

Convention is Here!

Our 15th Annual AFSCME Council 5 Convention begins this Thursday, Oct. 3 in Duluth.

New member delegates are invited to take part in an orientation workshop Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Duluth Holiday Inn Lake Erie/Ontario room.

Convention highlights will include a Q&A Luncheon with labor leader and author Joe Burns; and a memorial walk in honor of Elias Clayton, Elmer Jackson and Isaac McGhie, the three black men lynched in Duluth nearly a century ago in 1920.

On-site delegate and guest registration will be open at the DECC from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Thursday; 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. Friday; and 7 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Get more Convention details on MemberLink at members.afscmemn.org.

AFSCME Council 5 Leadership Update

John Westmoreland has resigned as AFSCME Council 5 Executive Director. Council 5 Legislative Director Julie Bleyhl has been appointed by the Executive Board to serve as Interim Executive Director.

Help Get Out the Vote in St. Paul

Election Day is almost here, and our efforts to get out the vote for pro-worker candidates in St. Paul are ramping up. AFSCME Council 5 and the St. Paul Federation of Educators (SPFE) are hosting joint door knocks in Wards 1 and 6 **every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.** now through Election Day. The events kick off at the SPFE office at 23 Empire Drive in St. Paul.

AFSCME is also hosting phone banks for St. Paul Ward 1 candidate Liz De La Torre **every Wednesday evening** at the South St. Paul AFSCME office from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. RSVP to phone bank with Liz on Facebook.

Email Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org for more details on St. Paul GOTV opportunities.

Join a Duluth Labor Day of Action

We're partnering with the North East Area Labor Council to get out the vote for our endorsed candidates in Duluth.

Join a phone bank or knock doors on one of four upcoming Duluth Labor Days of Action: **Saturday, Oct. 5 and Saturday, Oct. 12 at 1:00 p.m.; or Wednesday, Oct. 16 and Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 5:00 p.m.**

Duluth Labor Days of Action will kick off from the North East Area Labor Council (2002 London Rd, Ste 99, Duluth, Minnesota 55812). Email Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org to get involved.

Get Involved in West Metro Election Efforts

AFSCME Council 5 and the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation are partnering up to make sure we elect pro-worker candidates in Bloomington. We've endorsed Tim Busse for Bloomington Mayor, and we've been pounding the pavement every weekend, talking to Bloomington residents about the shared values we vote on.

Email Abdul.Omar@afscmemn.org to find out how you can get involved in our Bloomington GOTV efforts.

Locals Reach TAs

Local 224, City of Wayzata, reached a tentative agreement on a three-year contract that includes a 3 percent wage increase for each year; a \$1.25 across-the-board market adjustment; and significant health insurance gains.

Local 3532, Walker Methodist, made big gains with a TA for a new three-year contract, a successful improvement over previous two-year contracts with the employer. The new agreement includes a \$0.25 wage increase at the completion of probation; a 2.25 percent raise for each year of the contract; new NMO language and a perfect attendance incentive that allows bargaining unit members to earn a minimum of \$100 per quarter for perfect attendance as defined in the contract. The local was also able to beat off harmful language regarding our health insurance and workplace organizing rights.

Minnesota Senior Living, Local 1337, Ratifies Contract

Members of AFSCME Local 1337, Minnesota Senior Living, unanimously ratified their new contract, granting raises, new benefits and expanded union rights on the job. Congratulations to members of Local 1337 another excellent contract win!

St. Stephens Enters Negotiations

Following their incredible organizing victory, our new AFSCME siblings at St. Stephens Human Services in Minneapolis entered their first round of contract negotiations last week. The members left the bargaining table knowing their voices had been heard, and confident that their collective action will win big gains through the negotiations process. Stay tuned for updates as the St. Stephens team continues their push for a fair contract!

You're Invited to the St. Paul RLF's 8th Annual Oktoberfest

The St. Paul Regional Labor Federation's Labor Community Action Committee invites you to their 8th Annual Oktoberfest.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Labor Studies and Resource Center's Emergency Fund, which directly helps our union siblings in times of hardship.

Oktoberfest will take place on **Wednesday, October 9, 2019** at the St. Paul Labor Center (353 West Seventh St., St. Paul).

All union members and friends of labor are welcome to come celebrate the season while raising money for a great cause.

Highlights will include a "Wall of Beer" raffle (donate a 12-pack to enter), plus additional door prizes and bake sale items. Oktoberfest-inspired refreshments will be provided.

Call 651-222-3787, ext. 117, for more information.

Seeking Member Stories

Members: if the descriptions below sound like you or someone you know, we want to hear from you!

Student Debt: Are you an AFSCME member who is currently participating in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program? We want to hear from you! As part of our fight against student debt, we're looking for stories from our members who rely on this program. If you've been harmed or would be in

serious trouble without the program, please reach out to us at Pat.Benner@afscmemn.org.

Internal Organizing: Is your local union planning an organizing blitz? Have you been on a mission to sign members up for Direct Dues? We want to highlight some of the ways our local union leaders are getting creative in growing their membership. Email communications@afscmemn.org to tell us what's working for your local!

Get in on the Action

Action Update comes out every two weeks for locals and activists. Download a copy at afscmemn.org.

Email communications@afscmemn.org with news and events you'd like shared in our next update.



New AFSCME members from St. Stephens prepare for their first round of bargaining.



The St. Stephens Human Services negotiations team shows their AFSCME spirit following their first session of contract negotiations.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place/details
AFSCME Council 5 Convention 2019	October 3 - 5, 2019	DECC (350 Harbor Drive, Duluth)
GOTV in St. Paul	Every Sunday & Wednesday through Nov. 3	Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org
GOTV in the West Metro	Now through Nov. 5	Abdul.Omar@afscmemn.org
GOTV in Duluth	Oct. 5, 12, 16 & 30	Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org
St. Paul Regional Labor Federation Oktoberfest	Oct. 9, 2019	St. Paul Labor Center (353 W. 7th St., St. Paul)