



# The Classifieds

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### **United Steelworkers**

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

**815/235-9713**

## **A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN**

LuAnne Beintema

The 2020/21 school year, whoever would have thought we would be in the middle of a pandemic with words like quarantine and remote as part of our new daily vocabulary, and instead of khakis and a polo the new dress code now involves hand sanitizer and a face mask? Crazy, right?

Because of Covid, negotiating our new contract was delayed until September. The GNC (myself, Andrea Misek, Denise Hayunga, Cindy Erb, and Ricky Robinson) worked over the summer going over our current contract and writing up proposals for a new one before our first negotiation meeting September 10<sup>th</sup> with Chris Shockey and FSD 145 attorney John Fester. We met again on September 14<sup>th</sup>, and have another negotiation date set for September 28<sup>th</sup>. While we have yet to discuss salary, the rest of this process is going well and hopefully you will be happy with the outcome.

After the GNC and FSD have come to an agreement in regard to a new contract, USW will call a special ratification meeting where we will share with members the outcome of negotiations and what our new contract will look like including raises and any other benefits we are able to get. Those members at the ratification meeting will then vote on whether or not to accept the new contract. Pending the outcome of this vote by members, if it is accepted, the new contract will then be put into effect and any money owed to members through raises and benefits gained will be retroactive back to the first day of work for this school year and be paid out to members.

In order to attend the ratification meeting and have voting privileges, you must be a signed union card member. The majority of members are, and unless you received something from me through school mail saying you didn't, we have a signed card for you. Please keep a look out for future information and plan on attending this very important meeting.

Lastly, kudos to everyone who has stepped up to the plate this crazy new school year and kept what is really important in mind - the kids. Every classification in our Unit- Food Service, Paras, IMT's, and Security have gone above and beyond these first few weeks of school and have shown the true meaning of what we are all about, SOLIDARITY.



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

*FSD 145 Classified Staff  
Monthly union meeting  
second Tuesdays  
4:30 p.m.  
Freeport Public Library  
Please join us!*



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

## From USW 745 President

Hello classified unit

As your GNC works toward a contract, one of our goals as a union is the safety for our workers. In order to achieve a safe environment, the belief is some safety provision should be in the terms of your contract. Each one of us goes to work every day and wants to return the same as we were when we came. Please support your GNC as they try and come to a favorable contract that provides you with the health, welfare and safety you deserve.

Thanks.

*Kip Kuhlemeier*

### 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.

## THE MORE YOU KNOW . . .

### AMRP

With the start of a new school year also comes the September 1<sup>st</sup> AMRP benefit. Those members working 5+ hours per day and not receiving health insurance have had \$1,000 put into their AMRP medical reimbursement account. This benefit is how I get new glasses, dental work, and even chiro adjustments. I was surprised to hear not many of our members utilize this benefit!

Paid receipts need to be submitted before payment is reimbursed. This benefit rolls over from year to year and you do lose it if you quit or retire so if you are unsure how much money is in this account, call Northern IL Health Plan at 815-599-7050 and ask. You can also call this number to get signed up to use their app instead of mailing/faxing the forms and receipts. Also, I will be sending building mentors the link for those who want to submit paper forms. This is your benefit and money, don't lose it!

### MENTORS

To new employees, welcome! Below is a list of school mentors for this school year. A mentor is someone who has volunteered to make themselves available as a go to person. They are the person to seek out for questions and to help the new employee feel at home. Thank you to these ladies and here is to a great school year!

Mentors for the 2020/2021 school year:

Shelly Ensign and Brenda Schaefer - Empire  
 Amy Wise - Lincoln Douglas  
 LeeAnn Libby and Jenny Newman - JFELC  
 Jodi Langill - Center  
 Alisha Ditsworth - Blackhawk  
 Janet Schubert and Ginger Holbert - CSS  
 Estelle Charles and Lorraine Williams - FMS  
 Kelly Simpler and Lakinda Brown - FHS  
 Amanda Gempeler - Banks

## 4th QUARTER BIRTHDAYS

Jessica Daniels	Lincoln Douglas	10/5
Pam Kuper	Senior High	10/7
Tina Wilkens	Carl Sandburg	10/9
Jennifer Casson	Lincoln Douglas	10/9
Kathleen Williams	FMS	10/10
Denise Blum	Empire	10/15
Demonte Davis	Senior High	10/15
Sarah Snobl	Lincoln Douglas	10/15
Sandra Verhoef	Senior High	10/16
Jennifer Whitson	Senior High	10/18
Deborah Knipschild	Blackhawk	10/19
Amy Wise	Lincoln Douglas	10/22
Alisha Ditsworth	Blackhawk	10/24
Natalie Edmond	FMS	10/28
Cedric Chatman	FMS	10/29
Debra Hamilton	Senior High	10/30
Jenny Newman	JFELC	11/1
Cynthia Erb	Center	11/6
Brenda Schaefer	Empire	11/7
Denise Hayunga	JFELC	11/8
Marcia Colby	Empire	11/11
Lisa Crawford	Lincoln Douglas	11/14
Jacklyn Warfield	Blackhawk	11/23
Alelie Green	Empire	11/25
Hector Torres-Landeros	FMS	12/1
Jonathan Adams	Empire	12/11
Karen Richards	Empire	12/17
Frances Ammons	Senior High	12/18
Cashonna Cole	Senior High	12/18
Cecelia Stacy	FMS	12/22
Estelle Charles-Newton	FMS	12/23
Amy Voegeli	JFELC	12/26
Jessica Sommers	Lincoln Douglas	12/27
Kathy Reuber	FMS	12/27

### 4TH QUARTER CALENDAR

Date	Time	Location	Event
October 6	6:00 p.m.	Administrative Building	Administrative Board Meeting
October 11	9:00 a.m.	Union Office	Local 745 Membership Meeting
October 13	4:30 p.m.	Freeport Public Library	District 145 Membership Meeting
October 20	6:00 p.m.	Administrative Building	Administrative Board Meeting
November 3	6:00 p.m.	Administrative Building	Administrative Board Meeting
November 8	9:00 a.m.	Union Office	Local 745 Membership Meeting
November 10	4:30 p.m.	Freeport Public Library	District 145 Membership Meeting
November 17	6:00 p.m.	Administrative Building	Administrative Board Meeting
December 8	4:30 p.m.	Freeport Public Library	District 145 Membership Meeting
December 13	9:00 a.m.	Union Office	Local 745 Membership Meeting
December 15	6:00 p.m.	FMS	Administrative Board Meeting



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