Nominations for MTI Elected Positions

Nominations will be received at the September 16 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council to fill vacancies caused by retirement, and for terms which are expiring. Terms expire in October for two At-Large positions on the MTI Board of Directors, the Cabinet on Personnel, the Finance Committee, and the Political Action Committee; and three vacancies on the MTI Bargaining Committee, as a result of retirements. Nominations can be called into MTI Headquarters, or made from the floor at the September Council meeting by an MTI Faculty Representative. Nominations received at MTI will be placed in nomination by the Chair of the Nominations & Elections Committee. Pursuant to MTI Bylaws, the election for all referenced positions will be held at the October Council meeting.

MTI Board of Directors terms expire for Lauren Mikol (Lincoln) and Andrew Waity (Crestwood). Both are seeking re-election. The MTI Board of Directors consists of ten (10) members. Six (6) Officers are elected by the general membership and four (4) At-Large positions are elected by the MTI Faculty Representative Council. Officers are elected for a one-year term and At-Large members for two-year terms. The President serves on the Board for three (3) years, one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Past President. Officers are elected in April’s MTI general election. Meetings of the MTI Board of Directors are held on the second Monday of the month, commencing at 4:30 p.m.

Finance Committee terms expire for Karen Lee-Wahl (Huegel), Bruce Bobb (Hoyt) and Andrew Waity (Crestwood). All are seeking re-election. Terms are for one year. The Finance Committee prepares the annual MTI Budget for consideration by the MTI Joint Fiscal Group. The latter consists of MTI teacher bargaining unit Faculty Representatives, and proportionate representation from MTI’s other four (4) bargaining units (SEE-MTI, EA-MTI, USO-MTI, and SSA-MTI). The MTI Finance Committee meets each year and generally completes its business in February, given that under MTI’s Bylaws the Budget is presented at the March meeting of the MTI Joint Fiscal Group and is voted upon at the April meeting.

Cabinet on Personnel terms are vacant due to the retirement of Nancy Roth and Susie Hobart. Peg Coyne (Black Hawk) and Holly Hansen (Lapham) have been nominated. Terms are for two years. The Cabinet on Personnel oversees MTI’s employment relations with its staff. The Cabinet meets on an as-needed basis.

Political Action Committee (MTI VOTERS) terms expire for Andy Mayhall (Thoreau), Karen Vieth (Sherman), Kathryn Burns (Shorewood) and Liz Donnelly (Elvehjem). All are seeking re-election. MTI’s Political Action Committee generally meets monthly on the second Tuesday, and additionally as necessary to interview candidates for election in Wisconsin’s primary and general elections. The Committee recommends endorsements for consideration by MTI members.

Bargaining Committee: Vacancies exist due to the retirement of Nancy Curtin and Karlton Porter, and the reassignment of Nichole Von Haden. Emily Pease-Clem (Schenk) has been nominated for the Elementary School position vacated by Curtin. The term is for one year. Michael Hay-Chapman (Spring Harbor) has been nominated for the Middle School position vacated by Porter. The term is for one year. Cindy Ball (Jefferson) has been nominated for the Middle School position vacated by Von Haden. The term is for three years.

Teachers and Involuntary Transfer

Should the District, based on pupil enrollment, determine to reduce staff at a given school by involuntarily transferring a teacher due to a “substantial change in the school’s enrollment or substantial program change,” they may do so within the first 25 days of school, under the terms and conditions of the MTI/MMSD Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement, but only in accordance with the terms set forth in Section IV-E.

MTI’s Contract provides that such transfer “shall be the least senior teacher in the grade level (unit, grade or grade combination; e.g. 1-2) and/or department or subject (whichever is appropriate) from which the transfer must be made.” The Contract also provides that “any teacher so transferred shall, when reasonably possible, be provided five school days notice of the transfer unless the teacher waives the notice or a portion thereof in writing, and shall be afforded at least two (2) school days in the school to which he/she is transferred to prepare lesson plans prior to assuming the new assignment.”
New Resource to Fight the “Ed Reform Machine”

The Progressive Magazine is revving up its movement to save public schools. On their website, created specifically for the anti-voucher/save public schools project, www.publicschoolshakedown.org, they are pulling together education experts, activists, bloggers, and concerned citizens from across the country.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SHAKEDOWN is dedicated to EXPOSING the behind-the-scenes effort to privatize public schools, and CONNECTING pro-public school activists nationwide.

“Public School Shakedown will be a fantastic addition to the debate”, says education historian and former Secretary of Education Diane Ravitch. “The Progressive is performing a great public service by helping spread the word about the galloping privatization of our public schools”.

It’s Here: New Educator Effectiveness Evaluation System

Starting this school year, Educator Effectiveness is the new educator evaluation tool required of all teachers and principals throughout Wisconsin. This new system is an entirely new culture for MTI members: it utilizes a new language (SLO, PPG, artifacts); a new set of values (students’ academic achievement is a part of the process); and a new calendar (it’s a year-long process). And all teachers, whether they are being formally evaluated this year or not, will be involved in parts of the process, every year.

Educator Effectiveness has two main parts. It balances educator practice (using the Charlotte Danielson model) with student performance outcomes. Each year, all teachers will develop a Professional Practice Goal (PPG) and a Student Learning Objective (SLO) which must be documented in the Teachscape Software module. Your PPG aligns with an area within the Danielson model framework that you wish to develop or focus on. It could have to do with planning, instruction, assessment, or any professional responsibility (for example: communication or collaboration). One’s SLO focuses on developing content area skills for a particular group of students you are working with. Both the PPG and SLO are to be completed by October (date uncertain). Building principals were directed to give teachers time to meet with their school-based team of teachers to work on these during the staff development days in August.

The District has developed a website with resources relating to Educator Effectiveness https://staffdevweb.madison.k12.wi.us/educatoreffectiveness. MTI has also posted information as well on our website: http://www.madisonteachers.org/. In addition, anyone who has questions regarding Educator Effectiveness should contact Sara Bringman at MTI (257-0491 or bringmans@madisonteachers.org).

Christina Stafslien Charity Golf Outing October 3

Teachers at La Follette High School have organized the 11th Annual Christina Stafslien Charity Golf Outing to honor the memory of their colleague and former LaFollette math teacher. The event will be held at the Monona Municipal Golf Course on Friday, October 3, 4:00 p.m. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the Christina Stafslien Scholarship Fund which is awarded to a deserving La Follette student. Details can be obtained from La Follette teacher Ted Ryan (tryan@madison.k12.wi.us or 204-3574).

Show SOLIDARITY with your MTI Sisters & Brothers. Wear MTI RED on MONDAYS & MTI lanyards everyday!

Calendar of Events

- Monday, September 8, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
  BOE Instruction Work Group
- Monday, September 15, 4:30 p.m., SCFL
  MTI Boards of Directors
- Monday, September 15, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
  BOE Operations Work Group
- Tuesday, September 16, 4:15 p.m., SCFL
  MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Wednesday, September 17, 4:15 p.m.,
  WEA Member Benefits (660 John Nolen Drive)
  EA-MTI Building Representatives
  & EA-MTI General Membership Meeting
- Tuesday, September 23, 4:15 p.m., MTI
  MTI VOTERS Political Action Committee
- Monday, September 29, 6:00 p.m., McDaniels Auditorium
  BOE Regular Meeting

Our Union Makes Us Strong!
MTI’s web page - www.madisonteachers.org
MTI’s email - MTI@madisonteachers.org