

Three Weeks Left to Get Out the Vote

With only three weeks left until the midterm election on **Tuesday, Nov. 5**, our efforts to turn out voters in key election districts are really heating up. AFSCME members, families and allies have been out in force all autumn, pounding the pavement in St. Paul, the West Metro and Duluth to make sure our communities elect candidates who share our AFSCME values.

We've got dozens of GOTV events, door knocks and phone banks scheduled across the state in the upcoming weeks, including these highlights:

Ramsey County:

This **Sunday, Oct. 20**, our AFSCME sister Rep. Kelly Moller (Local 2938) is hosting a pizza party and door knock in Shoreview for Nicole Frethem, our endorsed candidate for Ramsey County Commissioner. We would love to have a strong AFSCME presence for this event. Email Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org for details.

St. Paul:

Join a Wednesday evening phone bank for St. Paul Ward 1 candidate Liz De La Torre at the Council 5 office in South St. Paul from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. now through Oct. 30. On **Nov. 3**, knock doors for Ward 6 candidate Nelsie Yang from 9 a.m. – noon at 1000 Arcade Street in St. Paul. Or, sign up for one of Nelsie's public GOTV events at bit.ly/2MhVf4b. Email Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org for more information on our St. Paul GOTV efforts.

Bloomington:

AFSCME Council 5 and the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation are partnering up to make sure we elect pro-worker candidates in Bloomington. Door knocks for Tim Busse for Bloomington Mayor and Jenna Carter for City Council are scheduled from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. this Saturday, **Oct. 19** at 8828 River Ridge Road and next Saturday, **Oct. 26** at 4642 Heritage Hills Drive. Email Abdul.omar@afscmemn.org with questions or to find out more about how you can get involved in our Bloomington GOTV efforts.

Duluth:

AFSCME members and our allies will continue to knock doors in Duluth every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 5 – 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 – 5 p.m., with additional GOTV efforts ramping up Saturday, Nov. 2 – Election Day, Nov. 5. Email Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org for more details. Sign up for a shift at bit.ly/31kgQx4.

Don't live in one of our target GOTV regions? None of these dates work for you? No big deal! This is an all-hands-on-deck effort, and we're excited to be able to help all of our members plug in to convenient, meaningful volunteer opportunities. Email communications@afscmemn.org to get connected to a political organizer and put your skills to use!

Visit afscmemn.org/election-endorsements to see all of our endorsed 2019 candidates.

State Contract Update

Minnesota Management and Budget sent the AFSCME Multi-Unit Master (Units 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7) and AFSCME Unit 25 contracts to the SER on Tuesday, October 1. The SER will meet to discuss approval of the contracts on October 22nd. They will also be considering the MAPE and MMA agreements at that meeting. Look for more updates late in the day on October 22nd.

State Bargaining Unit 8 Reaches Tentative Agreement

On October 4, MMB and the DOC travelled to Duluth to meet with your Unit 8 negotiation team during the AFSCME Council 5 convention, at which time a tentative agreement on a new contract was reached. As expected, the "across the board" wage increase aligned with the established pattern, and we won a 2.25 percent increase to wages for each year of the contract, with retro pay back to July 1, 2019. In addition, the new TA includes wage grid modifications to correct pay inequities; starting wages and maximum pay will both increase beginning on January 1, 2020. Additional highlights include an increase to the maximum hours paid to officers injured on duty, and up to four hours paid to officers who must seek medical treatment during or after their shift; no loss of seniority for officers who are absent as a result of on-duty injury during probation; and an increase from seven to 10 allowed shift exchanges per month.



AFSCME Council 5 President Pat Guernsey gaveling in our 15th annual convention

Online Training for AFSCME Women Leading Change

Across the nation, women are creating change for working families more than ever before. The Women's Leadership Academy is ready to train more AFSCME women to be leaders of that change. Trainings kick off this **Wednesday, Oct. 16.**

This AFSCME International academy will consist of four modules aimed at giving women the skills and support they need to stand tall for workers' rights and increase political and workplace power on a greater scale.

This series of live webinars or Facebook Live sessions will provide a deeper understanding of the issues that affect working women, strengthen leadership skills and activism, and inspire AFSCME women to be leaders in their workplaces and in their unions across the country.

While we will continue to build a community of top-notch AFSCME women leaders, this entirely online program can be adapted to participants' busy lives. The sessions can be viewed live or later, and in each session, participants will be encouraged to engage in discussions, view master classes and complete online activities with other AFSCME women.

The topics will include: "Inclusive Leadership," "Political Activism as Leadership," "Leadership in the Workplace" and "Women Leaders in AFSCME." When they complete all four webinars, participants will receive a certificate of completion. Register today at bit.ly/2IO8s2H.

Iron Rangers Participate in Public Health & Human Services Conference

AFSCME Council 5 was proud to sponsor a panel discussion at the St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Conference last week. Five members (Heather Schultz, Local 1092; Philomena Imafidon, Local 390; Aleathea Modlin, Local 1574; Dennis Frazier, Local 66; Alicia Carrillo, Local 66) participated in the panel, facilitating a powerful conversation around how unions can be a powerful tool to advocate for workers, clients, and critical public services that keep our families and communities safe and healthy.

Convention Wraps Up

Our 15th Annual AFSCME Council 5 Convention adjourned Oct. 5 after three action-packed days in Duluth. More than 500 delegates participated in a broad range of solidarity-building exercises and workshops; attended an inspiring luncheon with labor leader, author and former AFSCME Council 5 member Joe Burns; and held a solemn memorial walk to the Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial in downtown Duluth. We were thrilled to host Governor Tim Walz, who gave a spirited address to a packed room of delegates Saturday morning. Check out all the photos on our Facebook page.

Congratulations to AFSCME Council 5's 2019 Award Winners

Each year at our convention, AFSCME Council 5 presents four annual awards to members who have exhibited outstanding organizing skills in our union.

In line with this year's convention theme, "Solidarity Forever," we were thrilled to honor the following recipients for their incredible work in building our union and advancing our shared vision for a Minnesota that works for everyone.

- Rick Scott Political Activism Award: LaTonya Reeves, Local 552
- Jerry Wurf Organizing Award: St. Stephens Health & Human Services Organizing Committee
- Eliot Seide Communications Award: Barb Laidlaw, Local 701
- Mike Buesing Local Union Development Award: AFSCME Local 66

Seeking Member Stories

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.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place/details
GOTV in St. Paul	Now through Nov. 5	Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org
GOTV in the West Metro	Now through Nov. 5	Abdul.Omar@afscmemn.org
GOTV in Duluth	Now through Nov. 5	Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org
Election Day	Nov. 5, 2019	mnvotes.org