



# The Classifieds

## A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN

LuAnne Beintema

*"The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May."* - Edwin Way Teale

Welcome to May and the winding down of the 2018/19 school year. For many this time of year brings joy as the anticipation of summer break starts to take shape. And yes, I will be one of those people counting the days!

Please join us on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in the Taylor Park library for our end of the year meeting/retirement celebration. There will be a ceremony for the retirees and refreshments following the meeting. Come join us to help wish our fellow members a long and happy retirement as we celebrate them and the end of the school year. This will be our last USW meeting until August. Come join the fun!

The Grievance and Negotiating Committee (G.N.C.) Andrea Misek, Denise Hayunga, Ricky Robinson, Cindy Erb, and I have enjoyed our first year working to make the relationship between USW

and FSD a productive one. Since not all changes are noticeable by members, some accomplishments made this school year by the G.N.C. include:

- Allowing sick days for Para educators to use to make up the Act of God days.
- Allowing food service members to make up the Act of God days by working after school is out.
- Retirees who would like to come back and sub will make their ending salary effective next school year.
- Allowances are being made for those wanting to become Para educators for the District to cover license/fee expenses if they stay employed two years. Hopefully this will help with our shortage problem.
- Employees wishing to work summer school will make their normal hourly wage starting this summer.

Speaking on behalf of the G.N.C. team, I would like to say what an honor it has been serving you all this school year and I look forward to next year. Have you ever thought of becoming more involved? Start by attending your

May 7, 2019  
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## 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

monthly meetings (May 14<sup>th</sup>). We will also be holding a steward training workshop sometime in July or early August. Email me if you would like to be put on the list to attend. We welcome anyone interested. A steward is someone who would sit in on a discipline meeting and take detailed notes for us. Also, if you are on Facebook, join our group *USW Classified Staff of FSD145* as I always post news pertaining to our unit there first. Be involved, stay notified. Remember, alone we can do little. But together we can do so much.

Wishing everyone a restful and relaxing summer break!

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

LuAnne called the meeting to order at 4:25pm.  
Roll Call of Officers- all present except Rickey Robinson  
Motion to bypass minutes of last meeting

Report of Membership Actions  
Mike Millsap visited April 4 and 5. Members of the GNC and EBoard of Titan, Sherwin Williams and FSD145 met with him. Mike gave us the rundown of what's happening on the local and international level. We are looking to organize others unions in the area as well. If anyone knows of a workplace that would work better with a union, please let Todd know.  
We are also looking to have a Picnic with current union

members and retiree's in either June/July. More info to come.

Committee Report-  
GNC: No outstanding grievances at this time.  
No time cards are needed for Para's/security who work 20 paychecks.  
Mr. McDermott has agreed to pay Para's their normal pay while working Summer School.

Health Insurance Committee-  
There are lots of ER visits this year. Please continue to use MDLive. FHN last day at Shopko is April 30. You can use Physicians Immediate Care but your individual deductible applies.  
Please continue to call NIHP with any questions that apply to your plans concerning coverage and deductibles.

Classified Advisory Council-  
Food Service is now allowed to make up the Act of God days. She will then assign people to clean kitchens the week of 6/5-6/12.  
Rickey Robinson revisited the need for security/safety at FHS.  
New Camera's have been ordered.  
The snack bar at the HS is a work in progress. McDermott and Mrs. Williams are in the process of finalizing this.

Schools-  
FMS- only concerns were reviews and when those will be given

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Andrea Misek  
USW 745-LO1 Unit Secretary

## This Month's Events

**Date:** May 7  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Middle School  
*Administrative Board Meeting*

**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*

**Date:** May 21  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Middle School  
*Administrative Board Meeting*

## Next Month's Events

**Date:** June 4  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Middle School  
*Administrative Board Meeting*

**Date:** June 16  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Union Office  
*Local 745 Membership Meeting*

**Date:** June 18  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Freeport Middle School  
*Administrative Board Meeting*

THE MORE YOU KNOW . . .

**Informational Letter:** Not later than July 15<sup>th</sup> of each school year the District will provide each Bargaining Unit employee with an informational letter setting forth the following information:

- i. The employee's date of hire.
- ii. The employee's accrued seniority.
- iii. The employee's scheduled number of work days in the coming school year.
- iv. The employee's number of personal days.
- v. The employee's accrued sick leave days and the number of days allotted for the coming school year.
- vi. The employee's rate of pay for the coming school year.
- vii. The employee's scheduled regular number of hours per work day, completing all regular hours.
- viii. The employee's building assignment.
- ix. A reminder of employee payroll options and annual election period.
- x. The starting date for the school year and the employee's first scheduled work day.

Be sure to check this letter over when it arrives this summer to make sure the above information is correct. If for whatever reason you are assigned to a different school, you would need to look online at available openings and apply if you do not wish to go to the new school. Specialized paraeducators are sometimes moved if their student moves away, if their student is attending a different school, or various other reasons. Apply asap if you do not want to work at the school assigned to you. Though remember, as Classified members we are employees of the District, not of a certain school.

# SPOTLIGHT ON:

**Ginger Holbert**

This month we are Spotighting Ginger Holbert. Ginger has worked for the Freeport School District for 9 years. "I have always worked as a Specialized Para in different areas, including Lifeskills, PACC and Gen Ed." I like building relationships with the students and watching their growth. I love when they have that "Ah Ha" moment and something suddenly clicks." I appreciate all the work our Union does to help support the staff.

I grew up in Red Oak, Illinois - a small town where the saying "it takes a village to raise a child" was lived.

Ginger went to Orangeville Schools. While at Orangeville High School, she was always on the honor roll. Unfortunately she dropped out of school in the 11th grade but she went to Highland to complete her GED which she also completed with honors.

"I have been married to Tom Holbert for 40 years. We have 4 amazing children: Jessica, who is a Special Ed teacher at FHS, Joel, Jocelyn and Tim. We have 9 grand children."

"I love bowling, where I coached Jr. League bowling for over 20 years and held the position of league president for my own league for several years." Ginger loves to read and spending time with her family. She also did home daycare for over 20 years while raising her children..

This year Ginger was nominated for and received the "Award of Excellence" from the State of Illinois Board of Education for her work at Freeport School District. She states, "It was very humbling to read all the kind words from my co-workers - past and present, parents of students that I have worked with and from past students."

Congratulations on your award, Ginger. You worked hard to earn it. Thank you for everything you are doing to help students at Freeport School District.



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



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Vicky Busker	Center	2
Samantha Erb	FAHS	6
Laurie Thomas	FMS	10
Andrian Allen	Carl Sandburg	12
Erika Parks	JFELC	14
Alison Rosheisen	FMS	17
Arika Prather	FMS	20
Andrea Misek	Taylor Park	21
Janet Schubert	Carl Sandburg	23
Sandra Hilton	Carl Sandburg	24
Jennifer Lepka	FMS	24
Barbara Nye	Carl Sandburg	26
Vanessa Brown	FMS	28
Kay Deprisco	Carl Sandburg	31

**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.*