three days of the event and lodging in a shared, double-occupancy dorm room with two single beds.

Local presidents will also receive more information about Summer Seminar. Please contact your field office or Sam Jasenosky at sam.jasenosky@edmn.org for more information.

ABOUT THIS PAGE

The Minnesota Educator provides opportunities listings on this page as a member service, highlighting the free and low-cost professional development the union provides. The page also lists conferences, training and resources of possible interest. Readers interested in pursuing an opportunity should check it out carefully. The Educator tries to include only legitimate, useful opportunities that support education practice.

To submit an opportunity:

- Send a complete description of your opportunity to educator@edmn.org.
- Send your item by the first Friday of the month to be considered for the next month’s Opportunities page. Include daytime contact information.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Using coding in the classroom summit

The 2018 MNCodes Summit will be held May 14 at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Participants will learn ways to empower all learners by integrating computer science, coding and computational thinking into a variety of curriculums. The keynote speaker will be Joan Freese, from Twin Cities Public Television’s SciGirls program. The summit will be followed by Minnesota’s first official Raspberry Jam. A Raspberry Jam is a place to learn, share and socialize in a hands-on digital making community focused on Raspberry Pi. The registration fee is \$100 and includes a parking voucher, lunch and six continuing education units.

For more information or to register, go to www.mncodessummit.org.

Restorative practices training from MDE

The Minnesota Department of Education is offering two weeks of restorative practices training at three different locations this June. Restorative practices is an approach schools can use to improve school climate and reduce discipline disparities. It focuses on building relationships and creating community in schools to prevent harm and to repair relationships. The trainings will be held June 11-15 in Cloquet, June 12-15 in Bemidji and June 18-22 in Crystal.

For more information about the trainings or to register, go to education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/safe/clim/prac and click on the link about the trainings.

School social workers summer institute

The Minnesota School Social Workers Association will host its annual summer institute June 18-20 at Sugar Lake Lodge in Cohasset, Minnesota. The institute will focus on trauma-informed practices and evidence-based interventions and strategies that support today’s youth. Featured sessions include connecting suicide post-vention training,

adolescent sexual health promotion, building relationships with parents and secondary trauma stress. The institute offers a free kids camp and evening activities. Registration fees range from \$60 to \$355. Continuing education units are available. For more information or to register, go to www.msswa.org/event-2890169.

Minnesota Society of CPAs offer free advanced high school accounting training

Educators are invited to attend a free three-day training program aimed at building the profession of accounting July 11-13 at the Minnesota Society of CPAs in Bloomington. The MNCPA has partnered with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Dr. Dan Deines, the creator of the program, to help educators further high school accounting curriculum through training in the AICPA Accounting Program for Building the Profession: Advanced High School Accounting. Educators will receive daily accounting lesson plans, pre-written exams, textbook with teaching notes and presentations, access to online teaching resources and continuous support from APBP trainers. The training is free, and participants will receive a stipend.

For more information or to register, visit www.mncpa.org/apaccounting.

Technology integration summer workshops

The Technology Integration Workshop is a hands-on planning and professional development opportunity for teachers. At this workshop, educators will learn how existing and emerging technologies can enhance lesson effectiveness and student engagement. This workshop is hosted by the University of St. Thomas in downtown Minneapolis and runs from July 30-Aug. 2.

Registration can be completed at www.bestprep.org/TIWapp. Discounts are available when you sign up with one or more educators from your same school/district. Participants will also earn 28 continuing education units.

Cognitive Coaching training

Cognitive Coaching is hosting an eight-day training sequence throughout the 2018-19 school year at Intermediate School District 287. The first session will take place Aug. 8-9. Participants will be able to conduct planning, reflecting and problem-resolving conversations; facilitate self-directed learning in others; distinguish support functions: coaching, evaluating, consulting and collaborating; and apply coaching skills which enhance the intellectual processes of instruction.

For more information or to register, go to www.cognitivecoachingtraining.com/upcoming-events.html.

CLASSROOM RESOURCES

Library of Congress Labs

The Library of Congress has launched labs. loc.gov, an online space that will host a changing selection of experiments, projects, events and

resources designed to encourage creative use of the library’s digital collections. To help demonstrate the exciting discoveries that are possible, the website also features a gallery of projects from data challenge winners and innovators-in-residence and blog posts and video presentations.

Smithsonian women’s history resources

Smithsonian Magazine has compiled a list of education resources, lesson plans and other teaching materials on women’s history in America. Included on the webpage are links to Smithsonian collections about women artists, women in the space program, women in World War II, sciences, inventors and Native American women. The page includes the content provider and targeted grade level for the collections.

To see all of the offerings, go to www.smithsonianmag.com/history/women-who-shape-history-womens-history-education-resources-180968296.

Digital citizenship curriculum from Google

Google offers educators a digital citizenship learning framework for designed for kids, Be Internet Awesome. The program features curriculum, and learning resources that help younger students learn how to be safe online. Also featured is Interland, a game that is related to web safety. The curriculum includes how to be saavy in sharing, learning and communicating online.

For more information or to download the curriculum, go to beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Formlabs 3-D printer grant

The Formlabs Education Grant is an opportunity for schools and research labs to receive a Form 2 3-D printer by sharing a research-oriented project that will benefit from the use of a 3-D printer. Applications are continuously accepted and Formlabs will award the grant to approximately one lab or educational facility per quarter.

For more information about the grant and how to apply, go to <https://formlabs.com/research-3d-printing-grant>.

Literacy teacher grant awards

The Penguin Random House Foundation is accepting applications for its 2018 National Teacher Awards for Literacy. The competition is open to full- and part-time teachers in public schools across the United States. The winners are awarded grants to help further their innovative reading programs and to help disseminate them to other teachers around the country. Nominees will be considered for the \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$2,500 grant awards, which includes \$2,500 in Penguin Random House titles. Applications are due June 1.

For more information about the program and how to nominate a deserving educator, go to foundation.penguinrandomhouse.com/learn-more/teacherawards.