



Solidarity!

821 Williamson St. * Madison, Wisconsin 53703-4503 * Phone (608) 257-0491 * Fax (608) 257-1168

Renew Your Commitment to MTI: Recertification Elections Again this Fall

The anti-union legislation passed in 2011 at Governor Walker's request requires public sector unions to undergo an annual recertification election *for the union to maintain its status as the representative of all workers covered by the union*. MTI has again filed petitions with the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC) calling upon them to conduct the election for each of MTI's five bargaining units (teachers, educational assistants, supportive educational employees, security assistants, and substitute teachers). The elections will be conducted November 4-24, 2015.



Unlike political elections that require the prevailing candidate win only the majority of votes cast, Act 10 requires public sector unions to win 51% of all eligible votes - in each unit - for the Union to remain the certified representative. If a person represented by MTI does not vote, it is considered a "no" vote. Last year, MTI employees in each of the five bargaining units voted overwhelmingly to recertify. Now, we have to do it again. Over the summer, MTI staff, elected leaders, and member organizers began developing this year's election plans. Additional information will be distributed as this important election approaches. *It is time once again to roll up our sleeves, reach out to each other, and renew our commitment to "Our Union", MTI.*

Nominations for MTI Elected Positions

Nominations will be received at the September 15 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. Due to retirements, two vacancies on the MTI Bargaining Committee and a vacancy exists as an MTI Delegate to SCFL. 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 Karen Vieth (*Sherman*) and Kira Fobbs (*Falk*). Both are seeking re-election. A vacancy exists due to Andy Waity being elected MTI President. The remainder of his term in the at-large position is one-year. Kerry Motoviloff (*Doyle*) and Kati Walsh (*Randall*) have been nominated. 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 are held on the second Monday of the month, commencing at 4:30 p.m.

Finance Committee term expires for Bruce Bobb (*Hoyt*). Bobb is seeking re-election. Two vacancies exist due to the retirement of Karen Lee-Wahl and Andy Waity being elected as President. Holly Hansen (*Lapham*) and Nichole Von Haden (*Doyle*) have been nominated. Terms for all positions 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 ~~Council meeting~~ *Constitutional Convention*.

Attention EA-MTI Members: General Membership Meeting & Cookout September 21

Members of MTI's Educational Assistants bargaining unit (EA-MTI) are invited to a general membership meeting and cookout on Monday, September 21, at 4:15 p.m., at MTI headquarters (821 Williamson Street). Socialize with your fellow EAs and enjoy some grilled food! Topics for discussion: handbook, recertification, union involvement. Please RSVP to Eve Degen (degene@madisonteachers.org) so food and drinks can be planned.

Nominations (continued)

Cabinet on Personnel term expires for Amy Noble (*Lowell*). Noble is seeking re-election. Two vacancies exist due to the retirement of Barbara Rogers and Peg Coyne. Kerry Motoviloff (*Doyle*) has been nominated for the position vacated by Rogers. The term is for two years. Cindy Ball (*Jefferson*) has been nominated for the position vacated by Coyne. The term is for one year. 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 Lauren Mikol (*Lincoln*), Kati Walsh (*Randall*), and Cindy Barbera (*Hamilton*). All are seeking re-election. Terms are for two years. A vacancy exists due to the retirement of Mike Lipp. Kari Carden (*Chavez*) has been nominated. The term is for two years. 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 Peg Coyne and Steve Pike. Jessica Wahl (*Whitehorse*) has been nominated for the Middle School position vacated by Coyne. The term is for one year. Amy Turkowski (*Franklin*) has been nominated for the High School position vacated by Pike. The term is for two years.

MTI Delegate to SCFL: A vacancy exists due to Andy Waity being elected as President. Michele Ritt (*Leopold*) has been nominated. The term expires March, 2017.

Substitutes: Check Your MMSD E-mail; New Sub Placement System

Substitute teachers make sure you regularly check your MMSD provided e-mail for instructions and updates from the District. The substitute placement system was changed over the summer from "Subfinder" to "Aesop." This occurred because the Aesop company bought out Subfinder. While the two systems are different, Aesop will continue to allow job assignments to occur by phone and over the internet.

If you are a returning substitute and have not done so, you will need to get registered in the system and set up to receive assignments. Check your MMSD e-mail for specific information you will need to get registered in the Aesop system. There are also basic training manuals and references listed in the e-mail that will help you become familiar with this new system. If you have problems getting set-up or have concerns about the way the new system is working, contact Jeff Knight (knightj@madisonteachers.org) at MTI.

Christina Stafslie Charity Golf Outing September 25

Teachers at La Follette High School have organized the 12th Annual Christina Stafslie 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, September 25, 4:00 p.m. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the Christina Stafslie Scholarship Fund which is awarded to a deserving La Follette student. Details and an application form can be obtained from the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org) or by contacting La Follette teacher Ted Ryan (tryan@madison.k12.wi.us / 204-3574).

Political Action Committee (PAC) Rebates

MTI VOTERS' Political Action Committee is funded to assist in promoting political causes of interest and benefit to MTI members via an assessment of 5% of one's annual Union dues. Deductions are made from each member's monthly wage. Funds are used exclusively to support Committee approved pro-education candidates and pro-education causes. If one does not wish to assist their Union's political efforts, by delivering WRITTEN NOTICE to MTI Headquarters by October 1, an advance refund of the school year's PAC deductions will be issued. Payment will be made by November 30. MTI VOTERS endorses candidates who pledge to support education and educators.

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.

Calendar of Events

- Thursday, September 10, 4:30 p.m., SCFL
SEE-MTI Board & Bargaining Team
- Monday, September 14, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
BOE Instruction Work Group
- Tuesday, September 15, 4:15 p.m., SCFL
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Saturday, September 19, 9:00 a.m. Breese Stevens Field
Fighting Bob Fest 2015
- Monday, September 21, 4:15 p.m., MTI
EA-MTI General Membership & Cookout
- Monday, September 21, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
BOE Operations Work Group

Did you know? MTI offers a Discount Program. Check it out. Go to "Union Info" and click on "MTI Discount Program" on MTI's web page.

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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