



SD31 DFL NEWS

August-September 2025

Labor Day Edition

VoteBlueMN.org

sd31df@gmail.com

Greetings, DFL Friends--

Our plans for an upbeat lead were blown away by the terrible shooting in Minneapolis. One more example of the awful effects of having 400 million+ guns in the US, and no political will to put basic common sense limits on them. Our hearts go out to those killed and injured, and their families and

communities. We all do better when kids and politicians alike do not have to fear for their lives. We all must do better. Thoughts and prayers are important, but not anywhere nearly enough.

But there was some exciting news this week, and it is related: A state senate seat in Iowa was flipped by Democrat Catelin Drey, who campaigned against gun violence and for reproductive rights. She won in a district that voted for Trump by double digits— and this broke the GOP supermajority in the Iowa State Senate!

We have also had a chance to enjoy the new approach of Gavin Newsom, making fun of Trump's style of communicating. Look further down for one of his complete tweets, full of real facts but also attitude. One example:

"We have been getting a lot of attention on Fox News lately, but here are some cold, hard FACTS you won't hear on that network.



Middle class families in California pay LESS in taxes than in states like Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas."

The darker side of events these days includes the continued expansion and power grabs of the authoritarian Trump regime. A good short read and reference to help counter these effects is the book "On Tyranny" by Timothy Snyder. Further down is a list of Snyder's Twenty Lessons— check out his book for more details. Here is one of the key items with a little of Snyder's comment:

"12. Make eye contact and small talk.

This is not just polite. It is part of being a citizen and a responsible member of society. It is also a way to stay in touch with your surroundings, break down social barriers, and understand whom you should and should not trust. If we enter a culture of denunciation, you will want to know the psychological landscape of your daily life."

And finally, on our local front—Summer is winding down, with Labor Day almost here. Thanks to those who have volunteered at the State Fair!

Though the events of the summer are slowing down, there are still plenty of opportunities to get and stay involved. So take a look at our events below, and keep the momentum going!

Candidate Abbey Payeur Explains Direct Instruction @ AH School Board Meeting – WATCH!



District 4 School Board Candidate Abbey Payeur [spoke to the Anoka-Hennepin School Board](#) during the public comment portion of the meeting. As a recognized expert in literacy instruction, Abbey specializes in evidence-based reading instruction and structured literacy. As Vice-Chair of [The Reading League Minnesota](#), she helps provide high-quality professional development to teachers, ensuring they have the tools to support all learners. She is a member of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA), which helps families advocate for the needs of their children with dyslexia. Abbey frequently presents to teachers, principals, school administrators, and teacher-trainers on best on the Science of Reading. Her research at the University of Minnesota focuses on neurological differences and neuroplasticity in students with dyslexia. With experience as both a classroom educator and university professor, Abbey is committed to bridging the gap between research and practice to improve literacy outcomes for all students.

KEY UPCOMING EVENTS

Now through Monday, September 1

MN State Fair ENDS on LABOR DAY!

Check out DFL Booth and the DFL Supported Donut Booth!

Saturday, September 6

Ramsey Happy Days

Linwood Family Fun Days (see below)

Tuesday, September 9

Monthly SD31 DFL Gathering

6 pm Social— 6:30 pm Business

Andover Community Center

Community Room A

Linwood Family Fun Days— September 6

Volunteer to help at the SD31 DFL Booth!

Linwood Town Hall, 22817 Typo Creek Dr. NE, Stacy, MN 55079



Each summer, DFL Senate District 31 participates in many civic celebration days. This year, we are participating in Linwood's Family Fun Days! There will be a SD31/Neighborhood Network booth. Volunteers are still needed. There are two shifts: Noon-3 pm and 2 pm-5 pm on Saturday, September 6th. Don't miss out on the fun; [click here](#) to sign up.

Other upcoming and ongoing events...

Daily

10:45 AM

DFL Statewide Call (see below)

[Sign Up For DFL Comm Calls](#)

Weekly:

Emmer Protests led by Indivisible

Tuesdays 4-5 pm—Delano

Saturdays 11 am- Noon. — Otsego

Weekly:

SD31 DFL Coffee Break- DFL Neighborhood Network

Saturdays 8:30- 11:00 AM

Starbucks Inside Andover Target

Monthly:

SD31 DFL Monthly Meeting

Second Tuesdays: September 9, October 14

6 pm social gathering, 6:30 Business

School Board Meetings

Anoka-Hennepin

Work Sessions allow for observation only— but we need people to watch what is happening! Major decisions are often made in these meetings, without a written record.

