



# Solidarity!

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## 2017-18 MTI Recommended Budget and Approval Process

On March 8, MTI Executive Director Doug Keillor and MTI Office Manager Yvonne Knoche presented the recommended 2017-18 MTI Budget to MTI's Finance Committee. The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation, which is designed to maintain MTI's current level of services and programs with no dues increase. In order to achieve a balanced budget, projected cost increases in some areas will be offset by decreases in other areas. While expenses in the MTI Budget will be managed, the wildcard in the Budget is on the revenue side of the ledger.

Currently, approximately 80% of all MTI-represented teachers are members of MTI and provide the financial support necessary for MTI's advocacy and services (the percentages in other MTI units varies). Non-members do not receive MTI membership benefits and membership services, but still benefit from MTI's collective advocacy related to the Employee Handbook, health insurance, salary increases, etc. If more non-members joined their sisters and brothers as members of MTI, providing financial support for the Union, MTI could actually *reduce* dues amounts (i.e., more members leads to lesser dues amount needed per member). Likewise, decreases in membership could result in either increases in dues or decreases in member services and support. This spring and summer, MTI organizers will engage in our annual MTI membership campaign to reach out to non-members and talk to them about joining the Union. Union density is not only important to our financial condition, but also our collective strength. More involved and engaged MTI members leads to a stronger Union that is better able to advocate for our students, schools, staff, and public education.

Pursuant to MTI Bylaws, the MTI Budget will next be presented at the **March 21 MTI Faculty Representative Council meeting**. The meeting will commence at 4:15 p.m., at the Madison Labor Temple (Room 201B). *All MTI members, from all bargaining units, are welcome to attend this presentation to learn more about the proposed MTI budget.*

Following the presentation at the Faculty Representative Council meeting, the Bylaws require that the Budget next be presented for approval at a meeting of **MTI's Joint Fiscal Group (JFG)**. The JFG is comprised of representatives of all five MTI bargaining units. That meeting is anticipated to take place at the April 18 Faculty Representative Council meeting. Members with questions about the MTI Budget are also welcome to contact MTI Executive Director Doug Keillor ([keillord@madisonteachers.org](mailto:keillord@madisonteachers.org)).

## Nominations Due for MTI Officers and Bargaining Committee

Any **member** of MTI's "teacher" collective bargaining unit who is interested in nominating a colleague, or himself/herself, for President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer should call or email MTI Executive Director Doug Keillor ([keillord@madisonteachers.org/257-0491](mailto:keillord@madisonteachers.org/257-0491)). The term of office for these positions is one year. As of this writing, seeking re-election are incumbents **Karen Vieth** (Sherman) for Vice President and **Cari Hauge** (Badger Rock) for Secretary. **Andy Mayhall** (Thoreau), who currently serves as an at-large member of the Board, has been nominated for Treasurer. Current Treasurer **Greg Vallee** is retiring this year. **Kerry Motoviloff** (Doyle), who was elected President-elect last May, will serve as President for the 2017-18 school year. Current President **Andy Waity** (Thoreau) has been nominated for President-Elect (serve as President for the 2018-19 school year). MTI's Bylaws provide a president-elect system, in which one serves as president-elect for one year and then becomes president.

Nominations are also open for five (5) positions on the 15-member MTI Bargaining Committee. Of the 15 positions, one position each from elementary school; middle school; and high school levels; plus one at-large and one educational services positions are elected each year. Terms are for three (3) years. Seeking election are: for High School Representative – incumbent **John Howe** (West); Middle School Representative - incumbent **Cindy Ball** (Jefferson); for At-Large Representative - incumbent **Amy Turkowski** (Franklin). Vacancies exist for an Elementary School Representative and an Educational Services (Middle School) Representative. Terms for all positions are three years.

Nominations for both the MTI Officers and Bargaining Committee will be received and closed at the March 21 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council. Nominations can also be made by an **MTI** Faculty Representative, from the floor, at the March 21 meeting. MTI's general election will be held April 24-26.

## Nominations & Election for MTI Delegates to the WEAC & NEA RAs

Nominations & the election for those interested in attending the WEAC Representative Assembly will be received at the March 21 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council. **The WEAC RA will be held April 22-23, in Stevens Point.** Pursuant to MTI Bylaws, the MTI Board of Directors attend as part of their duties.

In addition, nominations & the election for those interested in attending the NEA RA will also be received at the March 21 Council meeting. **The NEA RA will be held June 30-July 5, in Boston.** Other than the MTI President, the MTI budget does not fund delegates to the NEA RA.

Any MTI teacher bargaining unit **member** wishing to be nominated to be an MTI delegate to the WEAC and/or NEA RA needs to submit their name to MTI by March 21. Nominations may also be made at the March 21 Council meeting.

## EA-MTI General Membership Meeting March 22

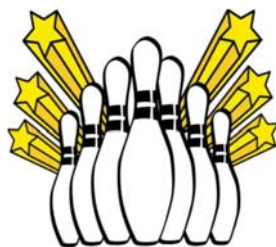
Members of MTI's Educational Assistants bargaining unit (EA-MTI) will meet on Wednesday, March 22, commencing at 4:15 p.m., at MTI. There are many issues of importance for EAs, NAs and SEAs to discuss, including the future of the EA bargaining unit. Nominations for positions on the EA-MTI Board of Directors 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 members, or by contacting Eve Degen ([degene@madisonteachers.org](mailto:degene@madisonteachers.org)).

## SSA-MTI General Membership Meeting March 23

Members of MTI's Security Assistants bargaining unit (SSA-MTI) will meet on Thursday, March 23, commencing at 4:30 p.m., at MTI. There are many issues of importance for SSAs to discuss, including the future of the SSA bargaining unit. Nominations for positions on the SSA-MTI Board of Directors will also be taken at the March 23 meeting. Members may also make nominations via the nomination form that was sent via email to all SSA-MTI members, or by contacting Eve Degen ([degene@madisonteachers.org](mailto:degene@madisonteachers.org)).

## "Staff Only" Day March 31; Structure of Day Determined by Principal and SBLT

There is no school for students on the March 31 "staff only" day (formerly known as PD days). The Employee Handbook, Section 4.06, provides that there will be one (1) full staff only day per quarter. *"The structure of the day is to be determined collaboratively at the building level by the principal and SBLT.* Such time shall include collaborative learning that supports and enhances the quality of teaching and is aligned to each school's SIP goals and strategies." **Educational Assistants and School Security Assistants have a mandatory workday on March 31.** Various professional development opportunities are available to specific groups within these bargaining units, at the District or individual school level.



## 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/](http://www.madisonteachers.org/bowl-a-thon2017/) for more information.

## Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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MTI's web page - [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)

MTI's email - [MTI@madisonteachers.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 for 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](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org).

## Calendar of Events

- 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
- Thursday, March 16, 4:30 p.m., SCFL  
MTI Bargaining/Handbook Committees
- Monday, March 20, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
MTI Planning Time Committee
- 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
- Monday, March 27, 6:00 p.m., Doyle Auditorium  
BOE Regular Meeting