

*We provide a clean, safe, nurturing place for students to learn and grow.*

*We support teachers, faculty, and families.*

*We work hard to provide for our families and we give back to our communities.*

**A UNION OF MEMBERS  
POWERFUL ENOUGH TO  
MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

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Check us out on the web for more information:

- \* Upcoming Events
- \* Member Stories and More

[www.seiu284.org](http://www.seiu284.org)



## **Welcome Back!**

We hope the school year has gotten off to a good start for you. A new school year brings many new faces. Please remember to welcome all new hires and ask them to join us as a union members.

You can notify your steward(s) to make contact with new hires, you can get a membership authorization card from your unit steward(s), or they can sign up as a union member on our website at [www.seiu284.org](http://www.seiu284.org) – under the Member Resources tab, click Membership Application!



## **Summer Fun with SEIU**

This past summer, our union provided a number of great opportunities for us to connect with each other and with members of other SEIU Locals and their families.

On Friday, June 19 we had an SEIU day with the St Paul Saints. We had a pre-game picnic before attending the outdoor baseball game at the new CHS Field to watch the St. Paul Saints and the Gary Southshore Rail Cats.

On Sunday, August 9 we had the SEIU Zoo Day at the MN Zoo in Apple Valley. Over 4,500 SEIU members and their families enjoyed free admission!

During the months of July and August, SEIU held regional member picnics across the state in Buffalo, Crosby, Minneapolis, Rochester and Sauk Rapids. Members enjoyed burgers, hotdogs and good conversation.

We hope that you were able to attend one or more of these fun events. If you were not able to attend, our hope is that you will be able to attend one or more of these events next year. Best wishes for a successful 2015-2016 school year!

## **Paraprofessional Training**



Paraprofessional members in our union have long advocated for ongoing training and strategies for working with students with specific disabilities. On August 20, we hosted our first “Back to School Training” as a members-only benefit, and 130 paraprofessional members from two dozen school districts across the state attended.

Presenters included NAMI MN, Autism MN (AuMN), MN Brain Injury Alliance and the MN Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS). Attendees gave the conference great reviews!

**SAVE THE DATE: our next paraprofessional conference will be Thursday, October 15th from 9-11 AM.**

MOFAS will join us for a follow-up workshop about fetal alcohol syndrome. All members are welcome to attend. We will send information out soon to all paraprofessional members. Register online at <http://284.seiu.org/para101515>. For more information, email Laurie Stammer at [Laurie@local284.com](mailto:Laurie@local284.com)

## Reach Every Member Campaign

by Carol Nieters,  
Executive Director

Victories like increasing education funding prove our power when we stick together, and they mean better and more stable work for our members and school support staff around the state.



To ensure we have the power we need to continue achieving these results, we recently started reaching out to get everyone involved. We have been talking to members and all workers in our union in many districts, at member events, back to school events, new hire orientations, at work sites, on the phone and even door-to-door.

In the next few weeks, we are stepping it up with our Executive Board and member leaders participating in our “Reach Every Member” blitz. We will be asking members to pledge support for fair wages and benefits, quality education for students, and keeping your union strong. We will also be asking those who are not yet members of our union to do the same.

Soon, there will be members and staff at our workplaces asking about the challenges we face on the job and in our communities, and discussing what we can do about these challenges together.

Across the country, thousands of working people are coming together in a bigger way in the Fight for \$15 to raise wages, strengthen our economy and give everyone a fair shot at a good future. Hundreds of thousands of people are on the path to \$15 by standing together and working together to lift wages. We can spark this change in our workplaces by working together and keeping our union strong.

Watch for more information coming soon, or join today at [www.seiu284.org](http://www.seiu284.org).

*If you have an article or suggestion for the newsletter, please contact Andy Running at [andrear@local284.com](mailto:andrear@local284.com)*

## NEW OPPORTUNITY: Member of the Year Award

by Keith Niemi, President

SEIU Local 284 has established a Member of the Year Award program to recognize members who have exemplified the values of Local 284 and live the life that our Mission Statement has set forth. You are free to nominate your co-workers or yourself. You may visit our website to get a nomination form or you may contact our office to request to have one mailed to you. Nominations must be postmarked no later than October 31, 2015 to be considered. Finalists will be interviewed by the Member of the Year Award Committee and will be recognized at the SEIU Local 284 Leadership Assembly, which will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2016.

In addition, the member who is chosen this year will have the opportunity to be recognized at the White House in Washington D.C. sometime during the month of May 2016. The member will be recognized along with other school employees as Champions of Change. This will be part the NCCESU Spring Meeting and Congressional Lobbying in Washington D.C.

SEIU Local is a founding member of the National Coalition of Classified Education Support Employee Unions (NCCESU). The NCCESU is a made up of Unions that exclusively represent School Employees. Together the coalition unites over one million workers who work in public schools.