Work Sessions- Second Mondays, 5:30 pm

Education Services Center, 2727 Ferry St, Anoka

Next: 9/8

Regular School Board Meetings- Fourth Mondays, 6:30 pm

Sandburg Ed. Center, Anoka 1902 2nd Ave

Next: 9/22

If you cannot make the meetings in person you can also watch live. The agenda and streaming link are posted here:

<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/2720>

St Francis

2nd and 4th Mondays , 6:30 PM, Community Room, District Office

4115 Ambassador Boulevard NW, St Francis MN 55070

NEXT: 9/8, 9/22

See our calendar page at VoteBlueMN.org for more events. And look for additional sign-ups at the DFL Neighborhood Network website:

<https://dfineighborhoodnetwork.net/>

Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century

from *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder

1. Do not obey in advance
2. Defend institutions
3. Beware the one-party state
4. Take responsibility for the face of the world
5. Remember professional ethics
6. Be wary of paramilitaries
7. Be reflective if you must be armed
8. Stand out
9. Be kind to our language
10. Believe in truth
11. Investigate
12. Make eye contact and small talk
13. Practice corporeal politics
14. Establish a private life
15. Contribute to good causes
16. Learn from peers in other countries
17. Listen for dangerous words
18. Be calm when the unthinkable arrives

19. Be a patriot

20. Be as courageous as you can

FACTS from GAVIN NEWSOM

“We have been getting a lot of attention on Fox News lately, but here are some cold, hard FACTS you won't hear on that network.



Middle class families in California pay LESS in taxes than in states like Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.



50 million of the 52 million jobs created since the Cold War have been created in Democratic administrations. Republican presidents have one thing in common: recession.



Life expectancy, infant mortality, deaths of despair, wages and uninsured rates are all worse off in red states.



For Greg Abbott: California is the fourth largest economy in the WORLD. We contribute \$83 billion to the federal government while Texas takes \$71 billion.



California is #1 in manufacturing, #1 in farming, #1 in new business starts, #1 in tech and VC investments, #1 in Fortune 500 companies, and the #1 public higher education system in the country.



California has some of the strongest gun laws in the country and as a result has a 43% lower gun death rate than the rest of the U.S. according to data from the CDC while President Trump oversaw the largest spike in homicides recorded in U.S. history.



Republicans across the country are fanning the flames of culture wars to distract from the fact that on health, wealth, and economic outcomes they are failing.



When Democrats go on OFFENSE, we WIN.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER,

Gavin Newsom”

<http://www.gavinnewsom.com/>

Links You Can Use

Keep checking our SD31 DFL Website: VoteBlueMN.org

Indivisible North Metro on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/indivisiblemh/>

Common Cause Minnesota

<https://www.commoncause.org/minnesota/>

Brennan Center for Justice

<https://www.brennancenter.org/>

Clean Elections MN

<https://cleanelectionsmn.org/>

Heather Cox Richardson

heathercoxrichardson@substack.com

Thom Hartmann- The Hartmann Report

hartmannreport.com

You can also hear Thom Hartmann from 11am to 2 pm daily on the radio (and lots of other progressive programs) on the Twin Cities progressive radio station, AM 950 (KTNF)

FREE! CONTRIBUTE to SD31— FOR FREE!

Make a donation of any size to SD31 and get a full refund— before the legislature takes it away!

Contribute whatever you can-- and then GET A FULL REFUND for any amount up to \$75 per person. If you make smaller donations, save your receipts and submit them together— this is a one-time refund per person. Each member of a couple can get the full \$75 refund.

After donating at VoteBlueMN.org, just print and fill the following document and send it in with your receipt. The address is on the form.

<https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2024-12/pcr-25.pdf>

Email Updates and Submissions

Newsletters and other Emails from SD31 DFL will typically be sent out on Monday or Tuesday, once or twice a month. If you have an item to share, please submit it by noon on Friday to:

sd31df@gmail.com

We also welcome longer items for our website if you have articles, blogs, or letters that you would like to share! Check the site out at VoteBlueMN.org.

THANK YOU for every effort you are able to make— no matter how large or small. Stay connected with us as we struggle to resist the authoritarian extremists and to make our communities, state and country better.

Let your voice be heard!

Our Core Values and Guideposts:

A Good Economy for Working Families

Fighting Hatred and Racism

Liberty and Justice for ALL— including Women's rights and reproductive freedom

Taking care of our Home-- the Earth

Love Your Neighbor

Truth, Justice and Compassion

Non-Violence

Showing up to Do Your Part

... and because even though it should be obvious in the USA, they seem to have forgotten:

The Rule Of Law

The Constitution Of The United States