

AFSCME Mourns the Passing of Union Sister Rep. Diane Loeffler

Our labor family mourns the death of AFSCME sister and State Rep. Diane Loeffler, who died last week after a battle with cancer. She was 66.

A dedicated and tireless public servant, Rep. Loeffler represented Northeast Minneapolis for 15 years in the Minnesota State Legislature. She dedicated her career to helping our most vulnerable neighbors by providing the high-quality public services we all depend on.

Members who advocated at the Capitol found a willing and eager partner in Loeffler, who was always ready to fight for core services and the public employees who deliver them. She served as chairperson of the Property and Local Tax Division Committee, and also served on the Health and Human Services Policy Committee, among other assignments.

Loeffler was a champion for working families, not just in the Legislature, but also as a public employee and an AFSCME union member herself. She was a member of Local 2864 in her role as a health care policy analyst for Hennepin County, focusing her efforts on services for seniors and people with disabilities, as well as expanding access to affordable health coverage.

A lifetime resident of Northeast Minneapolis, Rep. Loeffler graduated from Edison High School and earned degrees in social science and education from Augsburg College.

Loeffler often described a very personal reason for fighting on behalf of the most vulnerable: her aunt Lil, who was born with Down syndrome. Her aunt's experience taught Rep. Loeffler that government could be a powerful force for good on our community, and it fueled her passion for public policy throughout her life.

The entire AFSCME community mourns the loss of this tireless advocate for working families and sends our deepest condolences to Rep. Loeffler's loved ones.



2017: Child protection workers meet with state Rep. Diane Loeffler and other lawmakers to win more staffing. Hefty caseloads are unsafe for children of all ages, including young adults growing too old for services.

Attend a Council 5 Regional Planning Meeting

As part of our strategic plan, AFSCME leaders are holding recurring regional planning meetings for members across the state. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for members to build solidarity with folks from other locals, as well as a space for planning collective work to advance our union's mission based on each region's specific needs, issues and interests.

Local leaders are invited to attend each of the following first-round regional meetings:

- **St. Cloud: Dec. 11, 4:00 pm**
VFW 428, 9-18th Ave. N.
St Cloud, MN
- **Duluth: Dec. 18, 4:00 pm**
Lake Michigan/Huron Room
Holiday Inn, 200 W. 1st St.
Duluth, MN
- **Brainerd: Jan. 8, 4:00 pm**
Location to be determined
- **Bemidji: Jan. 22, 4:00 pm**
Location to be determined

All members are invited to attend the upcoming second-round meetings. Stay tuned for more opportunities to gather with fellow AFSCME members in your region!

- **West Metro: Jan. 24 & Apr. 22**
4:30 pm; 312 Central Ave. SE,
Minneapolis, MN (Room 365)
- **East Metro: Dec. 4, 4:00 pm**
300 Hardman Ave S.,
South St. Paul (Hennessy Room)
- **Mankato: Jan. 21, 5:00 pm**
Jake's Stadium Pizza
330 Stadium Rd, Mankato, MN



Stand Up to Union Busters with Your AFSCME Family this Black Friday

This Black Friday, we're standing up to the blatant anti-union antics of Guess Jeans founders, the Marciano family, who recently laid off 70 workers at their art museum (the MAF) just days after they voted to form a union.

Please join us this Black Friday (**Nov. 29**) at the Guess Factory Outlet in the Albertville Premium Outlets from 9–11 am to show strong support for the fired MAF workers and tell the Marcianos to do the right thing: reopen MAF, reinstate the wronged workers, and recognize their union.

Check out supportMAFunion.org to get the details and sign a petition telling the Marciano family to do the right thing!

Vision Duluth Seeking Member Input

As a partner of the Vision Duluth coalition, we're reaching out to members for input on the coalition's next campaign. In 2018, Duluth City Council passed the Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) ordinance, which goes into effect Jan. 1, 2020.

Vision Duluth was integral in the formation and passing of this law.

Please take a moment to fill out a short online survey at bit.ly/visionduluth, to help us move forward on what matters most to people that live in Duluth and what people want to see happen in their communities. Contact Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org with questions.

St. Louis County Members Reach TA

The Local 66 St. Louis County unit negotiating team has reached a tentative agreement! The team was backed up by a strong contract campaign, heavy member engagement through collective actions, and a massively successful petition calling on the County to bargain a fair contract that doesn't shift all of the cost of funding health insurance on to workers. They got over 750 signatures.

Congratulations to all, and a huge thank you to the members of the SLC negotiating team for the time, energy and passion you put in to making this contract agreement possible!

MSRS Board Elections Approaching

Attention members and retirees of the Minnesota State Retirement System pension program! The MSRS Board of Directors is responsible for the oversight of our pension administration, fiduciary health and investment decisions. Keep an eye out for your MSRS Board Election ballot in the mail this upcoming February!

Hennepin County Takes Action

Members of multiple AFSCME Hennepin County locals spoke up about sexual harassment and sexual violence in the workplace at the last County Board meeting. The County must prioritize improving the working environment so that everyone is safe in Hennepin County worksites. We asked for expansion of safety and

harassment policies, increased visibility of said policies, and an improved and mandatory sexual harassment training for all Hennepin County employees, with the partnership of the Minneapolis Sexual Violence Center. AFSCME members have worked with management to construct a Trauma Informed Management checklist, and push the County to move forward in this effort.

Celebrate St. Paul Electoral Victories!

You're invited to the inaugural event for our Saint Paul City Council electeds!

- St. Paul City Council Inauguration: Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020, 4:30 pm; Ordway Theater, St. Paul
- Saint Paul Board of Education Swearing-In & Annual Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020, 6:45 pm; 360 Colborne Street, St. Paul (Administration Building)

Go Paperless with Action Update

All our Action Updates are available at afscmemn.org in printable PDF form. Do you currently receive paper copies of Action Update and would like to make a switch to digital-only? Contact Gail.Grant@afscmemn.org.

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
St Cloud Council 5 Regional Planning Meeting	Weds., Dec. 11; 4PM	VFW Post 428 9-18th Ave. N., St. Cloud
Duluth Council 5 Regional Planning Meeting	Weds., Dec. 18; 4PM	Duluth Holiday Inn, Lake Michigan/Huron Rm
St. Paul City Council Inauguration Party	Tues., Jan. 7, 2020; 4:30 PM	Ordway Theater, St. Paul
Saint Paul Board of Education Swearing-In & Annual Meeting	Tues., Jan. 7, 2020; 6:45 PM	Administration Building 360 Colborne St., St. Paul

