

# MSCF Minute



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## I AM MSCF

by Norm Halsa, MSCF Vice President for Technical Education

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We take a lot of things for granted these days. One may think nothing will affect me when it comes to my position at my college. My union contract will outline the terms and conditions of my employment forever. Well folks, don't get too comfortable with those thoughts. The Janus vs. AFSCME case will be heard by the Supreme Court of the United States and the outcome will take away the union's right to assess agency fees, or what we call fair share fees. This is the first step in union busting. More will come if we don't stick together as members and demand the right to continue to bargain in good faith the terms and conditions of our employment. Big business is behind all efforts to rid the country of unions. Once

gone, it will be a race to the bottom in all aspects of our lives and livelihood. The gains that have been made throughout the years by unions will be gone if we choose to let big business win. All of the public sector unions are working to prevent what has happened in Wisconsin and Iowa from happening in our great state. The rhetoric of right to work has to be rebuked; we all know it is only the right to work for less.

I have a lot of quotes and signs taped to a bookcase in my office at MSCF. One that fits with this writing is from UFCW8 out of California. It states, "I'm a Union Member. We LIVE HERE and PAY TAXES HERE! We WORK HARD to support our families. We are NOT the



Click on the above video clip to view MSCF South Central-N. Mankato faculty member Jay Wendelberger talk about the value of MSCF.

**PROBLEM and we are NOT the ENEMY! IF YOU'RE JEALOUS OF OUR BENEFITS, LET'S FIGHT FOR YOURS NOT AGAINST OURS! REBUILD THE MIDDLE CLASS, FIGHT BACK, JOIN A UNION!"**

We are not in this alone. Like us, all of the public sector

unions are conducting card signing campaigns to reaffirm our commitment to union membership. Our state officers and staff have been visiting faculty on our campuses to talk about the value of being an active member of our union. If you are a newly hired faculty, or a faculty that has never joined, join us. If you have been a member for years, reaffirm your membership. We need each other to survive the attack on unions.

The membership application is available online on the MSCF [website](#).

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Barbara Ludins, Anoka Ramsey-Cambridge  
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### ATEA Region 5 Conference

October 12-13, 2017  
Hosted by M State-Moorhead

Register Online at:  
[www.ateasonline.org/event-2610268](http://www.ateasonline.org/event-2610268)