



# Solidarity!

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## Standing in Solidarity With Our Immigrant, Refugee, and Undocumented Students

Last February, the MTI Board of Directors and MTI Faculty Representative Council passed a Safe Zone Proposal, requesting that the District adopt specific policies to establish Madison schools as safe zones for all of our children. The MTI resolution read, in part:

*“All students in the Madison Metropolitan School District should be free to learn and grow in a safe place. For many of our students, their greatest fear in the current political climate is their immigration status. Fear of detention or deportation from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agents is becoming a very real concern. There is only one world that keeps getting smaller and we need to continue to develop global communities in our schools. Scapegoating, deportations, and border walls only add suspicion and fear for children and their families at a time when we should come together in support of all students.”*

We are pleased to report that on **April 24**, the MMSD Board of Education adopted a resolution that includes those recommendations advanced by MTI. Included in the resolution are prohibitions on inquiring about a student’s/family member’s immigration status; prohibitions on school personnel communicating to federal agencies about a student’s immigration status; and denial of access to schools by immigration agents, except as required by law.

A copy of the full resolution is available on MTI’s webpage ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)). To ensure effective implementation, the resolution also requires the District to provide all staff and students with training. The BOE’s action will add MMSD to the list of school districts across the country standing up for immigrant, refugee, and undocumented students. **Solidarity!**

## BOE to Act on Insurance Health Recommendations May 1; Transition to Dean and GHC Recommended

On May 1, the Board of Education is scheduled to act on the District Administration’s recommendation to transition to two (2) health insurance providers (Dean and GHC) in order to provide funds for salary increases for District employees. Should the BOE approve the transition to two (2) health insurance providers, the MMSD Benefits Department, assisted by representatives from Dean and GHC, will commence an aggressive communications plan to inform District employees of the available insurance options, with print and e-mail communications to staff starting this week. In addition, **between May 8 and May 18**, the District will conduct dozens of informational meetings across the District, both before and after school (as well as Saturday sessions) to provide employees the opportunity to gather the necessary information necessary to make an informed decision on the health plan that is best for them and their families.

## MTI Headquarters Moving to WEAC Building on May 18



MTI has sold its building on Williamson Street. On May 18, MTI Headquarters will be relocating to the WEAC Building at 33 Nob Hill Road. We are confident that our move will be of major benefit to MTI members. The larger meeting space and parking capacity, along with the proximity to our State and regional partners, are real assets. MTI staff services and support for MTI members will continue uninterrupted during the move. MTI’s phone number will remain the same (608) 257-0491. MTI’s mailing address will change to: 33 Nob Hill Road, Madison, WI 53713.

*MTI is moving ... forward!*

## 12 Paycheck Option for 2017-18

Enrollment for the 12 paycheck option is **open from April 26 - July 31, 2017 for the 2017-18 school year**. This must be done *each year* or the pay option of 10 paychecks will default automatically. Paychecks are issued on the first of the month, unless the 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday: 10/1, 11/1, 12/1, 1/2, 2/1, 3/1, 4/1, 5/1, 6/1, 6/11 (last day of the school year); and paychecks #11 and #12 will be issued on the last day of June.

Per the Handbook: For teachers electing the twelve (12)-month pay plan, checks #11 and #12 will be directly deposited to their financial institution on the last day of June.

### What are your options?

- Receive 10 paychecks per year – *No further action required.*
- Receive 12 paychecks per year – *Complete the 12-Pay Election Form on the HR website:*

<https://hr.madison.k12.wi.us/teacher-pay-checks>.

### What do you need to know about electing to receive 12 paychecks?

- Enrollment is open through **July 31, 2017** for current teaching staff (New hire teachers will have a separate opportunity to enroll).
- **No late enrollments will be accepted.**
- You must annually file an election to receive 12 paychecks.
- Once a pay plan is chosen **it cannot be changed** until enrollment is open for the following school year.

