



The Classifieds

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN LuAnne Beintema

Welcome to the start of a New Year! My hope is for this year that it's filled with blessings for you and your family and also a renewed enthusiasm for your position and the children of FSD 145.

Let's dive into the 2nd half of the school year with a commitment to making FSD 145 a better place for classified employees to work. Start the New Year off right by attending your union meetings. Join us January 8th at 4:30 at the Freeport Public Library. Know what USW can do for you, understand your contract, and stay informed!

The question was brought to me, "Since paraeducators are short staffed, do we get extra money or a stipend for doing extra duties?" The answer, unfortunately, is no. However, the subject of para shortage was addressed with board office administration through the Classified Advisory Council. Together we have come up with a solution to the shortage of paraeducators.

Because the cost to become a paraeducator is high, the District has agreed to cover the cost of qualifying candidates, and the candidate would reimburse the District over a period of time.

Since we have to wait for language from FSD attorneys and a set schedule plan for reimbursement, this solution won't be in place until spring at the earliest. However, Dr. Schiffman has promised to update me by February on the status of this. When I hear more I will pass this info to you. Hopefully some of you know people who would be interested in working as a paraeducator and would be interested in utilizing this program. Join our Facebook group **USW Classified Staff of FSD 145** to hear news regarding this and other information concerning our unit. I always post news as I receive it there first.

January 15th is the next Classified Advisory Council meeting. This is a council of five people that meet every other month with board office administration. The purpose of this group is to fix issues or concerns

January 4, 2019
Volume 20, Issue 1

In this Issue

A Few Thoughts from the Unit Chairman

The More You Know

What Does the Union Do For Me

AMRP

5 Ways to Contact your Union

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Fax: (815) 232-7762
E-Mail: uswlocal745@comcast.net
Mail: 2496 E. Maize Rd.
Freeport, IL 61032
Website: uswlocals.org/local-745-freeport-il

United Steelworkers

Local Union No. 745
2496 E. Maize Road
Freeport, IL 61032

815/235-9713

before they become a problem. If you have a concern or a question, email me and if I don't have an answer for you, I will put it on the agenda to be discussed at this meeting.

Highlights of District 145 December 11, 2018 Membership Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. with 12 in attendance

Roll Call of Officers- all present except Rickey
Motion to bypass reading of last month's minutes.

Reports of Membership Actions-

New USW 745 T-shirt sale.
IceHogs Hockey Game Jan. 26th to Support Autism awareness night. Tickets available at Union office \$22 each.

Committee meetings-

GNC- new updated paraeducator review forms for Spring of 2019
Sickness bank- reviewed language to policy to change = more coverage
Health Insurance Committee- new mail order is CastriaRX and new card will be mailed April 2019.
Advisory Council- Copy Codes are available
Pay for all members to be year round.
Para shortage is still an issue. Looking for outside possible funding for licensing fees.

Making all entrances to be professional looking like FMS for all security personal.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

It was a pretty short meeting! Hope that you had an amazing Christmas. I'll have an email reminder about the next meeting on the 8th sent to you by Friday morning. Many blessings in the 2019 year!!

*Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Misek
Unit Secretary*



JOIN US ON

FACEBOOK at USW Classified Staff of FSD 145. If you can't find it, send LuAnne Beintema a friend request. LuAnne posts news and information as it is received.



This Month's Events

Date: January 8
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Freeport Public Library
District 145 Membership Meeting

Date: January 13
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Union Office
Local 745 Membership Meeting

Date: January 15
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Freeport Middle School
Administrative Board Meeting

Next Month's Events

Date: February 5
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Freeport Middle School
Administrative Board Meeting

Date: February 10
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Union Office
Local 745 Membership Meeting

Date: February 12
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Freeport Public Library
District 145 Membership Meeting

Date: February 19
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Freeport Middle School
Administrative Board Meeting

THE MORE YOU KNOW . . .

With the flu season in full swing, I wanted to make sure everyone was aware of how the policy for using sick days works. Employees working under 10 years receive 10 sick and 2 personal days per year and employees who have worked over 10 years receive 12 sick and 2 personal days. Unused personal days turn into sick days at the end of a school year and sick days will accumulate from year to year.

Always be mindful of how many sick days you have. If you use up all of your sick days you will use what is called a “dock” day if you are absent again. **An employee who uses all of their sick days plus uses 3 dock days in a school year is subject to termination.**

Bottom line, be aware of the number of sick days you have and stay away from using dock days. Keep your job safe!

SUPER BOWL MUNCH MIX

- 2 c. cheddar flavored snack crackers
- 2 c. thin pretzel sticks, broken
- 2 c. sesame snack sticks
- 2 c. Life cereal
- 2 c. Cheerios
- 1 c. Wheat Chex
- 1 c. Corn Chex
- 1 1/2 c. unsalted dry roasted peanuts
- 1/2 c. butter, melted
- 1/2 c. canola oil
- 2 tsp. seasoned salt
- 1 1/2 tsp garlic powder

In a large bowl, combine crackers, pretzels, sesame sticks, cereals and nuts. In a small bowl, combine the rest of the ingredients. Drizzle over cereal mixture; toss to coat. Spread into two greased 15x10x1 inch baking pans. Bake 250° for 1 hour - stirring every 15 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Store in airtight containers.

WHAT DOES THE UNION DO FOR ME?

Todd Hastings

I would like to welcome everyone back from Christmas break, hoping it was enjoyable for all.

I get asked a lot of times what does the Union do for me:

Workers have been able to overcome enormous obstacles and make significant improvements in their lives and workplaces. Workers in unions have been able to negotiate their hours and a place of work that protects workers and product quality. They have also been able to confront abusive managers and win wages and benefits that can support families. Organized workers have helped build a more democratic political system. They have been at the forefront of struggles for a minimum wage, an eight-hour day, an end to child labor, safer workplaces, and civil rights. Today, workers are continuing the over 200-year old struggle to organize unions and build a labor movement that makes communities vibrant and makes this country a more humane place to live and work.

AMRP

Reminder: If you work at least 5 hours a day and do not receive the District's health insurance, you qualify to receive the \$1000 AMRP medical reimbursement plan. This benefit accumulates each year and you do not lose it. Now that it is January, you have access to your \$1000 for 2019. Need to pay off medical bills, get a new pair of glasses or dental work for you or a family member? Utilize this plan, that's what it is here for! Mail or fax a Northern IL Healthplan form with your receipt for reimbursement.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Tim Kleckner	FMS	6
Sheryl Hoff	Carl Sandburg	8
Catherine Cornelius	Center	8
Elizabeth Love-Hamlin	Lincoln Douglas	9
Darlean Brooks	Senior High	10
Ruth Cross	Senior High	13
Patricia Siemens	Center	14
Kyle Larson	FMS	22
Wayne Cauthen	FMS	25
Connie Zettle	Carl Sandburg	27



Friends and Family Discount Program

A Friends and Family Program Discount card can be picked up at the Union office at 2496 E. Maize Road or by contacting a G.N.C. member. Area participating businesses include: Butitta Brothers, CarQuest, Brightflower Nursery, Big O's, 4 Seasons Bowling, Loescher Heating, Hampton Inn, Cimino's Little Italy, Amsoil, Carlson Canine Camp, Freeport Quiznos, Auto Logic, and TJ's Truck Accessories.



*Coming together is a beginning;
 keeping together is progress;
 working together is success.*