## 2016 Legislative Session and School Board Screenings

by Corinne Horowitz, Political Organizing Director

SEIU Local 284 is already gearing up for the 2016 Legislative Session and working to keep education funding a priority at the Capitol. In another year with a budget surplus, we believe legislators should invest in education from Cradle to Career, and make improvements to the racial achievement and equity gap for students. Stay tuned for details as the campaign rolls out over the next few months.

In addition, members in seven school districts – White Bear Lake, Mounds View, Eden Prairie, Rosemount, West St Paul, Orono and Bloomington have screened and are recommending candidates for our union to endorse for school board in their local school district elections. The Orono School Board candidate screening is the only screening remaining and will be held on Wednesday, September 23rd. For more information or to attend this screening, email [Corinne@local284.com](mailto:Corinne@local284.com)

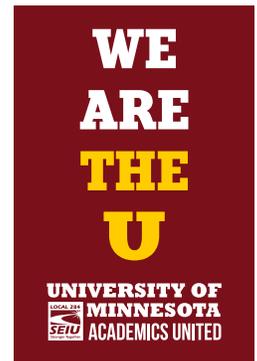
# U of M Faculty Campaign Moves Forward

*Instructional Faculty Plan to File for Election This Semester*

Faculty at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities have been working with SEIU Local 284 to form a union since last year, and their work continued over the summer while students and most faculty are away from campus. Faculty members on the Organizing Committee spoke with other faculty in their departments to gain support, held Question & Answer sessions off campus, and conducted a survey amongst researchers which received nearly 200 responses.

On September 24, there will be a public event on Northrop Plaza entitled “Whose University?” that will include both faculty and students in a teach-in and live music performances. Two events are planned for October: a joint forum with the AAUP, and a round table on state and federal funding for research at the U. Faculty have also begun discussing how we can all work together in education — from early childhood to K-12 to higher education — to ensure the state legislature invests in education from Cradle to Career using our expected \$1 billion state surplus next year.

Tenured, tenure-track, and contingent faculty intend to file for a union election together as one Instructional Faculty bargaining unit later this semester.



## 2015 Leadership Assembly: STRONGER TOGETHER, WE WIN!



**Carpenter's Hall**  
710 Olive St., St Paul, MN  
Saturday, October 24

8:30 A.M. Registration; continental breakfast served  
9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. Member Meeting and Assembly



Join union leaders from around the state as we plan for a brighter tomorrow. Our October Leadership Assembly charts the course for the coming year and our future. At this year's assembly, we will:

- Learn about our Member of the Year Program
- First Reading of Bylaws Change
- Vote on our 2016 budget and a dues cap
- Nominate officers for our union's Executive Board that are up for election in 2015
- Hear about our preparations for an upcoming U.S. Supreme Court decision and Right to Work
- Engage in planning to chart out our 2016 legislative initiatives: Cradle to Career education funding, Unemployment for school support employees and retirement –all issues our members care about.

To register, contact your CO/IO or visit our website at <http://284.seiu.org/la102415>

### Offices Up For Election

- President—3-year term
- 2nd Vice President—1-year term
- Trustee—3 year term
- Member-at-Large—3-year term
- Member-at-Large—3-year term

### SEIU Local 284 Officer Nominations

**Article V, Section 2**—Any nominee who is unopposed shall be deemed elected without the necessity for further procedures.

**Article V, Section 5**—No member shall be eligible for nomination or election to the office of Trustee or Member-At-Large unless the member is actively employed under a collective bargaining agreement in Local 284's jurisdiction at the time of the election. Any member may be nominated and elected to the office of Executive Director, President, Vice President....No member shall be eligible for nomination or election as an officer in this Local Union unless he or she has been a member two (2) years immediately preceding the nomination and continuously in good standing of this Local Union and is paying at least the minimum dues required for working members.



## LOCAL 284 OFFICERS

**Executive Director:** Carol Nieters  
**President:** Keith Niemi  
**Vice Presidents:** Mark Hanson  
 Open Seat  
**Trustees:** Anna Angeles-Farris  
 Steve Miltich  
 Sue McNertney  
**Members at Large:** Anne Bipes  
 Bob Cook  
 Dan Long  
 Valerie Rolstad  
 Amanda Reineck  
**Sergeant at Arms:** Terri Buttleman  
**Senior Member:** Ginia Klamecki

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.

## LOCAL 284 MEETINGS

**October 22** – Executive Board Mtg: 3PM (Local 284 Office)

**October 24 – Leadership Assembly: 8:30AM Registration**  
**Carpenter’s Hall, 710 Olive Street, Saint Paul, MN**  
**\*\*Includes Nomination of Officers\*\***

**November 19** – Exec. Board Mtg: 3PM (Local 284 Office)

**December 10** – Exec. Board Mtg: 3PM (Local 284 Office)

**December 10** – Budget, Dues & Finance Cmte Mtg: 6PM

### Trainings & Conferences

**September 26** – Steward Conference, New Brighton

**October 15** – Paraprofessional Conference

## Change of Address or Phone Number?

**Please let us know by contacting our office at 651-256-9100 or TerriB@local284.com**