

2023-2024

PENSION ADVOCACY PLAN

WELCOME

INTRO

What would it feel like to have a well-funded, flexible retirement plan that you can count on to support you after years of teaching?

- The collective power of our statewide union is used to meet the financial needs of our members:

- *Funding for our schools

- *Advocating for better pay and pensions

- *Ensuring our members can advocate for their students and profession without fear of reprisal.

- The State of Minnesota has chronically underfunded our pensions which has led to a Tier 2 benefit design that only benefits the teachers with the longest careers, at the highest ages.

We want to decrease penalties for retirement below age 62, allowing educators to choose when they're ready to retire without losing a significant amount of their pension benefit.

- We are fighting for an investment by the State of Minnesota into education and our profession. This investment is needed to enhance and elevate our profession and a long-term solution to the educator shortage.

- Organizing members in our local and across the state to take action this legislative session.
- We're advocating for lowering penalties and reducing the Normal Retirement Age (NRA) as we move toward our ultimate vision: an unreduced pension benefit for teachers who are 62 or have 35 years of service.

What can you do?

- Reach out to your local legislators, by email, call, letter or meeting
- Invite your legislators to a local meeting on pensions
- Reach out to legislators on the LCPR
- Reach out to the Speaker of the House, Majority Leader of the Senate and Governor
- Attend rallies and marches (February 29th)
- Attend pension lobby days
- Engage your colleagues in pension work
- Become a Pension Building Rep (Need people to do this!)
- Submit an LTE for your local paper

Will you participate in our next pension action?

Where do we go from here?

Lifting the education profession is vital to the success of our students. Our union is an existing structure that engages in various forms of advocacy, which makes it possible for educators to succeed, and for schools to realize the goal of student success.