**Statewide President Candidate Personal Statements**

**Ellena Schoop**

We are One MAPE, but we are not One story.  My name is **Ellena Schoop, pronounced (Scope),** Enterprise Data Architect and Governance at MNIT Central.  I have been a state employee for 12 years, actively fighting for MAPE members for over 10 years in numerous MAPE roles.  I am a current Board member (Regional Director Region 7), steward and former Chief Steward, where I serve to challenge the status quo.  I have built a strong region with strong leaders, acknowledging and honoring the work done in the past, while making a way forward to re-imagine Our Union in this new era.  From establishing a Women IT ChangeMakers ERG of 200 women statewide to address inequities, previously worked with MAPE’s Technology Advisory Group, built internal and external partnerships, to various strategic subgroup facilitation, I bring a proven record of holistic systems approach to leadership and problem solving, creating solutions that work for All.  I base my work on 3 principles:

1) **Accountability and Transparency**: Data driven work to understand and act where practices and policies need to change.  We need to leverage data to improve transparency and communicate effectively.

2) **Bold, Thoughtful Strategic Actions:** We need to be **bold** in how we engage and support our members.  We have brilliant and talented members; let’s leverage innovative ideas that thoughtfully move us forward.

3) **Community, Commitment and Collaboration**: We need to fight for issues that impact the few ***just as hard*** as those that impact the many.

As MAPE President, I will build relationships in new ways to change antiquated processes that don’t work for us, build a stronger presence, engagement and support in the community, and building an inclusive environment across the spectrum.  We are One MAPE, but not One story.

For more information <https://voteellenaformapepresident.com>.

**Lynn Butcher**

I have been honored serve MAPE in a variety of positions over the past 12 ½ years. Like many of you, I began by attending meetings and adding my voice to the conversation. And then I was asked:

* to represent MAPE at our Labor Management Committee, local Meet & Confer, and eventually statewide Meet & Confer;
* to become a steward
* to testify in front of multiple legislative committees, helping to secure nearly $100 Million in bonding and $25 Million in new money for staffing for my division.
* to be Negotiations rep for Region 19
* to join the PAC & build relationships with my local legislators
* to be chair of my local M&C

I won elections for Local President, Negotiations (and co-chair) and Statewide Secretary.

I now ask for the honor to serve as our next Statewide President. I have had the opportunity to meet so many of you, to begin to understand the depth and breadth of work that we do in service to the State of Minnesota, and to work with many of you in addressing the problems we face: dysfunction and hostility in our workplaces, a well-funded coordinated attack against unions and all working people, and legislative decisions that have made it difficult for our contracts to keep up with inflation. As president, I will continue to fight with you to strengthen our voice in the workplace by beefing up our M&C teams and supporting our stewards. Together, we will join with other labor unions and others in recognition that our fight is a fight to lift up all workers. And together we will leverage our political power to rebalance the collective bargaining playing field to ensure strong contracts for years to come.

Request more details at butcher\_4\_MAPEprez@yahoo.com from your home email.

**Maurice Wilson**

As a state employee and MAPE member of nine years, I Maurice Wilson, I am running for statewide President of MAPE to bring a more culturally-responsive, accessible, and solution-focused community. I commit to making your mission my mission. By calling upon my experience as a member of the Minnesota Army National Guard and Iraqi vet, I will continue to defend the rights of our union. While representing local 1002 as President, I see how powerful we are and we need to be recognized as the pillar of the MN workforce! I cannot do this without your support!

Today starts a new beginning to challenge our contractual language to be embedded within the state’s budget, not an afterthought. Together, we will build a community that insists on inclusivity to our members through fair wages, by creating growth opportunities, demanding increased options for retirement, and introducing support stipends for our Chief Stewarts who work tirelessly to advocate for our concerns.

As a team member of the Minnesota Department of Education, I focus on innovation and community. Through supplemental bargaining, we achieved the opportunity for all MDE employees to participate in telework, One MDE Diversity Council, and Professional Development. As your statewide President of MAPE, I will bring my values of community, collaboration, and supportive communication.

**Ted Snaza**

Hello fellow MAPE members, my name is Ted Snaza.

A little about myself. I went to Winona State University, attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and Fort Bliss, Texas, and have lived all over Minnesota. I’ve attended national conferences, gone to Corporate trainings, spoken in front of hundreds of people, and have accrued many of the skills necessary to help lead MAPE as our next President.

In the 12 years I’ve been in MAPE at Minnesota Revenue, I’ve been Chief Steward for hundreds of members, and fought hard for those members in mediations, grievances, and investigations. I’ve spoken at Delegate Assembly, met with Legislators at Day on the Hill, and have met the Governor on multiple occasions. I helped lead classes at Delegate Assembly, and the Steward Summit, and have pushed for increased cooperation between Regions.

If elected, I will create a culture of transparency, collaboration, organization, and accountability. I will push for advanced data collection and analytics, increased access to information for members, and better contract negotiation tactics. You will never get any political-speak from me, and I will always have an open-door policy.

Make no mistake, we are entering a long recession with budget instability, and our next contract negotiation will be extremely difficult. We have to change the way we approach things, prepare for every situation, and coordinate with other unions to help consolidate our power and combine our tactics.

I come from a Union family of nurses and police, and I will never stop supporting Union rights.

If you elect me as your next President, I will make sure that MAPE never stops supporting you.

Vote for this TedTalk to keep it trending upward. Thank You.

**Megan Dayton**

**I’m Megan Dayton. I’m running for MAPE Statewide President to transform us into a more effective, powerful union. Together—through unprecedented collaboration—we’ll fight for a stronger contract and build a better quality of life for all Minnesotans.**

I’m a Senior Demographer, mother, and cancer survivor, currently serving in a statewide office on MAPE’s Political Council working to unite labor, politics, and community.

**My principles are simple: transparency, collaboration, and democracy, guided by empathy.** As President I want all professionals to feel belonging in MAPE. We’ll work to address discrimination in workplaces, organizing efforts, and contract enforcement.

Everything is changing around us. The world that emerges from this pandemic is likely to be permanently altered. Enormous upheaval, however, also offers the opportunity for enormous progress. This dark moment provides the chance for us to envision a better day. Example: for years MMB told us that telework options weren’t possible. Yet we’ve watched the swift implementation of the impossible. Let’s imagine what other impossibilities are actually possible.

This moment calls for hopeful, audacious voices that demand the impossible be possible. It calls for a member-driven union and a fresh perspective from leadership. This is what MAPE deserves and what Minnesota needs.

For public-sector unions, successful bargaining depends upon building public support and political pressure. The scales of power have tipped too far toward management. It’s time to build community support for our contract by engaging the public, fighting for issues vital to all Minnesotans.

We can build a stronger contract and a better quality of life by changing the way we organize, engage community, and exert power. For too long we’ve been complacent. It’s time to realize our potential. **I’m ready to lead a progressive coalition into a new chapter for our union.**

Daily 5pm townhalls during voting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4220698868>

* Website – <https://megandaytonformape.com>