

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
One strong united voice for Minnesota workers

300 Hardman Avenue South
South St. Paul, MN 55075
Council5@afscmemn.org



Phone (651) 450-4990
Fax (651) 455-1311
Toll Free (800) 652-9791

March 8, 2022

Greta Callahan, President
MFT Local 59 Teacher Chapter
67 - 8th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Shaun Laden, President
MFT Local 59 Education Support Professional (ESP) Chapter
67 - 8th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Dear MFT Presidents Callahan and Laden,

On behalf of the 43,000 members of Minnesota Council 5 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, we offer our solidarity and support as 3,000 of your members at the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT) Local 59 are on strike for livable wages, lower class sizes, and for "safe and stable schools" overall.

Solidarity is our only path forward in the building of our new future that is centered on the lives of working people who ensure our workplaces and communities are safe, healthy, educated, and thriving. We are proud to offer our solidarity and support as you officially strike to obtain successful wins that will improve the lives of our next generation of leaders. We urge Minneapolis Public Schools to come to an agreement with MFT Local 59 that also invests in the lives of the workers who provide high quality education and support services that ultimately increases educational outcomes, reduces racial disparities, and builds our new future.

Going on strike is never an easy decision, but the overwhelming solidarity MFT Local 59 members have shown with this vote and subsequent actions proves that your members are united and stand ready to create a better school district for all.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Bleyhl". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Julie Bleyhl
Executive Director
AFSCME Council 5, AFL-CIO