Greetings everyone!!
I hope that all is well with the start of your school year – if not call me and I will fix it. Contract negotiations continue to proceed with updates given to executive board members to share with fellow members back at your school. Enjoy the fall colors and take time to be with family and friends this time of year. Be sure to friend us on Facebook, we are posting activities all the time. Remember to call me at 651-246-8769 or email me at rsanders@nspmoea.org any time you need answers or help with anything.

Together in Solidarity,
Rory Sanders

Quality Steering Committee
The committee met on September 26, 2019.
Christine shared the organization charts for the district.
The duties of the BIL’s were discussed. There will be further training on October 4th. This position is just a one year MOU. We will collect data this year and make changes for next year as needed.
Ann discussed the Relicensure Committee dates. Christine appreciated that they were not all on Fridays.
Julie Coffey shared the Tiered pay system for substitutes. 1-20 days = $130, 21-59 days = $145 and 60+ days = $155. The district is hoping this will help with the substitute shortage. There is also a building sub and Tartan and North. Looking into possible subs for the middle schools and maybe elementary.
If you have any shout outs for the Employee News be sure to send them to Mari Drake.
The late buses were discussed and some people shared data as to when the buses are arriving at school. Christine asked for the data and were are to keep her updated.
Contract Corner

Legal Insurance Benefit

Did you know the district provides legal insurance? Before you talk to a lawyer make sure you have the facts from the district benefits office. This could save you lots of money! The district provides a pre-paid group legal insurance plan for all eligible teachers and their dependents. The coverage includes: *Advice and Consultation: Unlimited access for all cases. Paid in full, usual and customary. *Office Work: 10 hours per case paid in full. *Defense Representations: 10 hours per case paid in full. *Plaintiff Actions: 10 hours per case paid in full (subject to $100 per case deductible). *Litigation Expense: Paid in full to a maximum of $2,500 per case. *Survivor Benefits: In the event of death, your surviving spouse is entitled to coverage under the policy for a period of two years from the date of death. *Major Trial Coverage: $375 per day beginning with the third day of the trial up to $10,000.

Below is a link that explains the benefits in more detail. (Control and click on the link)


Support your local work with Local Time Enhancement Program

One of the most common concerns we hear from local leaders is the need for more time—more time to do the day-to-day work of the local, more time to recruit new hires as members, more time to engage members in advocacy work on behalf of our students.

While we can’t create time, we can support local efforts to find time to do their important union work. This year, Education Minnesota initiated the Local Time Enhancement Program. This program provides grants to locals to support additional release time and union leave days for leaders or—where time during the day isn’t an option—stipends for members to do union work outside the duty day.

In Round 1 of the program, completed this summer, locals approved for the program received approximately $400,000 in grants to support their efforts to provide union leaders and activists more time to do their work. During the second (and final) round for 2019-20, up to $600,000 will be available for grants. The next round for applications is open now through Oct. 31.

If you are interested please contact President Rory Sanders.

When The Next Step Transition Program students were asked to complete a project of labeling, stuffing, and mailing about 300 invitations for a luncheon for our ISD 622 retired teachers, they jumped at the chance. A total of ten students were involved in various parts of the project, from cutting smaller inserts, to putting on the return address labels, to sealing and posting the mail. We even had a quality control administrator who served as the final step before the envelope was sealed.

Our students were happy to complete the project in the allotted two days, as well as take the mail down to the North St. Paul Post Office; even though it was one of our hot, muggy days. They were proud of their work and maintained a positive mindset throughout the project.

Thank you Next Step students for helping out to make sure our retired teachers group received their invitations.