



AFSCME members joined hundreds of labor allies at the October 27 Labor Day of Action GOTV Kickoff at UFCW in South St. Paul before hitting doors across the Metro.

Working Minnesotans are the Real Winners in Midterm Election

November's midterm was one of the most important elections of our lifetimes. Our rights, our freedoms, our health, safety, security and dignity were all on the line.

Hundreds of AFSCME members stepped up to phone bank, door knock, and mobilize voters to elect candidates who will fight for a future where every Minnesotan has access to the resources, care and opportunities we all deserve.

In the final days leading up to the election, AFSCME members came out in force to ramp up our GOTV efforts in Rochester, Minneapolis, Saint Cloud, Duluth, Brainerd and everywhere in between.

On November 6, all that hard work paid off. Our endorsed candidates swept the statewide races. Our candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor, Tim Walz and Peggy Flanagan, beat out Republican Jeff Johnson, who's said he'd love to "go all Scott Walker" on Minnesota.

U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison, a proven champion for working Minnesotans, was elected as Attorney General. In the race for Secretary of State, incumbent Steve

Simon was easily re-elected. Julie Blaha, a former math teacher and longtime union activist, won her bid for State Auditor.

In the race for U.S. Senate, our candidates Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith beat out their opponents. Both Klobuchar and Smith have been tireless advocates for working people.

Minnesotans elected State Representative Ilhan Omar to fill Ellison's Fifth District seat in the U.S. House. Omar will be the first Somali-American to serve in Congress. We also successfully elected Angie Craig (District 2), Dean Phillips (District 3), Betty McCollum (District 4) and Collin Peterson (District 7) to represent working people in the U.S. House.

In local races, we proudly endorsed candidates who will stand with working people, who are committed to working across our differences to bridge gaps and bring Minnesotans together.

We were especially thrilled to help elect AFSCME Local 2938 members Kelly Moller (District 42A) and Zack Stephenson (District 36A) to the Minnesota House of Representatives.

The list of victories for working people in this year's midterm goes on. At the doors, on the phones, in our workplaces and around our kitchen tables, AFSCME members played a major role in making those victories possible. Our solidarity and our hard work truly paid off.

Through thousands of conversations with our neighbors, coworkers, friends and loved ones, AFSCME members mobilized voters and helped elect powerful candidates who share our union values: health care everyone can access and afford; quality public education for every kid of every race, creed and income; security, safety and dignity at work and in retirement; and living wages that allow every working family to thrive – not just survive.



AFSCME International Secretary-Treasurer Elissa McBride and Council 5 president Pat Guernsey knock doors for pro-worker candidates in Shoreview.

St. Paul Workers Win \$15/Hour

In a major victory for low-wage workers, the St. Paul City Council unanimously approved a city ordinance mandating a \$15/hour minimum wage, with no penalty for tipped workers. AFSCME was part of a strong coalition of labor, community and faith organizations that spent over a year working to get the ordinance passed. St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter proudly signed the new minimum wage requirements into law the same evening it was passed by the City Council.

Walker Methodist Members Build Power through Celebration

Members of Local 3532, Walker Methodist Health Center, recently held a party honoring their members and emphasizing the importance of continuing to build workplace solidarity. The party included presentations on growing our union through the AFSCME Strong program, dancing, and lots of great conversations.



Local 3532 vice president Alice Marah (right) presents a gift of thanks to former VP and current steward Honore Maurice.



AFSCME members, including Ramsey County attorney Rep. David Pinto from St. Paul, gather ahead of a St. Paul City Council hearing on the \$15 minimum wage ordinance.

Locals Ratify Contracts

- **Local 224**, City of Shorewood, ratified a three-year contract with 3 percent raises across the board and increased call-back pay from ten hours of straight-time pay to twelve hours per on-call status. The new contract also adds Pesticide License to the list of compensable licenses.
- **Local 2454**, City of Ramsey, won a two-year contract with 2.75 percent raises in the first year and 3 percent in the second year.
- **Local 3481**, St. Joseph's Home for Children ratified an exciting contract. The workers successfully fought to get rid of merit pay. Now, all members of the bargaining unit will receive the same across-the-board wage increases. The contract also includes new requirements for

schedule postings, increases to the weekend shift differential and longevity pay and the addition of layoff notice requirements.

- **Local 3851**, City of Farmington, ratified a three-year contract. The agreement includes 3 percent across-the-board annual wage increases; vast improvements to the step system; increased employer contributions toward insurance premiums and the addition of a vacation payout option for employees.

Get in on the Action

Action Update comes out every two weeks for locals and activists. Download a copy from www.afscmemn.org. Share news and events by emailing Trisha.Harms@afscmemn.org.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place/details
Internal organizing class	Nov. 27, 9 a.m. to noon	https://bit.ly/2F4DSIV