



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 1005

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Dear Brothers and Sisters of SPFE Local 28,

We are ATU Local 1005 and we represent over 2600 Transit workers in the state of Minnesota. We are sending this message of solidarity in support of you to strike. You face many of the same pressures we face as transit workers. Schools, like public transit is embedded in the Community, so all the good and the bad that comes with the community are a part of the schools.

What we mean by that is, we are living in the richest society in the history of the world and our communities are hurting. Funding to many social programs have been cut and the burden has been put on all of us in the transit systems and you in the school systems. It has also been placed on other public agencies as well, so you, like us have become the social safety net. Yet there is never money there for transit or schools when time comes to negotiate contracts. The powers that be always talk about investing in the community but that is usually only for tax breaks for big business and it has nothing to do with really investing in the community and the future of our society.

This is not sustainable, and your strike is the rally call to say enough is enough! The old saying "An injury to one is an injury to all". Our communities and our youth are struggling to get by with a bleak future and a political system that wants to blame them instead of helping them. But you all are standing up and demanding respect for a better future for you and your students. That is Unity that is Solidarity.

We stand with you and support you in your fight for a better community for better schools and for a better future!

Solidarity

Ryan Timlin

ATU Local 1005 President/B.A.