## Teacher Appreciation Week May 7-13

Teachers give us so much. A boost of confidence when we really need one. Extra help when we're having trouble. A welcoming presence when everything else seems out of control. And though we know we can't ever thank them enough, we can take a moment during National Teacher Appreciation Week to share our appreciation for the special educators in our lives. Join NEA in saying "Thank You" by sharing a message on social media during Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-13. Go to: <http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html>.

MTI staff appreciates the dedication and passion that our educators put forth for students, their families, and our community. *Our heartfelt thanks and Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!*

Last week, MTI sent out an e-mail blast to all MTI members asking them to reach out to *thank SEE-MTI represented Administrative Professionals who support them daily.*

## Important Reminder! Teacher Contract Deadline—June 15

Teacher contracts for the 2017-18 school year will be sent to teachers in early May. Signed contracts of all returning teachers must be received in Human Resources no later than **June 15**. MTI strongly recommends that teachers return their signed contracts **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to the District's 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 results in the District accepting such as one's resignation.**

## Calendar Committee Discussing 2018-19 Calendar

The MTI/MMSD Calendar Committee has commenced work on the 2018-19 calendar. It is hoped that an early start on the calendar will allow more time to balance the interests of students, staff, and the community to construct the best calendar for all. Updates on the Calendar Committees work will be provided in the Friday Update and *MTI Solidarity!* as they become available.

## Take Kids Fishing Day June 3

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Madison area *Take Kids Fishing Day* is June 3, from 9-11:30 a.m., at the Henry Vilas Park Shelter. This event is sponsored by the Building & Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin. Dust off your fishing poles and get the kids outside for an exciting morning of catching bluegill and bass. This is the perfect opportunity to introduce youngsters to the benefits of fishing and the abundance of public access opportunities available in our community. Each registered kid will receive a fishing pole that is his or hers to keep, so register, grab your camera, and get ready for a fun day at Vilas Park. Be sure to join us after the event for a picnic-style lunch. The event is free and open to the public, but it is limited to the first 150 kids. All participants must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or chaperon. Please pre-register by Friday, May 19. To register, volunteer, sponsor, or provide door prizes, call Dave Branson at (608-256-3161).

## MTI Membership Opportunities

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

## MTI & WEA Member Benefits: 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 seminars or financial consultations:

- ◆ **Tuesday, May 9, 2017** - 4:30-5:30 p.m.  
Saving for Your Future

In addition, **Steve Pike** (retired teacher and current WEA Member Benefits Consultant) is available for a **free 30-minute financial consultation**. This is ideal if you are just getting started, have specific questions, or would like a quick check-in. It's a convenient way to meet with someone face-to-face to get some general help or guidance. Consultations are held at MTI Headquarters.

## National Board Certification Support Workshop May 10

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. Contact MTI if you are interested in attending or would like further information on NBC (608-257-0491 or [mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org)).

## Calendar of Events

### May 9—National Teacher Day!

- Monday, May 1, 5:45 p.m., Doyle, Room 103  
BOE Instruction Work Group
- Monday, May 2, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
MTI Constitution Committee
- Wednesday, May 3, 4:30 p.m., MTI  
SEE/EA/SSA Boards of Directors
- Thursday, May 4, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
MTI/MMSD Joint Safety Committee
- Monday, May 8, 5:00 p.m., Doyle, Room 103  
BOE Operations Work Group
- Tuesday, May 9, 4:30 p.m., MTI  
MTI Cabinet on Personnel
- Tuesday, May 9, 5:00 p.m., MTI  
MTI Board of Directors
- Tuesday, May 16, 4:15 p.m., SCFL  
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Monday, May 22, 6:00 p.m., Doyle, Auditorium  
BOE Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, May 23, 4:00 p.m., Lowell Center  
MMSD Retirement Celebration
- Wednesday, May 31, 4:00 p.m., Doyle, Room 100A  
MTI/MMSD Joint Benefits Committee

## 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)