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# Solidarity!

## MTI Preserves, Gains Contracts Through June, 2016

Last fall, MTI asked the District to bargain Contracts for multiple years. They refused, and a Contract was negotiated for the 2014-15 school year.

*After hundreds of MTI members, sporting their MTI red shirts, attended two school board meetings in late May, the Board had a change of heart - and also a change in leadership with Arlene Silveira replacing Ed Hughes. Several MTI members addressed the Board at its meetings on May 26 and 29. The Board agreed to bargain. After five days of bargaining, terms were reached for **Contracts for MTI's five bargaining units, AFSCME's two bargaining units, and that of the Building Trades Council.***

*In the new Contracts, MTI was successful in retaining members' employment security and economic security provided by Contract salary schedules and fringe benefits.*

MTI's Contracts for 2014-15 and 2015-16 **are the only contracts** with Wisconsin school districts, for those years. A synopsis of the new Contracts is available on MTI's webpage [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org).

MTI members ratified the Contracts last Tuesday evening.

## \*\*\*Important Reminder\*\*\* Teacher Contracts Deadline June 16

The individual contracts for the 2014-15 school year contained an error, and have been re-issued by the District. The error stated that teachers must sign and return their contracts to the District by April 15. That date was amended to June 15 by a recently enacted State Statute. **Given that June 15 is a Sunday, the revised contracts are due June 16.** MTI strongly **recommends** that teachers return their signed contracts to Human Resources **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, and in person to assure timely delivery. MTI further advises members to take a copy with you and ask that it be stamped "received", and keep the copy for your personal records. **The District advises that failure to return a signed contract by June 16 will result in the District accepting such non-return as one's resignation.**

**NOTE:** Even if you already signed the incorrect contract, you must also sign the corrected contract.

## MTI to Sponsor Film "Citizen Koch"

Reserve Tuesday evening, **June 17, at 7:00 p.m.**, at Sundance Theater, for the premier showing of **Citizen Koch**. One can view a trailer of the film on Google/YouTube. **The film exposes the ultra-rich Koch brothers and their efforts to control elections in Wisconsin and other areas of the country.** With funding by the Koch brothers, Diane Hendricks (ABC Building Materials), the Waltons (Walmart/Sam's Club), the DeVos Family (Amway), and the Tea Party have become a force in American politics, **driving anti-union, anti-public employee legislation such as Act 10.**

MTI members are able to purchase tickets for the June 17, 7:00 p.m., special showing. Details of this event are available via MTI's facebook and webpage ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)). Contact Jeanie at MTI ([kamholtzj@madisonteachers.org](mailto:kamholtzj@madisonteachers.org) or 257-0491) if you are interested in discounted tickets. *Discounted tickets will be available once 25 MTI members have advised of their interest.*

## Resignation

**Teachers are reminded that if they plan to resign at the end of the current school year that notice should be submitted to Director of Human Resources Robert Nadler as soon as possible.** The following sums *may be assessed* for late resignation: a) resignation after the last day of the school year - \$200; b) resignation after July 1 - \$250; c) resignation after August 1 through the subsequent school year - \$300; and d) resignation without providing at least 30 days written notice results in an additional \$100 assessment.

**Educational Assistants are reminded that if they plan to resign, such must be done in writing to the Director of Human Resources at least two (2) weeks prior to the effective date of resignation.** Any EA who fails to give written notice of at least two (2) weeks prior to the effective date of resignation is required to pay \$50 as liquidated damages. Resignation after July 1 incurs a \$100 penalty.

**Clerical/Technical Employees are reminded that if they plan to resign, such must be done in writing to the Director of Human Resources at least four (4) weeks prior to the effective date of resignation.** SEE employees who fail to give written notice of at least four (4) weeks prior to the effective date of resignation are required to pay \$100 as liquidated damages for the failure to give such notice.

## Boys & Girls Club Bike Ride July 19

The year's biggest fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club is its bike ride. MTI encourages its members' participation. See MTI Faculty Representatives, EA-MTI Building Representatives, the members of one of MTI's Boards, or MTI's webpage ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)) and facebook for further information.

