



Solidarity!

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MTI ALL-MEMBER MEETINGS

Plan now to attend one of the **MTI ALL-MEMBER** meetings scheduled for the week of March 23. Because of the importance of the Employee Handbook, MTI has scheduled meetings, hopefully one convenient to all members, on March 23, 24 and 26.

Governor Walker's 2011 Act 10 eliminated all public employee collective bargaining agreements (except for police and firefighters) and mandated that terms and conditions of employment be placed in an "employee handbook." Of 424 Wisconsin school districts, MTI members have the benefit of the only Contracts which run through the 2015-16 school year. It has been agreed that the various current Collective Bargaining Agreements will be the foundation of the handbook. A joint Union/District committee is now in the process of developing the handbook. Union committee members include five MTI appointees; two from AFSCME and one from the Building Trades Council. Three building principals and five other administrators round out the joint committee.

The handbook will replace the Collective Bargaining Agreements when they expire at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Come and learn about the handbook development process, and share your thoughts about what you believe the Union's priorities should be.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday, March 23	4:00 p.m.	Memorial High School, WI Center
Tuesday, March 24	4:00 p.m.	Madison Labor Temple, Room 201B
Thursday, March 26	4:00 p.m.	La Follette High School, Room C-17

The Board of Education has approved a process for the *development of the employee handbook*, which includes a joint Union/District oversight group. MTI's objective is to preserve the rights, benefits, and practices that have been developed through fifty years of negotiations. The meetings are also an opportunity for members to advance suggestions for possible modifications. Let your thoughts be known at one of the **MTI ALL-MEMBER** meetings.

Current membership card required. Those who are not currently a member may join at the meetings.

DPI Electronic Licensing - Start Early

The Department of Public Instruction receives 36,000 teacher license applications each year (initial and renewal applications). To help make this process more efficient, DPI created the **Educator Licensing Online (ELO) System** in December, 2013. ***DPI no longer accepts paper applications for license renewal; one must complete and submit the renewal application through this online system.***

Don't wait until the last minute to prepare for a license renewal. If your license is set to expire on June 30 of this year, start collecting the required documentation early. You will need to provide information about the certifications currently held (they can all be renewed), and where and when you completed your certification (you can provide multiple IHEs). ***If you were licensed in 2004 or after, you must have your PDP reviewed and approved.*** Once that is accomplished, the District will provide that information directly to DPI.

If you are renewing your license through the completion of 6 university credits, have electronic (scanned) verification available, so it can be uploaded during the application process. All applicants will need to complete a Conduct and Competency Questionnaire and will need to scan and upload an Employment Verification form (#1613) signed by MMSD Human Resources. Using the new system the first time can be confusing and frustrating. Having all the information and/or materials you need, will help to make the application process go more smoothly.

A one-time, one-year license extension is possible. Failure to renew one's license can be considered a severance of one's teaching contract, and will be considered a resignation by the District.

Contact MTI for assistance or questions about your license renewal. For more information visit DPI's ELO website: <http://tepd.dpi.wi.gov/licensing/elo>.

Important Reminder Teacher Contracts Issued in May

Teacher contracts for the 2015-16 school year will be issued in **MAY**. Signed contracts of all returning teachers must be received in Human Resources not later than **June 15**. **MTI** strongly recommends that teachers return their signed contracts **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to the District Office of Human Resources, in person, to assure that it is received on time. Take a copy with you, ask that it be stamped "received," and keep it for your personal records. **Failure to return a signed contract by June 15 may result in the District accepting such as one's resignation.**

Substitute Organizing Workshop – March 26 – Need Your Input

On **Thursday, March 26, 4:15 p.m.**, at **MTI**, there will be a second organizing workshop for substitute teachers represented by **USO-MTI**. At this meeting we'll address how the employee handbook will impact substitute teachers. Act 10 mandates that an employee handbook replace the Collective Bargaining Agreements between public employers and their Unions. **MTI** and other Unions which represent employees of the District are participating in a joint committee with **MMSD** to move Contract terms from the eight Collective Bargaining Agreements into the Act 10-mandated handbook which will become effective July 1, 2016, following the expiration of those Agreements. This process is just getting underway. Your input and participation is encouraged to help identify issues affecting substitute and off-campus program teachers in the handbook development.

Sign Up Now for MTI Milwaukee Brewer Outing - July 8

Believe it or not, spring is coming and shortly thereafter summer and the annual **MTI** outing to Miller Park. This year's **MTI Day at Miller Park** will take place on **Wednesday, July 8**, with the Milwaukee Brewers taking on the Atlanta Braves at 1:10 pm. Cost is \$55 per person and includes charter bus, pre-game tailgate party and game ticket. Space is limited. Call **MTI (257-0491)** to reserve your spot.

Save the Date: Financial Seminars

April is National Financial Literacy Month. It was established in 2003 to bring awareness to financial literacy and to encourage learning to assist in making better financial decisions for you and your family. **WEA** Member Benefits will be presenting the following for **MTI** members in April:

- **April 14, 4:30p.m. - Finances 101:** Seven common financial mistakes and how to avoid them.
- **April 16, 4:30p.m. - Understanding WRS:** Your State Pension.
- **April 23, 5-7:00p.m. - Don't Be Jack!**
An interactive financial learning game. Pizza and sodas will be served. Minimum of 16 participants required.

Seminars will be held at **WEA** Member Benefits, 660 John Nolen Drive, Madison. For complete seminar descriptions and registration go to www.weabenefits.com.



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

Calendar of Events

- Monday, March 16, 4:30 p.m., **MTI**
MTI Board of Directors
- Tuesday, March 17, 4:15 p.m., **SCFL**
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Tuesday, March 17, 6:00 p.m.
GreenPath Home Buyer Education Classes
1970 S. Stoughton Road
- Thursday, March 26, 4:30 p.m., **MTI**
USO-MTI Organizing
- Friday, March 27, *End of Third Quarter*
- March 30 - April 6 **SPRING BREAK**
- **Tuesday, April 7, ELECTION DAY - VOTE!**
- Thursday, April 9, 4:15 p.m., **MTI**
Special Education Sub-Committee



Our Union Makes Us Strong!

MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org
MTI's email - MTI@madisonteachers.org