

THE VOICE

APRIL 2024 - VOL.48-NO. 7



## FOR ISD622 EDUCATORS

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members,

If I haven't seen you in the past two weeks yet, I want to officially welcome you back from Spring Break. I hope you had an opportunity to get away from thinking about school and refresh yourselves for the final two months. Now, we can officially start the countdown to June 5th! Special Thank You to Castle Elementary for donating a lot of books for the March book drive. If you have not had an opportunity to shop for FREE books yet up at the union office, I encourage you to do so. We have books for all ages! This is a great opportunity for all members to either build their own library in their classroom or put books in a "prize box" and give them to students to keep for at home read-Let me know if you want to ina. schedule a time to come and shop for free. As always, feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Together,

Tim Kappes

#### Community Service Projects

April is Community Clean up and April 22, 2024 is Earth Day. If your school/staff does something to celebrate, or cleans up please take photos and share with Tim. Please no students in photos.

May is Feed My Starving Children. Please watch for date and sign-up.



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#### **Executive Board Meeting**

You're invited! Monday, May 6, 2024 4:15 p.m.

Cowern Elementary Library

Park in back enter door 4W

North St. Paul

#### **Important**

#### Phone Numbers

\*Tim Kappes (President) Cell: 701-640-3177 \*Jody Murphy (Vice President) Cell: 651-353-2554

\*Katie Semmerling (Treasurer) Cell: 715-897-2221

\*Mary Glagavs (Secretary) School: 651-748-6876 Cell: 651-249-6292 \*Katrina Geske (Membership) Cell: 715-456-8920

\*Jill Mueke (Membership) Cell 612-515-5686

#### Member Rights

\*Tim Kappes (Chair) Cell: 701-640-3177 \*Kent Gordon (High School) School: 651-702-8685

\*Janene Lenard (Elementary and Middle) Cell: 612-741-8508

\*Annie Hodges (Special Education)



# Contract Corner

#### **Know Your Benefits: Legal Insurance**

Did you know the district provides legal insurance? This benefit is not just in case you have a need for legal advice for work. This benefit encompasses your personal needs as well such as wills, divorces, and personal injury. Before you talk to a lawyer make sure you have the facts from the district benefits office. This could save you lots of money! The district provides a prepaid group legal insurance plan for all eligible teachers and their dependents. The coverage includes:

- Advice and Consultation: Unlimited access for all cases. Paid in full, usual and customary.
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- Office Work: 10 hours per case paid in full.
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- Defense Representations: 10 hours per case paid in full. \*Plaintiff Actions: 10 hours per case paid in full (subject to \$100 per case deductible).
- Litigation Expense: Paid in full to a maximum of \$2,500 per case.
- Survivor Benefits: In the event of death, your surviving spouse is entitled to coverage under the policy for a period of two years from the date of death.
- Major Trial Coverage: \$375 per day beginning with the third day of the trial up to \$10,000.
- To learn more about how to access your legal bene-

fits, please use the attached link: ARAG Flier

You can always access all your benefits information from the ISD 622 benefits site using the following sign in information:

USE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WHEN YOU LINK BELOW TO SMART-BEN:

User Name: Social Security number (no dashes or slashes)

Example for: 123-45-6789; Enter: 123456789 Password: Birthdate (in MMDDYYYY format) Example for: July 31, 1967; Enter: 07311967 Site: <u>Staff SmartBen Site</u>

#### April Fools' Day

In the 16th century, France Celebrated the New Year just like we do today, except they partied on April 1st. In 1562, Pope Gregory changed the calendar to the one we use today and from then on, the New Year began on January 1st. Lots of people didn't know about the new calendar, or they ignored the new calendar and kept celebrating on April 1st. Everyone else called them April fools and played tricks on them.

In France today, April 1st is called Poisson d'Avril, which means April Fish. Children tape paper fish to their friends' backs and when the young "fool" finds out, the prankster yells "Poisson d'Avril!" In England, tricks can only be played in the morning. If a trick is played on you, you are a "noodle".

#### Mandates to Renew Your Teaching License

If you are wondering what the mandates are to renew your license or are in need of hours to fulfill your requirements, our district offers classes. Just click on the link and you will find the mandates and courses. Ed Minnesota also offers courses for free for members.

622 classes for mandates





Is this your scrambled email? outlega lermegofal If so, email mglagavs@isd622.org to claim your \$10 prize!!