



Where do my dues go?



Paraprofessional Educators
of Saint Peter

The Value of Joining Education Minnesota Paraprofessional Educators of Saint Peter

Education Minnesota Paraprofessional Educators of Saint Peter (EMPESP) is an organization run by members for members. By joining EMPESP, you are making an important investment in your professional career. When you join your union of paraeducators, you automatically become a member of the national teacher organizations (the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers), our state organization (Education Minnesota) and our local (EMPESP). Your dues are divided between the national, state and local levels. Each level of membership brings you many benefits. A few examples of the benefits of local membership are listed below.

EMPESP bargains your paraeducator contract that establishes your pay, benefits and working conditions.

EMPESP monitors the administration of the contract, answers your questions about contractual issues, and makes certain that your contractual benefits and rights are protected.

EMPESP Member Rights Advocates work in each building. Their support is immediately available.

EMPESP utilizes Education Minnesota's vast infrastructure for members' professional development and the ongoing training of its officers and member representatives.

EMPESP has an outreach committee that works to enhance member fellowship and build ties with the community through collaboration, donations, fundraising and participation in local events.

EMPESP communicates with you regularly about important issues at the local, state and national level. We publish a monthly newsletter and maintain a website at <http://EMPESP.mn.aft.org>.

EMPESP holds meetings every school year to conduct association business, hold officer elections, access professional development opportunities, and facilitate member feedback.

EMPESP supports teachers, students, and you.



Education Minnesota offers a discount program through PerksConnect. Members have exclusive access to local and national discounts on everyday products and services in their community, online and via mobile. PerksConnect is sponsored by Education Minnesota ESI Member Benefits. PerksConnect discount program offerings will help members save time and money and enhance the current cadre of ESI programs: Financial and Retirement Planning, Mortgages and Loans, Health Care Solutions, Long-Term Care Insurance, Auto and Home Insurance, Identity Theft Protection, Credit Card, Travel and BOSE Music Products. Additional member benefit programs are available through NEA and AFT+ Member Benefits.

PerksConnect offers access to:

- *Local Merchants: 50,000 local merchants across all 50 states.
- *Featured Partners: 350+ National retailers/vendors.
- *Online Mall: Discounts average between 5%–25%.
- *Insurance & Benefits: Extensive list of products and providers.
- *There's an app for that! The entire PerksConnect discount program is available on an easy to use, free mobile app! No need to print coupons, just show the merchant the barcode on your app and it's that easy!
- *Purchasing Power is a special opportunity to purchase computers, electronics and home appliances with no interest, no taxes or delivery charges—through a simple, fixed payment schedule. *PayCheck Direct* is an employee purchase program that allows you to buy larger ticket items interest-free and pay for them through a worry-free electronic deduction plan.