



Newsletter

March 2024

Local 3634

3375 E. Slauson Ave., Suite 233 - Vernon, CA 90058

Direct (213) 252-1395

Website: www.afscme-3634.org

The Power and Focus of Workers and the Labor Movement

[The Strike Returns - NW Labor Press](#)

The Necessity of Unions

This is what happens when you live in a state that has legislators who are anti-worker, don't value or believe that they should have rights in the workplace and foolishly wants to roll back the clock on child labor laws.

[Kentucky bill could end workers' lunch and rest breaks, slash pay \(msn.com\)](#)

Pensions: Not All Public Employees are Treated Equal

The Fight to earn and protect one's pension never ends.

[AFSCME gets \\$5 million to seed retirement accounts for about 1,100 childcare providers - NW Labor Press](#)

PEOPLE JACKETS

Sisters and Brothers.

AFSCME International has updated the jackets for the PEOPLE program which is the voluntary political action entity of the Union that supports labor friendly candidates at the federal, state, and local levels.

The criteria to receive the new jacket is to sign up for the PEOPLE program for the first time \$10 a month (\$5.00 a pay period) or if you're currently contributing, the International requires an increase of your contributions, which we would recommend you do so by at least \$7 a month (\$3.50 a pay period)

Our local has the highest percentage of PEOPLE contributors in AFSCME District Council 36 and we are amongst the top tier of locals in the International as well, so we thank you for your continued support.

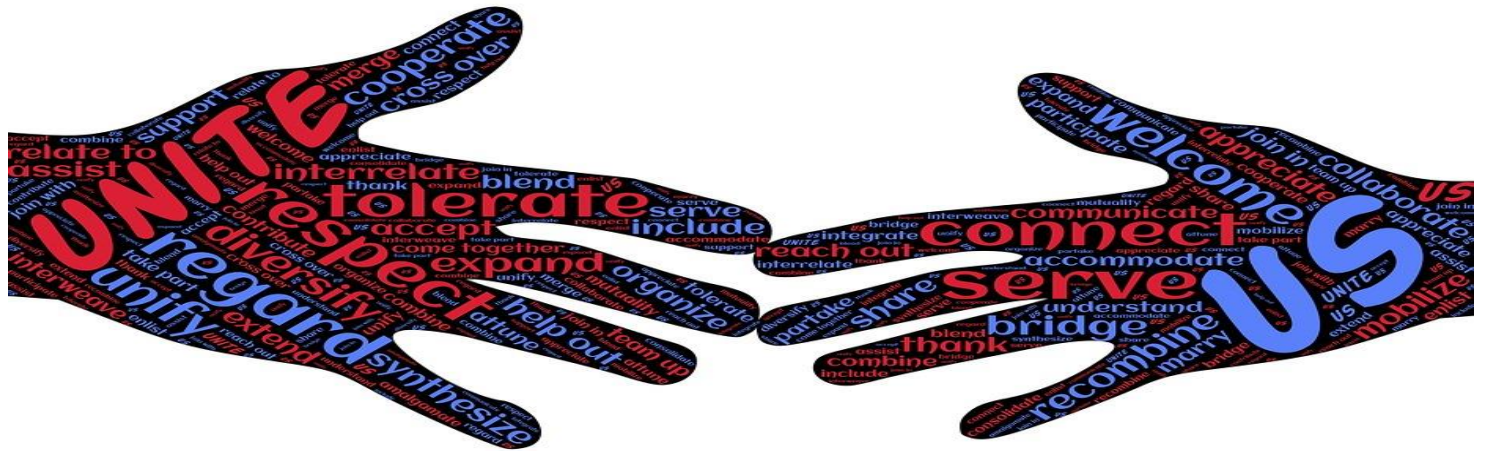
Attached is a link where you can view the new jacket. If you are interested, please reach out to me directly and we'll get your jackets as soon as possible from the International.

PEOPLE: Public Employee Organized to Promote Legislative Equality



afscmedc36-my.sharepoint.com

In Solidarity,
Brother Al Cromer
AFSCME Local 3634 President
213-864-0427



There will be a meeting March 23, 2024

AFSCME Local 3634 is inviting you to a scheduled via Zoom.

