



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

September 2024

Staff Directory

Please contact the appropriate staff person using their phone or email (click their name) below:

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Information Services/PDF/Member-Only Discount Benefits:

[Dave Corrie](#) - 517.267.2090

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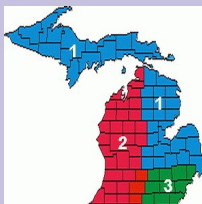
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Click on the map to find out which Region your unit is in.



State Employees, Don't Forget....

Time is running out to reauthorize your membership. If you haven't already done so, you can call the HRMN Self-Service Hotline at 877-766-6447 between 8:00am — 5:00 pm., or you can access the HRMN Portal by using this link: [Reauthorize Now!](#) Don't lose your ability to vote on the new contract this Fall!



On October 1st, you will receive a **5% union negotiated** wage increase.

You will be granted 16 hours of union negotiated personal leave time on October 1st. Make sure you are under the cap and have enough room to accept them by either using your time or through Annual Leave Donation.

You have until September 30th to use your union negotiated school/community leave. This can be used for school activities as well as participation within the community such as donating blood.

Upcoming Union Events

- **October 14, 2014** - There will be an action at the SCCMHA Board of Directors meeting beginning at 5:15pm. We will have members of the community and bargaining unit speak to the Board on industry standards, PTO, Juneteenth, and Domestic Partner Bereavement.
- **October 30, 2024** - There will be a Roller Skating Event for SEIU Local 517M members and families at the Northland Roller Rink located at 22311 West 8 Mile Road, Detroit, MI 48219 (West of Lahser Road). Admission is Free and skate rental is \$3. Halloween costumes are allowed but not required. Goodie Bags provided for kids 12 and under. Please [RSVP by clicking here](#) before 4:00 pm on Friday, October 25, 2024.
- **November 15, 2024** - SEIU 517M will host a Holidays in the Heart of the City pre-event for members and their families at the SEIU Local 517M office located at 203 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607 from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Members will take the historic elevators to the second floor where refreshments will be provided prior to the tree lighting ceremony. The Holiday Lighting Ceremony begins at 5:45 pm at the Water Treatment Plant with the lighting to begin at 6:00 pm. RSVP before 4:00 pm on Friday, November 8th. [RSVP Now!](#)

STAND TOGETHER — STAND STRONG

www.seiu517m.org

Revamped Year-Round Organizing Cycle/Membership Engagement

By Marian Wilcox, Member Strength Director

Organizing is a daily workplace lifestyle that fosters a culture of edification, strength, and growth that improves working conditions for members and supports positive employee experiences in the workplace. President/Interim Executive Director Joey Combs, with the Executive Officers and Executive Board, has implemented an aggressive plan of action for organizing and membership engagement. President Combs realizes that our connection with our colleagues and our membership drive everything we do - celebrate each other, encourage one another, and to be there for one another. There is strength in unity and in numbers – this is a basic tenet of any successful union.

We recently kicked off our Year-Round Organizing Cycle. This fall, we will focus on New Employee Orientation, Engaging all Members and Non-Members, Filling Vacant Steward Positions, Steward Trainings, Elections, and much more.

To kickoff SEIU 517M organizing and membership engagement, President Combs and Member Strength Director, Marian Wilcox visited members and prospective members from Grand Haven Public Schools during their back-to-school meetings. President Combs and Director Wilcox traveled to Grand Haven, on the West Side of the State on August 27th and 28th, to meet with SEIU 517M Unit Members in the areas of Transportation, Maintenance, and Food Services. The meeting with the members was very successful and a big WIN for us as a Local. President Combs understands that any opportunity we get to meet with members and prospective members is always a treat for us and an opportunity to continue to build a strong Union. Members were very excited to see our presence and were eager to hear what we had to share with them. We discussed with the group our plans for strong membership engagement. President Combs talked about the state of our Union and the health of our State and Local Government Units. There were also some fun discussions about social activities, member benefits, incentives, and creative ways to engage the local community through community service.

It is important to always remember that making unionism a part of your daily work experience creates long-term strength and stability. It's a workplace lifestyle – not a crash diet or one-time task. This is why it was important for President Combs to “get up, step up, and show up.”

Union Election Process Begins Next Month



The election process for officers and board members in all School and Local Government Regions and all 3 State Employee Units will begin in October. There will also be a vote on changes to two articles in the current SEIU Local 517M Constitution and Bylaws. These will appear on the same ballot. A description of the positions that are available for election is on the next page of this newsletter.

The election calendar is stated below:

October 1 - 31, 2024 - Candidate Petition Form and Photos accepted.

November 11 – December 1, 2024 - Voting Period. Voting begins at 8:00 a.m. on November 11th and concludes at 5:00 p.m. on December 1st.

November 22, 2024 - Final deadline for requesting a paper ballot in lieu of electronic voting.

December 2, 2024 - Ballots are counted and election certified by the Election/Tally Committee.

January 1, 2025 - Newly elected leadership takes office.

You must have been a member in good standing for the last 12 consecutive months in order to be eligible to run for office.

If you have questions about the election process, contact Dave Corrie at corried@seiu517m.org.



Your Union Needs You!

The 2024 SEIU Local 517M Officer Election is fast approaching. Consider running for a leadership position. This organization can't be successful without members taking an active part.

Nominations will be accepted beginning October 1st with voting in November. Votes will be counted in early December and the newly-elected leaders will take office January 1st. The positions are for a three-year term of office.

Included below are positions that will be up for election and a brief description of what the position entails.

Local President

The President shall preside over, and determine the order of business for, the Annual Meeting, Executive Board meetings, and any special meetings of the membership. The President can call special meetings, create special committees, appoint committee members, and have general oversight of all activities of the Union. The President is authorized to attend any meeting of this Union to carry out the goals incorporated in this Constitution and Bylaws.

Local Secretary/Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer shall oversee all financial accounts of the Union, be responsible for the collection, custody and properly approved disbursements of all funds and shall make periodic reports to the Executive Board of receipts and disbursements. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be sufficiently bonded by the Union. The Secretary/Treasurer is authorized to attend any meeting of this Union to carry out the goals incorporated in this Constitution and Bylaws. The Secretary/Treasurer shall oversee records of the proceedings of all meetings, oversee membership lists and all official records of the Union and shall be responsible for Union elections and ratification votes. The Secretary/Treasurer shall assist in the discharge of the President's duties and in the absence of the President, perform those duties.

Divisional Vice President

The Divisional Vice President shall represent their respective membership and may be assigned specific duties as needed by the President. This person is elected the Unit President for their respective state employee bargaining units, and geographically for the school and local government regions.

School and Local Government Region Boards

The School and Local Government Division has established Regions with each Region having an elected Regional Board for purposes of servicing its membership and selecting its Executive Board Members. The Regional Boards must be inclusive of all bargaining units in the Region. The bargaining units elect their own representatives based on a formula; however, grouping of smaller bargaining units together for electing a representative on the Regional Board is acceptable. It is left to the individual Regions to determine their representatives to the 517M Executive Board.

State Employee Unit Boards

Each State Employee bargaining unit maintains their own bargaining unit board. These boards have initial responsibility for grievances, contract negotiations and contract administration. The bargaining units elect their own representatives based on classification, department or geography depending on which bargaining a formula. It is left to the individual State Employee bargaining units to determine their representatives to the Union Executive Board, in accordance with the representation formula, provided the selections are members of the Bargaining Unit Board.

Any election related questions can be directed to Dave Corrie at corried@seiu517m.org.