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Solidarity!

*****Reminder*****

Teacher Individual Contracts Due June 15

Teacher's individual contracts for the 2015-16 school year have been issued by the District. Signed contracts of all returning teachers **must be received by the District's Human Resources Department not later than June 15**. *MTI strongly recommends that teachers return their signed contracts in person (do not rely on school mail) to assure that they are received on time.* Take along a copy and ask that it be stamped "received," and retain it with your personal records.

Failure to return a signed contract by June 15 may result in the District accepting such as one's **resignation**.

MTI President Peg Coyne Retires; President-elect Andy Waity Assumes Presidency

Longtime MTI activist Peg Coyne (Black Hawk), who was elected a year ago to her third term as MTI President, has decided to retire at the conclusion of the school year. Coyne also served as Union President for the 2011-12 and 2013-14 school years, was on the Union's Bargaining Committee for 12 years (2003-2015), and on the Union's Board of Directors for five years (2010-2015). She has taught in the District for 42 years.

As a result of her leadership during the Act 10 protests, she spoke several times around the United States, including before the Chicago Teachers Union, at an international labor conference in Minneapolis, and at a social issues conference in Osaka, Japan.

Andy Waity (Crestwood), MTI's President-elect, will assume the Union's Presidency at the conclusion of the school year. Given Coyne's retirement, Waity will serve for two years. Nominations for the remainder of Waity's At-Large position on the MTI Board will be received at the September 15 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council, or can be made by contacting MTI Executive Director John Matthews (matthewsj@madisonteachers.org 608-257-0491). The election will be held at the October Council meeting. The term expires September, 2016.

Also retiring this year are longtime MTI leaders Mike Lipp, Steve Pike and Barbara Rogers. Lipp and Pike each served two terms as MTI President, 12 and 6 years respectively on the Bargaining Committee, and 6 and 14 years respectively on the MTI Board of Directors. Rogers served 8 years on the MTI Cabinet on Personnel.

Insurance Changes During Summer

MTI-represented District employees are advised to call the District's Benefits Office (663-1795) regarding insurance benefits which are available via MTI's various Collective Bargaining Agreements, if any of the following events occur during the summer: **one gets married, changes address, changes name, retires, resigns, takes a leave of absence, has or adopts a child, and/or if one's dependent and/or spouse becomes ineligible/eligible for health or dental insurance coverage.** (See the health or dental insurance provision in the appropriate MTI Collective Bargaining Agreement; call MTI with questions.) One must add a new eligible person (e.g. child, including a new born, or spouse) **within 30 days of eligibility.**

Dependents: Under the revised state law regarding dependent coverage, adult children are eligible to remain on a parent's health and dental plan until the end of the year in which the child turns 26.

Spouse/DFP: A spouse becomes eligible upon marriage, termination of his/her employment, or loss of insurance with his/her employer; and becomes ineligible due to divorce. If one gets married, his/her spouse is not automatically covered by health or dental insurance. One must contact the District's Benefits Office to enroll his/her spouse or domestic family partner.

Remember the above-referenced 30 day rule. Waiting until fall to act, may render one's spouse, DFP, or other dependents ineligible. **Acting promptly assures your right to MTI-negotiated insurance.**

Attention Educational Assistants: Mandatory Training & Development

Section III-K of the EA-MTI Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that, "On teacher professional development days educational assistants shall attend staff training provided by the District when the District deems attendance to be mandatory." **August 26 and 27** are teacher professional development days. **The District has advised MTI that these two days are mandatory staff training days for all EAs.** In addition, **August 25 is the All Staff Day, which is a mandatory day for all EAs.** August 28 and 31 are not mandatory days for anyone in the EA bargaining unit. Anyone with questions may contact MTI Assistant Director Eve Degen (degene@madisonteachers.org).

**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 **2015-16 school year** are due at MTI Headquarters by **September 1, 2015.** An application and the MTI/MMSD agreed upon policy can be obtained by calling MTI or by visiting MTI's web page.

MTI Cares Joint Food Drive Results!

MTI's joint effort with MMSD, AFSCME and Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin successfully collected nearly 4,000 pounds of food and raised additional funds to provide at total of 4,286 meals to families and children in southwestern Wisconsin. Thirty-one work sites participated this year and the top five sites were all elementary schools: **Randall, Chavez, Stephens, Franklin** and, in the top spot, **Elvehjem.** *What a great way to show that MTI Cares!* Thanks to all who participated and helped promote this food drive. Feedback on this effort can be sent to Jeff Knight (knightj@madisonteachers.org / 257-0491).

**Bike Ride for Boys and Girls Club
July 18 - Join Team MTI Cares**

MTI Cares is once again participating in the annual *Bike Ride for Boys and Girls Club* on July 18. Join the team from a link on the MTI website and select a ride distance of 8, 25 or 50 miles. Each rider is asked to raise \$250. Last year, Team MTI Cares raised over \$2,000 for this event and had a wonderful time biking through Dane County on a beautiful summer day. *Pledges raised support the ongoing mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County to provide programs that inspire and enable our youth to realize their full potential.* Contact MTI Cares Team Captain, **Jeff Knight**, (knightj@madisonteachers.org) for any questions related to this event.

MTI Wear on Sale

Members are encouraged to wear MTI wear in the community to make a positive statement about education and educators. The following prices apply: t-shirt (\$5); polo-shirt (\$12); oxford button-down shirt (\$15); and sweatshirt (\$15). Show **SOLIDARITY** with your MTI Sisters & Brothers.



**Wellness Program: Last Opportunity
to Participate in Biometric Screenings**

Based on requests from employees who were unable to participate in previously scheduled biometric screenings, the District has **scheduled screenings on the following dates: Saturday, June 6; Friday, June 12; and Monday, June 15.** Each of the screenings will be held at **West High School** from 6:45a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Employees who wish to sign-up for one of the remaining screenings should log into myinterrahealth.com to register for an appointment.

**Last Issue of MTI Solidarity
for 2014-15 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 49 years.** It is published for delivery each Monday of the school year. This is the last issue of **MTI Solidarity!** for the 2014-15 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. **Note:** The MTI office will be closed July 2 & 3 for the July 4 Holiday.

Keep MTI Posted on Changes

Please call (608-257-0491), write or email MTI (mti@madisonteachers.org) 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.

**Calendar
of Events**



- **Monday, June 8,** 4:30 p.m., MTI Board of Directors
- **Thursday, June 11-** Semester Ends
- **Wednesday, July 8 -** MTI Brewer Game
- **August 25, 26 and 27** are required workdays for all members of the Teacher & EA-MTI bargaining units.
- **Friday, August 28** and **Monday, August 31** are New Teacher Days. *New Teacher Days are VOLUNTARY for returning teaching staff.*
- **Tuesday, September 1,** is the first day of school with students.

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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