



Solidarity!

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2017-18 School Calendar Update

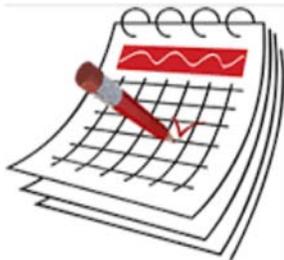
As previously reported, the Joint MTI/MMSD Calendar Committee has developed the 2017-18 school calendar. *Since then further details regarding next year's calendar were subsequently worked out by the Joint Committee relative to staff-only (formerly PD) days and parent-teacher conference days:*

- Staff-Only days: October 27, December 8, February 9, March 16, April 27, June 11
- Elementary conferences: November 16 and April 12
- Middle school conferences: November 15 (evening only), November 20 (early release and evening), March 2
- High school conferences: November 13 (evening only) and 21 (early release and evening)
- LaFollette conferences: October 19 and February 22 (and evenings)

The highlights of the calendar are:

- New teacher mandatory days — August 23-25
- Staff Learning/Prep days — August 28-31
- Voluntary day — September 1
- Labor Day holiday — September 4
- Beginning of first semester — September 5
- Parent-teacher compensatory day — November 22
- Thanksgiving break — November 23-24
- Winter break — December 22-January 2
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday — January 15
- Beginning of second semester — January 22
- Spring break — March 26-30
- Memorial Day holiday — May 28
- End of student school year — June 8
- High School graduations (weekend of June 8)
- Last work day for staff — June 11

The 2017-18 calendar represents a *series of compromises in a school year that contains several challenging holiday dates*. It is the product of multiple meetings and many hours of work by MTI members of the Joint Committee, which sought to represent and balance members' interests while maneuvering through a system impacted by many factors, including State laws, DPI regulations, and BOE policies. The above dates represent 176 student days; 4 staff-only (formerly PD) days before the school year begins; 1 voluntary day before the school year begins; 6 staff-only (formerly PD) days throughout the school year; 1 comp day; and 4 paid holidays.



The Joint Calendar Committee will begin discussions relative to the 2018-19 school calendar on March 9. There will be continuing discussion relative to staff-only days. **MTI members should also become more involved in their school's staff-only day schedule by being on SBLT or having direct conversations with their colleagues who are on SBLT.** The structure of these days is determined collaboratively at each school by SBLT and the principal.

As the Union moves forward in its post-Act 10 collaborative model, it is imperative that members' voices are heard by increased involvement at the individual work site level. **Members are encouraged to discuss this model, along with the collaborative problem-solving process, with their MTI Faculty Representatives.** Some schools are already having scheduled on-site discussions, where staff can discuss issues and get up-to-date information on MTI progress and events.

Temporary Reduction of Contract with Right to Return to Full-Time

Addendum A, Section 3.09 of the Employee Handbook provides that full-time teachers who wish to work part-time may request to do so for a period of one (1) year, and shall have the right to full-time regular contracts at the end of such period. Requests for part-time contracts must be made in writing to the Department of Human Resources on or before **March 1** of the preceding school year. To be eligible to apply for contract reduction under this Section, a teacher must have completed five (5) years of service with the District as a teacher by the time the contract reduction will become effective.

EA-MTI General Membership Meeting March 22; Election of Officers

Members of MTI's Educational Assistants bargaining unit (EA-MTI) will meet on Wednesday, March 22, commencing at 4:15 p.m., at MTI. There are many issues of importance for EAs, NAs and SEAs to discuss, including the future of the EA bargaining unit. Nominations for positions on the EA-MTI Board of Directors will also be taken at the March 22 meeting. Members may also make nominations via the nomination form that has been sent to all EA-MTI bargaining unit members, or by contacting MTI Assistant Director Eve Degen (degene@madisonteachers.org). Nominations will close at the March 22 meeting. *Get involved in your Union!*

The UW School of Education is Seeking Nominations for Two Sets of Awards

Rockwell Awards for Cooperating Teachers

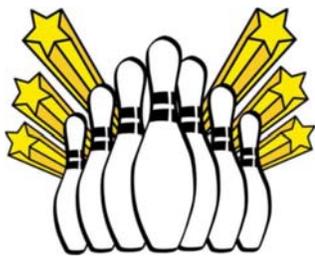
Roland and Ruth Rockwell provide four awards of \$1,000 each for teachers selected for their contribution to the UW-Madison field experience program. Please take the time to nominate an outstanding cooperating teacher in your school that has served UW-Madison pre-service teachers. Cooperating teachers may be nominated by their administrators, peers, university faculty and supervisors, or former student teachers.

