



# The Communicator

A Publication for SEIU Local 284 Education Workers Across Minnesota

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**Calendar of Events**  
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**SEIU Local 284 Outing with the St Paul Saints!**

**June 7 & 8 SEIU 284**

**pre-game picnic on the 7th at 10:05 Spot #9**



[www.SEIU284.org](http://www.SEIU284.org)  
For more info

**SEIU MN State Council**  
[www.seiumn.org](http://www.seiumn.org)

For more info on the Employee Free Choice Act and to see SEIU Members in Action!

**Outstanding Union Members Receive Recognition!**

SEIU 284 Members received special recognition at the April 1st Leadership Assembly for their work in organizing their co-workers, working on politics, and going the extra mile for working people!

*Congratulations to all of them!*

**Leadership Assembly News**  
SEIU Members approved a new and exciting united path for bargaining. Approved were four principles focusing on wages, health care, retirement and job security.

As we enter into bargaining this spring and summer, bargaining teams and local 284 staff will be working with members on proposals that focus on 1) no increases to members' out of pocket health insurance costs 2) no wage cuts or freezes 3) no cuts to retirement and 4) job reductions through attrition and retirement incentives. Also, offering laid off employees opportunities in districts that have openings.

We are Stronger Together!



**Present:** Mark Krey, Sandy Ringler, Steve Miltich, Mark Hanson, Mark Scherbing, Charisse Skoog, Nancy Alitz, Donnie Morrell, Allie Anderson, Doug Bergem, Caroline Hoagland, Joyce Schlangen, Rosei Steil, Toni Monnens, Terry Bicknell, Marge Blommel, Cathy Hoy, Barbara King, Kelly Martinia, Michelle Morehouse, Susan Keiffer, Kathy Laqua, Debbie Shanahan, Scott Anderson, Sara VanAllen, Denise White **Absent:** LuAnn Alexander, Joan Bustad, LuAnne Caton, Gwendy Ellingson, Sonja Evans, Nancy Heding, Robyn Johnson, Bonnie Lotzer, Cindy Rammage, JoAnn Rollie, Karen Schlangen, Stephanie Schreyer, Christine Schumann, Tanya Shorter, Mary Jo Steffenhagen, Julie Stieve, Brenda Enneking, Patricia Kaeter, Laurie Nolden, Susan Oldakowski, Josephine Wicker

**\*Boilers License Test\***

**Everyone is welcome to take the class and test, or just take the test.**

Boiler Training 2 day class with state test at:  
Champlin Park High School 6025 109th Ave. Champlin, MN 55316 (off of Hwy 169 and 109th)  
May 9th 8:00 am - 3:00 PM (Boiler class), May 16th 8:00 am - 1:30 pm (Boiler class)  
May 16th 1:30 pm (state test) **\*\*Please contact Ally Anderson 612-462-2510 or Don Morrell 763-228-1795 with an RSVP for either the class or test. [www.SEIU284.org](http://www.SEIU284.org) for more info**

**Boiler Bill**

Amendment to Minnesota Statute 326B.974

Legislation has been introduced that would require school districts to provide, all licensed boiler operators employed by the school district, at least 8 hours of training related to boiler operation each calendar year. Special and 2nd Class Engineers are not getting needed training and this legislation will help address this problem by utilizing the knowledge of experienced engineers. This legislation will also help reduce District costs by training engineers to recognize deficiencies lessening costly repairs, maintenance and boiler down-time.

*Kudos to Ally Anderson and Don Morrell, SEIU 284 members, that really helped this legislation get moving!*

## SEIU Members...In Our Own Words...In Action

The leadership assembly was exciting to be a part of this month because of the adoption of the Bargaining Principles. They will help guide us and will be used to show that we are united toward a common goal and we have the strength of the whole group behind us when we are in negotiations for our contracts. Hooray for SEIU!

*Barb Driver, St Cloud Food Service*



*Ally Anderson and Don Morrell, Anoka custodians, talk about their work on the Boiler Bill.*

We are faced with huge challenges, the vote in support and adoption of the bargaining principles was no surprise. Working together and supporting each other is what we are about. United together we are setting standards and moving members and their families forward. We are definitely headed in the right direction.

*Sandy Ringler,*

*Sauk Rapids Para*



Legislators tell us time and time again, that having their constituents at the Capitol can make all the difference.

This session, SEIU members are having a constant presence with multiple opportunities for talking to legislators.

As Public employees, what happens in St Paul makes a big difference in what happens in our own districts.

SEIU Members to the right, are making it happen!



**Check Out Local 284's New Updated Website! [www.seiu284.org](http://www.seiu284.org)**

# SEIU Members...Stronger Together



*Val Rolstad, Columbia Heights Para and SEIU Local 284 Exec. Board member, discussing the bargaining principles*

In this time of economic uncertainty and rising unemployment I am impressed with our Locals plan for bargaining in 2009. The resolution of bargaining principles is made up of the four issues that always rise to the top of our wish lists. There will never be a better time for us to send the same message to all the districts we will be bargaining with this year. Although we may be willing to SHARE the burden of these hard economic times we will not except concessions and we ARE concerned about those members who may lose their jobs as a result of slashing budgets and by no fault of their own. I hope our members pay attention to what is happening at the Capitol and hold their elected representatives accountable for the actions they take. Why do we always except balancing budgets on the backs of those who make the least?

*Randy G. Yager  
Custodian  
ISD 882  
Monticello MN*



*SEIU Local 284 members receive recognition for outstanding leadership in their units.*



**Congratulations Scholarship Winners!**

Thomas Curry - son of Kathleen Curry, West St. Paul ISD 197  
 Eric Hills - son of Michelle Hills Maplewood-N St Paul, ISD 622  
 Kathryn Jones - daughter of Karie Jones, White Bear Lake ISD 624



# SEIU LOCAL 284

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## Calendar of Events

### LOCAL 284 OFFICERS

Executive Director:	Carol Nieters
President:	Keith Niemi
Vice Presidents:	Paul Wuethrich Sandy Ringler
Trustees:	Brian Dimberg Mark Hanson Jill Payne
Members at Large:	Val Brott Bob Cook Sue Kreft Mark Krey
Sergeant at Arms:	Valerie Rolstad
Senior Member:	Marion Conwell Vaughan Holmes

The Officers of Local 284 make up the Executive Board. Executive Board meetings are open to all members in good standing. Please contact Union headquarters if you would like to attend.

July- No Meeting

- May 6** **North Regional Lobby Day**  
Contact Sarah at sarahh@local284.com
- May 21** **SEIU Local 284 Executive Board and General Membership Meeting**  
4pm E-Board, 6:30 General Mbr Meeting  
SEIU Local 284 Office
- June 7 and 8** **SEIU 284 Outing with the St Paul Saints**  
Pre-game picnic on the 7th at 10:05, Spot #9
- June 18** **SEIU Local 284 Executive Board and General Membership Meeting**  
4pm E-Board, 6:30 General Mbr Meeting  
312 Central Ave NE Suite 215 Mpls 55414
- August 2-5** **MSNA Annual Conference**  
DECC, Duluth
- August 9** **SEIU Day at the Zoo**