



# The Classifieds

## A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN LuAnne Beintema

Spring is finally here, but with the arrival of spring came flooding that caused my home school, Taylor Park, to close. I am sure you saw the pictures either on Facebook or in the news. Before we left school on March 15, Classified Staff were notified where they were to work the following Monday, March 18, if flooding were to occur as anticipated, which as we all know is exactly what happened.

I reported to Empire Elementary on March 17 and 18 and was met with warmth and kindness, and my paraeducator co-workers who went to other schools all said the same. So thank you all for showing solidarity to fellow members and making us feel at home in your schools.

On Tuesday, March 18, we were told a 'pop-up' school was in the works at the Boys and Girls Club. I didn't know how that could be possible but in this case it truly took a village. The King Center opened their arms to us. Head Start moved their classroom

upstairs to make extra room for our kindergartners. Grade levels from different schools sent over supplies, worksheets, and books. Food service supplied us with snacks and meals for our kids. On Wednesday, March 19, we opened doors at the King Center for 82 students, and for the 20 and 21 we averaged roughly one hundred each day. The kids were grateful and happy to be at 'school'. As a staff we ended the day on the 21st exhausted and humbled by the love we received from everyone.

Writing this during spring break I am told that Taylor Park is anticipated to be open after break. Please keep your thoughts and prayers coming that this happens.

The Classified Advisory Council brought up in the March meeting to administration the ability to have food service employees make up the 6 Act of God days **if they choose to**. Paraeducators are given the opportunity so why not food service? HR is looking into different options for food service to make up these hours. Look for more information to come pertaining to this soon. And as always, join our

April 1, 2019  
Volume 20, Issue 4

## In this Issue

A Few Thoughts from the Unit Chairman

The More You Know

### 5 Ways to Contact your Union

Phone: (815) 235-9713  
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

Facebook group USW Classified Staff of FSD145 for up to date information as I always post news there first.

**Highlights of District 145  
March 12, 2019  
Membership Meeting**

LuAnne, Andrea, Ricky were present for officers. Call to order at 4:30 by LuAnne.

No meeting held in February due to weather.

**REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP**  
by Todd:

Mike Millsap will be in Freeport area on April 4 and 5. He will be touring the Titan Plant and Valspar/SW plants. Valspar/SW voting on the contract that will change the way they are compensated in their 401K. USW down to 850,000 members currently. School Unit coming into their 20th Anniversary being in the union. Possibly have a celebration with the Retiree's and local in June/July. Also looking for anyone interested in joining the union or anyone looking to organize with a union, please let Todd know at the union hall.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

GNC-NO outstanding grievances Summer school applications were filled out and sent in.

Sick bank-Seeking clarification on how long an employee has to be employed to use days from the sick bank. Pat Siemens will check into it.

Health Insurance Committee-NIHP will monitor the usage of the ER. Possible premiums will increase if usage continues. Now Tier 2 meds are being allowed to

be filled monthly at local pharmacies. Classified Advisory Council-Looking into desk at HS for security, when snack bar will be opened at the HS, and inquires into the sick bank. The Board Office is looking into letting food service members make up the Act of God snow days if they choose to.

SCHOOLS:  
LD- SHORTAGE OF PARA'S

**Old Business-**  
Offering all retired PARA's the opportunity to come back at their leaving pay to sub. District looking for Para's and willing to pay for part of their licensing fee if they agree to work 2 full years. If fired or let go, they will have to repay the District.

**New Business-**  
Minimum wage in the state of Illinois is gradually being raised. More information to come.

Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Andrea Misek  
USW 745-LO1 Unit Secretary



**This Month's  
Events**

**Date:** April 9  
**Time:** 4:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Public Library  
*District 145 Membership Meeting*

**Date:** April 14  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Union Office  
*Local 745 Membership Meeting*

**Date:** April 16  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Carl Sandburg  
*Administrative Board Meeting*

**Next Month's  
Events**

**Date:** May 14  
**Time:** 4:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Public Library  
*District 145 Membership Meeting*

**Date:** May 19  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Union Office  
*Local 745 Membership Meeting*

### THE MORE YOU KNOW . . .

*“Probationary Period: All employees hired on or after July 1, 2011, will serve a probationary period for 80 school days following each employee’s first day of active employment in the District, during which time the employee may be discharged for any reason in the sole and non-reviewable discretion of the Superintendent. Probationary employees who are in positions qualifying for District-provided health insurance will be eligible for health insurance benefits on the first day of active employment.”*

This contract clause is pretty self-explanatory. This means for the first 80 school days of employment with the District you can be terminated for any reason at any time. We have had this happen this year. Do your best, watch your sick day usage, be on time, and notify us if you are having any conflicts or problems. It is our desire to assist you in making your job with FSD a fulfilling one.

#### Rice Krispie Peep Treats

- 7 cups Rice Krispies, divided
- 9 4-count packages of peeps, in three different colors
- 4 ½ T butter, divided

#### Directions:

1. Grease a 8 x 8” baking dish with cooking spray and line with parchment paper. Then grease parchment paper with cooking spray.
2. In a medium, microwave-safe bowl, combine 2 1/3 cups Rice Krispies, 12 peeps of one color, and 1 ½ T butter, then microwave until Peeps expand and butter is melted, about 40 seconds. Combine until fully mixed.
3. Spread Peep mixture into baking dish then press to flatten. Repeat with remaining colors.
4. Refrigerate until solid, about 15 minutes. Slice, serve, and enjoy!

## SPOTLIGHT ON:

**Tabatha Sherrer**

Tabatha is a Specialized Para and has had various positions with the Freeport School District. She was a lunchroom recess supervisor from 2014 to 2017, crossing guard 2015 to 2016, and a specialized paraeducator since 2017 to the present. Before joining FSD she I was a CNA for 14 years. "I have always wanted to work in a field where I can make a difference in someone’s life."

Tabatha is married and has 3 children and 3 step children. My children are 22, 18, and 13 and my stepchildren are 21, 23, and 25and have all graduated from the Freeport School District.

She loves to be outdoors and spending time with her family and friends. She also likes helping others in the community. "We like to go to the parks, play football, go swimming, have cookouts, and go on vacations."

She is a PRETZEL (attended Freeport High School) and Highland Community College. She is a Union Steward and a member of the Advisory Council.

When you see Tabatha and her cheery smile, be sure to say, "Thank you for all you do for the students of the Freeport School District."



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK at USW Classified Staff of FSD 145.

UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 745  
2496 E MAIZE RD  
FREEPORT IL 61032

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Sally Schnell	Senior High	18
LuAnne Beintema	Taylor Park	20
Tiffany Marten	Center	21

### 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.



**UNION-MADE  
EASTER**

**CANDIES:**

- Peeps
- Jelly Bellies
- Tootsie Rolls
- Laffy Taffy
- Mike and Ikes

**MEATS:**

- Butterball ham
- Hormel honey roasted ham
- Fischer Meats lamb
- Tyson Foods ham

**AFLCIO.ORG/EASTER**

AFL-CIO



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