



ACTION UPDATE

One Strong, United Voice for Minnesota Workers

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

afscmemn.org

Hennepin Locals Rally Thursday

Hennepin County and HCMC members are in contract negotiations. The locals are holding rallies and informational pickets this Thursday, Oct. 29, to tell the employer we deserve fair compensation for our hard work. Show your support by joining us:

- Hennepin County locals will rally at 7 a.m. at Century Plaza and at 12 p.m. at Hennepin County Government Center Plaza
- HCMC locals will rally at 11 a.m. at the corner of 6th St. and Chicago Avenue outside HCMC

UMN Locals Hold Informational Picket

Unions on campus have been in contract negotiations since late June. The U of MN has yet to propose an acceptable wage increase. Their current offer is between 0.25 and 0.75 percent. On Tuesday, Nov. 17, please join us to let the University administration know that we deserve Raises and Respect. We'll picket outside Morrill Hall (100 Church St. SE in Minneapolis) at 3 p.m.

Legislators to Act on Contract

The Legislature's Subcommittee on Employee Relations will meet on Thursday, Oct. 29 to consider approval of contracts that cover 15,600 AFSCME members who work for the Executive Branch in Unit 2 (craft and maintenance), Unit 3 (service), Unit 4 (health care), Unit 6 (clerical), Unit 7 (technical) and Unit 25 (radio communications).

The committee's actions will determine when the contracts legally take effect. That will determine when AFSCME members can expect retroactive pay raises. Updates will be posted on our website as they become available.

Victory at Minneapolis Vets' Home

AFSCME members at the Minneapolis Veterans' Home won a revised scheduling model that will guarantee every-other weekend off and limit consecutive days worked to five in a row. Management will also add more full- and part-time staff positions to improve member workloads. The scheduling improvements will begin Jan. 1, 2016.

Don't Forget to Vote

Election Day is Nov. 3. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. To find your voting site, visit mnvotes.org.

These AFSCME-endorsed candidates support working families:

State House: Peggy Flanagan (46A)

Duluth City Council: Gary Anderson, Elissa Hansen, Noah Hobbs, Janet Kennedy, Joel Sipress, Em Westerlund

Duluth School Board: David Kirby, Nora Sanstad, Renee VanNett

Maplewood City Council: Bryan Smith, Tou Xiong

St. Paul City Council: Dan Bostrom, Jane Prince, Russ Stark, Dai Thao, Darren Tobolt, Chris Tolbert

St. Paul School Board: Zuki Ellis, Steve Marchese, Jon Shumacher, Mary Vanderwert

A full list of AFSCME-endorsed candidates is available on our website: www.afscmemn.org.

OSHA Agreement Approved

An Administrative Law Judge has approved a settlement agreement that will allow the implementation of an injury abatement plan designed to protect employees from workplace violence. Members of AFSCME Local 404 actively participated in the creation of the abatement plan. Follow progress on Facebook by searching for "Safe Staffing MN."

GOTV Efforts Ramp Up

By working together, we can ensure we have a mayor and city councils who share our values. Join us to Get Out The Vote:

St. Paul:

Saturday, Oct. 31, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 2, 4:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Duluth

Saturday, Oct. 31, shifts from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 2, shifts from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3, shifts from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Email Laura (Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org) to volunteer in St. Paul; email Eric (Eric.Jacobson@afscmemn.org) to volunteer in Duluth.



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AFL-CIO Looks to 2016

The Minnesota AFL-CIO Legislative and Political Conference will take place Nov. 12-13 in St. Paul. The conference focuses on labor's 2016 legislative priorities, policy initiatives, and the work necessary to win 2016 elections.

Participants must register by **Wednesday, Nov. 4**. There is a registration fee of \$75. Register online at www.mnafcio.org.

Apply for AFSCME Scholarships

AFSCME International is accepting applications for its annual Family Scholarship. The renewable, \$2,000 scholarship is for current high-school seniors in AFSCME families who will graduate in 2016. The application deadline is **Dec. 31**. Get application materials and eligibility requirements at www.afscme.org/family.

MN AFL-CIO Seeks Organizers

The Minnesota AFL-CIO is seeking three full-time, temporary Field Organizers based out of Willmar, Albert Lea, and Rochester.

Get a full job description and find out how to apply at www.mnafcio.org. The deadline for applications is **Friday, Nov. 6** at 4 p.m.

AFSCME Member Raises Funds to Keep Kids Warm

Local 66's James Gaylord, a social worker in St. Louis County, has taken Operation Warm's Beard Challenge. He's raising money to buy coats for kids. When his goal is reached, his beard comes off! Donate at www.warmduluth.com/beards.

AFSCME Endorses Hillary Clinton

AFSCME's International Executive Board announced Friday that Hillary Rodham Clinton has earned our union's endorsement in the 2016 presidential contest. The next president will make decisions that could make or break the ability of working people across America to sustain their families. That's why we spent the last six months engaged in the most member-focused, in-depth, and transparent endorsement process AFSCME has ever undertaken. We gathered feedback on candidates and their vision for America from members around the country through polling, surveys, forums, and personal conversations. We are confident that the vote our board took reflects the views and priorities of AFSCME members.

Hillary Clinton will tackle the issues that affect ordinary Americans' quality of life, like paid family and sick leave, the crushing burden of student loan debt, and retirement security. While there are several excellent candidates who share AFSCME's values, Hillary Clinton is a proven champion for working families, and with the grassroots support of AFSCME members, she is the candidate who can deliver on our hopes and hard work next November.

Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. If you have an event people should know about, email Jennifer Munt at Jennifer.Munt@afscmemn.org.

- For the most current AFSCME news and events, visit www.afscmemn.org.
- Download and print a copy of Action Update to distribute or post on your bulletin board.

Keep Your Calendar Up to Date

General Election: Nov. 3, 7 a.m.-8 p.m., municipal elections statewide

Minnesota AFL-CIO Legislative and Political Conference: Nov. 12-13, St. Paul

Informational Picket at U of M: Nov. 17, 3 p.m.-6 p.m., Minneapolis (Morrill Hall)

Labor Movie Night: "Burning Season," Nov. 20, 6 p.m., Minneapolis (United Labor Centre)

Labor Movie Night: "Chicken Run," Dec. 17, 6 p.m., Minneapolis (United Labor Centre)

Council 5 Retirees United Convention: April 19, 2016