Topic: General Membership meeting

Time: 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/4556877610?pwd=SWhoZXlneGIEOEj2SXFzZjFjV0NjZz09>

Meeting ID: 455 687 7610

Passcode: 162889

One tap mobile

+16694449171,4556877610#, *162889# US

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Please make sure to update your personal contact information including your alternate contacts with Metro. It is especially important in times of emergencies that the employer may need to communicate at once, with you or your family for work and personal reasons.

Prosperity, Peace, and Good Health!!!



Certifications-Credentials-Licenses

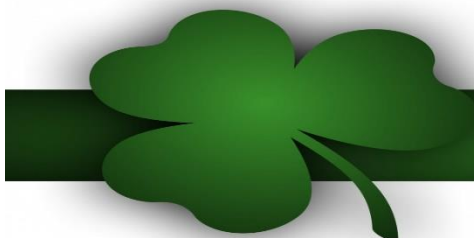
If you are required as part of your work duties and responsibilities to hold or maintain a valid certification, credential, or license, please don't wait until the last minute to renew your documentation where it can create problems for you in the workplace. Try to begin your renewal process at least 3-4 weeks out, which will allow you ample time to renew in case something unexpectedly happens.

CBA Article 12.2.1: Informal Discussion or Counseling

If you as an employee are asked by your management to come to the office to discuss a matter or issue and they state that it is informal in nature and not disciplinary, you are not allowed to refuse the request and they have a right to meet and discuss the issue. A refusal to comply with the request could possibly lead to discipline. During the conversation, if the issue of discipline is brought up then you enact your Weingarten rights and request Union representation.

HR 21: Updated Attendance Policy

Please search, read, and review the updated Metro Attendance Policy (HR 21) in your spare time at work as relates to excused and unexcused absences, tardies, and call off notification procedures. The updated policy should be dated 1-23-24.



PEOPLE BLURB

The PEOPLE PAC is how AFSCME protects our rights to collectively bargain, preserve our jobs, defend our pensions and benefits, and safeguard our wages. As public service employees, we need allies in office who will work with us for the best contracts and safest working conditions. Giving at the MVP-level of \$100 a year, just \$8.40/month, ensures we have a seat at the table rather than being on the menu. You can sign up to contribute [here](#).

PEOPLE funds go toward electing pro-worker, pro-union candidates at all levels of office. We are a non-partisan PAC that elects candidates who care about our members and holds them accountable once they are in office. In addition to engaging in electoral work, we also have a strong legislative program to protect our members and expand workers' rights.

Gabe Schreiber
AFSCME
Political and Legislative Advocacy Apprentice
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Email: gschreiber@afscme.org





AFSCME Member Services

To all members of the bargaining unit, if you have not received your membership card from AFSCME International with your AFSCME member number, please go to afscme.org, hit the contact us link and fill out the email information box. Please include Local 3634 and District Council 36 in the body of your email. You should receive your green and white AFSCME card within 10-14 days. You can use this card at various locations that offer discounts to union members.



UNION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2024

<https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships>

AFSCME BENEFITS INFORMATION

Medical/Dental/Vision:



Nicole Patino Patinoni@metro.net

Milette Short ShortM@metro.net

Benefits.metro.net

PERS Contact METRO:

Jonathan Arevalo-Parrish

Arevalo-parrishJ@metro.net

TOWP Contact:

hrisadmin@metro.net

Also, for those of you who have 401/457 questions or need to submit forms for changes or updates, Arif Motiwala is the contact. His Email is motiwalaa@metro.net

For those of us who have CalPers for our pension, MTA has a contract with them and is just the intermediary. MTA doesn't make the final call on your retirement benefits and calculations. If you have any questions or problems related to PERS including your service credit, you need to communicate directly with them. If you haven't done so, create your account with them and monitor your service credit. **If you take off work for any reason and miss more than two complete months of work during the service credit year (July 1st to June 30th), it can be detrimental to your yearly credit and delay your retirement.** Again, the Union does not run the PERS retirement system. You must reach out to them.

Medicare Part B

If you are retiring soon or plan to do so in the near future and you'll be 65 or about to turn 65, please know that you are entitled to receive a Medicare part B supplemental stipend that is a reimbursement if you enroll for part B but you have to ask MTA about it when you retire. The supplemental stipend is \$164.90 in 2023.

Union Difference

Life is better in a union. Having a voice on the job means better pay, better health care, a more secure retirement, and so much more. It means having a say in safety, staffing, and other principal issues that help AFSCME members do their jobs and keep America running.