## Our Union Makes Us Strong!

MTI's web page - [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)  
MTI's email - [MTI@madisonteachers.org](mailto:MTI@madisonteachers.org)

## Beware! It's Not Your Computer

When the District installed its computer system, management told staff, "*Use it as your own!*" Most District employees have done so. **MTI WARNS, USE IT AS YOUR OWN NO MORE!** One must assume that District management will review everything one writes or accesses on a District owned computer. Snoops! Worse yet, **the District has a forensic software program which enables District management to review every stroke made on every District computer, every web-site visited, no matter how long ago, no matter the time of day.** This includes what you access on your home computer if you access it using a District computer. As a result of requests by the public, under Wisconsin's Open Records Law, **MMSD archives ALL emails and research (web-sites accessed) performed on District computers.** The District guarantees no privacy to any employee who uses a District computer. Assume also that the District's computer monitoring devices are working 24/7, **searching for words and phrases which they believe could be improper.** MTI has experienced its members being confronted with accusations of allegedly "stealing time" to and allegedly reviewing improper web sites.

## Sabbatical Leave Applications Due September 1

Under the terms of MTI's Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Board of Education budgets **\$45,000 for sabbatical leaves** for members of MTI's "teacher" bargaining unit. Such is for the purpose of advanced study and/or research. **Either a one-year leave at half pay or a one-semester leave at full pay may be granted.** The recipient of a sabbatical leave must agree to return to the Madison District for at least two full years of service following the sabbatical leave or repay the compensation received for the sabbatical leave. MTI's Contract guarantees that one who receives a sabbatical leave returns to the position held at the time the leave was granted.

Applications for the second semester of the **2014-15 school year** are due at MTI Headquarters by **September 1, 2014.** An application and the MTI/MMSD agreed upon policy can be obtained by calling MTI or by visiting MTI's web page.

## Substitute Teachers: Free Promethean Board Training

The District has scheduled a basic Promethean Board training on Friday, July 18, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. **This training is developed specifically for Substitute Teachers.** The training is **free**, but a minimum of ten (10) participants must register for the course or it will be cancelled. Register is online at the MMSD Professional Development Portal (create an account if you don't already have one). Then, in the "PD Catalog," search the keyword PROMETHEAN for the SUMMER 2014 term, select the course and then select REGISTER. It is important to have at least 10 participants; otherwise the course is automatically cancelled. A direct link to the registration site is available on the MTI Website under Bargaining Units / USO-MTI. Contact Jeff

Knight ([knightj@madisonteachers.org](mailto:knightj@madisonteachers.org)) if you have any questions about this training.

## Last Issue of MTI Solidarity for 2013-14 School Year

**MTI Solidarity!** and its predecessor, **The MTI Reporter,** have been keeping the members of MTI's bargaining units **apprised of current Union issues, information relative to bargaining and member Contract rights and benefits, for 48 years.** It is published for delivery each Monday of the school year. This is the last issue of **MTI Solidarity!** for the 2013-14 school year.

MTI staff wish all Union members a safe and enjoyable summer. MTI's office remains open during the summer to serve its members. Summer hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. - Noon on Fridays.

## Keep MTI Updated on Changes

Please call, write or email MTI if you have a change in name, home address, home email address, telephone number, work location, certification, or hours of work. Having this information allows MTI to serve you better, both personally and contractually.

## Wear MTI Red for Solidarity!



MTI has various styles and sizes of **Solidarity!** shirts: a long-sleeved cotton/poly blend button-down shirt (\$40); a short-sleeved soft/poly polo shirt (\$25); the traditional MTI t-shirt with logo front and back (\$10); and the MTI sweatshirt (\$35). Members can

stop by the MTI office any time to purchase MTI gear, order through an MTI Faculty Representative or call/email MTI.

## Calendar & Events

- **Monday, June 9, La Follette High School C17 BOE Public Hearing - 6:00 p.m. Be There!**  
BOE Operations Workgroup - 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, June 11, EA-MTI Building Reps (CANCELED)**
- **Thursday, June 12, SEMESTER ENDS**
- **Tuesday, June 17, MTI VOTERS' Legislative Candidate Interviews**