



# Solidarity!

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## 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. Although 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/teacherdav.html>. MTI 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!*

### Health Insurance Transition to Dean and GHC

On May 1, the Board of Education acted on the District Administration's recommendation (which MTI supported) to transition to two (2) health insurance providers (Dean and GHC) in order to provide funds for salary increases for District employees. The MMSD Benefits Department, assisted by representatives from Dean and GHC, have commenced an aggressive communications plan to inform District employees of the available insurance options with print and e-mail communications to staff, as well as numerous informational meetings.

**What do employees need to do?** Employees currently with Dean and GHC do not need to do anything. Employees with Unity Insurance will need to decide whether to enroll in Dean or GHC coverage, and whether they prefer HMO or POS coverage. The District is providing all impacted employees with detailed information about each plan and has scheduled **thirty-two (32)** informational sessions between now and May 20, which employees can attend to find out more information and have their questions answered by representatives from MMSD, Dean, and GHC. **Employees will need to enroll in their new coverage by May 26.**

The MMSD Benefits Department will be leading this transition and MTI recommends that employees look for and review the information provided by the District and contact the MMSD Benefits staff directly with questions. Detailed information can also be found on the District's Benefits website. Employees can also call the MMSD Benefits Helpdesk with questions: (608) 663-1692. <https://hr.madison.k12.wi.us/healthinsurance>

MTI staff remain available to assist any members who experience difficulties with this process.

### MTI Cares Bowl-A-Thon Raises Over \$11,000 for Safe Harbor

MTI Cares extends a *Solidarity shout-out* to all the sponsors, volunteers, participants, and donors who made the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual MTI Cares Bowl-A-Thon a huge success! The day was dreary outside, but spirits were bright and the pins were jumping inside Dream Lanes when over 120 bowlers showed up to bowl for a great cause and have some fun. This year, MTI Cares teamed with Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center to close out "Child Abuse Prevention Month." The event helped raise money and awareness of the work they do to help conduct safe and sensitive forensic interviews of children who are witnesses or victims of abuse. This year, MTI Cares received sponsorship donations from the *East High Purgolder Philanthropy Foundation* and the *Sherman Equity Leadership Council*, in addition to local businesses, Unions, and community leaders. Toward the end of the event, MTI Cares received an anonymous personal donation of five, crisp \$100 bills! Way to go, MTI! Solidarity in action to help our kids and families. A full list of sponsors is available on the MTI Bowl-A-Thon website. MTI Cares is always looking for more folks to get involved. If you have an interest and are willing to help organize an event, contact MTI ([mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org)).

### MTI Headquarters Moving to WEAC Building on May 18



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!*

### Important Reminder! Teacher Contract Deadline—June 15

Teacher contracts for the 2017-18 school year have been sent to teachers. 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.**

## MTI Election Results

MTI's Election Committee has tallied the ballots cast in last week's MTI teacher bargaining unit general election and has certified the election of MTI officers: **Andrew Waity** (Crestwood) as President-Elect (serves as President in 2018-19); **Karen Vieth** (incumbent/Sherman) as Vice-President; **Andy Mayhall** (Thoreau) as Treasurer; and **Cari Hauge** (incumbent/Elvehjem) as Secretary. **Kerry Motoviloff** (Doyle), who was elected last spring, will serve as President for the 2017-18 school year. Officers will be installed at the May 16 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council. The MTI Board of Directors consists of ten members - six officers who are elected by the general membership and four at-large representatives elected by the MTI Faculty Representative Council.

Elected to the MTI Bargaining/Handbook Committee are: High School Representative - **John Howe** (incumbent-West); Middle School Representative - **Cindy Ball** (incumbent-Jefferson); Elementary School Representative - **Susan Stern** (Shorewood); and At-Large Representative - **Amy Turkowski** (incumbent-Franklin).

## DPI Licensing—Check your License Expiration

DPI accepts license applications only **online**. It is **important to review the expiration date of your license and prepare for renewal**. Anyone whose license is not current is in jeopardy of losing their teaching contract, and even be restricted from substitute teaching in Wisconsin public schools. All teachers/substitute teachers are responsible to renew their licenses before they expire. **Licenses typically expire June 30**. The DPI licensing website provides a tool that allows one to review their current license(s) and expiration date(s). Additional information regarding the license renewal process can be found at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/elo>.

## Earn up to 6 Graduate-Level Credits While Developing Curriculum Over the Summer!

This summer, earn graduate-level semester credits/units from the Dominican University of California as you prepare for the 2017-18 school year. Options include working with colleagues to create a blended learning course, integrating STEM-related lessons or ESL activities into the curriculum, taking the time to research and integrate 21st Century technology tools into lessons, analyzing student data in order to plan instruction or design interventions, or locating and reading student non-fiction books to meet CCSS. This affordable, accredited course allows you to earn credit for the time devoted to planning, which will benefit both teachers and students. This teacher-friendly course includes flexible time commitments, support from a regional instructor, opportunities for collaboration, and supportive face-to-face exit interviews.

Enroll online at [www.dominicanCAonline.com](http://www.dominicanCAonline.com). Select the Summer Course tab, your state and district to enroll in #9940. Following enrollment, you will be contacted by a regional instructor who will answer any questions and help ensure you receive guidance to earn the credits. **REGISTER BY JUNE 30, 2017.**

## MTI Wear; Women's Cut T-Shirts

Women's cut t-shirts (V-neck \$19; crewneck \$16); regular t-shirts (\$10); polo-shirts (\$12); oxford button-down shirts (\$15); and sweatshirts (\$35) are available to MTI members.

## 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 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
- Wednesday, May 10, 4:00 p.m., Doyle, Room 129  
MTI/MMSD Joint Planning Time Committee
- Monday, May 15, 4:00 p.m., Doyle, Room 100A  
MTI/MMSD Joint Compensation Committee
- Tuesday, May 16, 4:15 p.m., SCFL  
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Thursday, May 18, 1:00 p.m., WEAC Media Room  
MTI Retiree Group
- Monday, May 22, 6:00 p.m., Doyle, Auditorium  
BOE Regular Meeting
- Tuesday, May 23, 4:00 p.m., Lowell Center  
MMSD Retirement Celebration
- Thursday, June 8—Semester Ends

### June 9—Staff Only Day

**Note:** The *May 17 EA-MTI Building Rep meeting* has been postponed. More information to follow.

## 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)