Teacher Education Alumni Awards

Do you know an outstanding teacher, administrator or other K-12 school professional? Someone whose lifelong dedication to public service reflects the ideals of UW-Madison's School of Education? If that person is a UW-Madison School of Education graduate in elementary or secondary education, consider nominating him or her for a special alumni award.

The nomination deadline for all awards is **Friday, March 10**. Additional information on the nomination process is available at <http://education.wisc.edu/.../f.../partners-in-education-banquet> <<http://education.wisc.edu/soe/pk-12-education/cooperating-teachers/partners-in-education-banquet>>.

Awards will be presented at the Partners in Education Banquet on Thursday, May 4, for honorees, their guests, and all teachers who open their classrooms to provide field experiences for UW-Madison student teachers and practicum students.



MTI Cares Bowl-A-Thon April 30, 2017!

After three years of raising over \$30,000 for the Briarpatch Homeless Shelter that opened last October, MTI Cares is partnering with Safe Harbor for its fourth annual MTI Cares

Bowl-A-Thon on April 30. *April is Child Abuse Prevention Month*, and Safe Harbor serves as Dane County's **only** fully accredited child advocacy center. Mark your calendar, watch for more information and start prepping your team of 4-6 bowlers to have some fun and raise some money for a worthy cause, our children! See www.madisonteachers.org/bowl-a-thon2017/ for more information.

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 (\$10); polo-shirt (\$12); oxford button-down shirt (\$15); and sweatshirt (\$35). Show **SOLIDARITY** with your MTI sisters & brothers. Wear **MTI RED** on Mondays and **MTI lanyards** every day!

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

Volume 51, #26, February 27, 2017

MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org

MTI's email - MTI@madisonteachers.org

MTI Membership Corner

The following meetings, seminars, and workshops are available to MTI members *only*.

MTI & WEA Member Benefits: More Opportunities for Financial Services for MTI Members

MTI and WEA Member Benefits have scheduled more opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of MTI members. See MTI's website (www.madisonteachers.org) to sign-up for these seminars or financial consultations:

March 15 - Saving for Your Future: Why Saving Early and Often is Important

Most Wisconsin public school employees can expect their retirement income to come from three sources: WRS (the Wisconsin Retirement System pension), Social Security, and personal savings. Even though your pension benefit provides an excellent head start, today's employees need to consider personal savings to fill their retirement savings gap. Whether you are just beginning your career or are nearing the end of it, there is something for you. Join us for this crash course and get a better idea of how your pension and personal savings work to fill your retirement savings gap.

30-Minute Free Financial Consultations

WEA Member Benefits Consultant **Steve Pike** is available to provide individual MTI member financial guidance. See MTI's website: www.madisonteachers.org to sign up for a free 30-minute financial consultation. Consultations are held at MTI headquarters.

MTI Members: National Board Certification Support Workshops Continuing

MTI members currently working on National Board Certification are invited to attend monthly NBC Support Workshops provided at no cost by MTI and WEAC Region 6. Sessions are currently scheduled March 8, April 12, and May 10. Contact MTI if you are interested in attending or would like additional information at 608-257-0491 or at mti@madisonteachers.org.

Calendar of Events

- Monday, February 27, 6:00 p.m., Doyle Auditorium
BOE Regular Meeting
- Monday, March 6, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
BOE Instruction Work Group
- Wednesday, March 8, 4:15 p.m., MTI
MTI Special Education Sub-Committee
- Monday, March 13, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103
BOE Operation Work Group
- Tuesday, March 14, 4:30 p.m., MTI
MTI Board of Directors
- Wednesday, March 15, 4:15 p.m., MTI
USO-MTI Board of Directors
- Tuesday, March 21, 4:15 p.m., SCFL
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Wednesday, March 22, 4:15 p.m., MTI
EA-MTI Board & General Membership