

## AFSCME LOCAL 4001

## Representing Minnesota State College Employees Serving Students with Pride www.AFSCMELocal4001.org

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March 25, 2019

Siblings,

I think it is safe to say that Spring is just around the corner. It has been a long winter and I hope that you all fared well.

I want to again thank everyone for the kind thoughts and get-well messages I have received. I think my leg is on the mend finally and can't wait to get back to work. I again want to thank our members who have fought for a fair contract and great health benefits; without them I would be facing a total financial disaster. I really do mean that our contract, health care, and retirement is because of every one of our members. We are truly better off together than if we were on our own.

By now, everyone should know we will be starting negotiations in the coming week for a new 2-year contract. If you want to keep up to date with how the negotiations are going this year you will need to sign into MemberLink on the Council 5 web site. Directions are attached and if you have difficulties signing in just call AFSCME Council 5 at 651-450-4990 and they will help you.

This is a bit different from previous years when we would email negotiations reports out to members. Part of the issue is that we will not send negotiations information through the employer's email system, because they can access those emails anytime they wish and our negotiating strategies are private. It is for this reason also that only members have access. If a non-member wants to find out how the negotiations are going, they can join as a member on MemberLink.

Also, just one last reminder if you know of a co-worker that is not a member PLEASE ASK THEM TO JOIN US. Remember what Paul Wellstone always said," We all do better, when we all do better."

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