



Solidarity!

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

MTI Center for New Teacher Retention and Support (CNTRS) and Release-Time MTI President Starting in 2017-18

Last spring (2016), **Kerry Motoviloff** (Doyle) was elected to the position of MTI President-elect, which led to her installation as MTI President at the May 16 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council. However, MTI's work this school year with the National Education Association (NEA) on the Center for New Teacher Retention and Support (CNTRS) initiative, and the NEA's recent agreement to fully fund that work, presented her with an opportunity to accept a three-year appointment as MTI Coordinator of this initiative. Therefore, immediately upon her installation as MTI President, Motoviloff resigned her position, allowing newly-elected MTI President-elect **Andrew Waity** (Crestwood) to assume the position of MTI President.

Other MTI officers elected in MTI's April general election and installed at the Faculty Representative Council meeting were: **Karen Vieth** (Sherman) as **Vice President**; **Andy Mayhall** (Thoreau) as **Treasurer**; and **Cari Hauge** (Elvehjem) as **Secretary**. The MTI Board of Directors consists of 10 members - the six above-referenced officers, who are elected by the general membership, and four at-large representatives elected by the MTI Faculty Representative Council.

Installed on the MTI Bargaining Committee were: High School Representative - **John Howe** (West); Middle School

Representative - **Cindy Ball** (Jefferson); Elementary School Representative - **Susan Stern** (Shorewood); and At-Large Representative - **Amy Turkowski** (Franklin). The MTI Bargaining Committee consists of 15 members. One from each of the referenced areas is elected each year.

Following the recommendation of the MTI Constitution Committee, the Faculty Representative Council then acted to amend MTI's Bylaws to provide for a full-time, release-time MTI President, and changed the term of office to a two-year term. Therefore, Waity will serve as MTI President for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years as a full-time, release-time President (i.e., he will receive a leave of absence from his teaching position to serve as MTI President).

Both Waity's and Motoviloff's positions with MTI are being funded by the NEA (i.e. no MTI dues money is budgeted for these positions). The establishment of the CNTRS initiative and the approval of a full-time release-time MTI President position are the culmination of year-long efforts by two appointed MTI Committees charged with exploring these opportunities and making recommendations. The approval of these initiatives provides MTI with exciting opportunities as we continue to evolve as a member-led Union.

Joint General Membership Meetings for EA, SEE, and SSA Units to Consider One Big MTI Support Staff Unit May 31, 4:30 p.m., Labor Temple

The passage of Act 10 in 2011 and the transition from collective bargaining to our current model of advocacy have raised questions about the relevance of separate, smaller bargaining units and the potential benefits of a larger, more unified, support staff unit. A larger support staff bargaining unit could create greater member solidarity at the workplace, encourage greater member engagement, and provide a larger pool from which to draw elected leaders and activists - all ingredients to building a stronger Union.

What do you think? A general membership meeting of the EA, SEE, and SSA units has been scheduled for **Wednesday, May 31**, to consider motions to dissolve the three separate units (EA, SEE and SSA) and create one new consolidated bargaining unit. All active EA, SEE, and SSA members (*only*) are encouraged to attend and participate in this discussion and decision.

Stop by the MTI Open House - June 2

After thirty-seven (37) years on Williamson Street, MTI has moved into the WEAC Building at 33 Nob Hill Road. Our new headquarters provides MTI members with improved meeting and parking space, as well as access to our state and regional affiliates, all at reduced costs. All MTI members are invited to drop by the **MTI Open House on Friday, June 2, between 3:30 and 6:00 p.m.**, to tour the new office space and enjoy refreshments, as we celebrate the end of another school year. MTI shirts, *some at discounted prices*, will be available for sale. (Directions <https://binged.it/2qWZmbV>)

Important Reminder! Teacher Contract Deadline—June 15

Teacher contracts for 2017-18 school year must be received in the District's HR office no later than **June 15**. *Failure to return a signed contract by June 15 results in the District accepting such as one's resignation.*

Memorial Gathering in Honor of Margaret Stumpf

Margaret Stumpf was an active MTI member and special education teacher in MMSD. She passed away last June in St. Cloud, MN. Family and friends are honoring Margaret by holding a memorial on **Sunday, June 4, from 12-3 p.m., at Lake Edge Park Shelter**, 511 Park Ct., Madison. Bring an appetizer or non-alcoholic beverage to share. Questions? Call or text Christel Preuss at 608-513-0961.

Important Announcement – License Renewal WECAN Discontinuance: Last Day June 15

The WECAN website for the PDP process will be discontinued as of June 15. No new accounts for PDPs can be initiated in WECAN. For more information, go to the DPI's website <https://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/pdp>.

- ◆ If you initiated your PDP in the WECAN system, and will not verify prior to June 1, you will need to transfer your PDP over to QEI manually.
- ◆ If you have not started the PDP in WECAN you can no longer create a new PDP. The educator must begin a new PDP in QEI.
- ◆ If you have your PDP in WECAN, you will need to manually transfer the PDP into QEI by creating a QEI account by downloading information and uploading it to QEI.
- ◆ If you have a previously verified PDP in WECAN and want to save it, you will want to login and save it as a PDF in the file location of your choice.

Packing and Moving - Reminder!

For many years, MTI's representation assisted teachers in receiving additional compensation when they had to pack, move, and unpack their classrooms, due to construction or other physical necessity in their schools. *However, because the District became increasingly intransigent when it came to fairly compensating teachers for doing this work, MTI negotiated specific terms.*

Under Addendum A (Section 15.04) of the Employee Handbook, teachers are **NOT REQUIRED** to pack/move, and/or unpack, teaching materials, either during the school year or during a school recess period due to [major] cleaning (defined as cleaning not regularly associated with annual and/or routine classroom cleaning), construction projects, repairs, electrical upgrades, etc.; due to their classroom being moved at management's request; *OR* when the District deems it necessary to utilize the teacher's classroom for classes or other activities during a school recess period. **The District will arrange for the teachers' materials to be moved to his/her newly assigned location.** If materials are relocated during a period when school is in recess, they will be returned by the District when school resumes.

Teachers may, *at their option*, use contract time to complete packing and/or unpacking, related to routine classroom cleaning. *Teachers who are asked by their principal to pack, and/or unpack, teaching materials as set forth in paragraph 2 above, are to complete a form available from the principal to be submitted to and approved by the District Director of Human Resources (or his/her designee) prior to commencing said packing or unpacking.* The District will, upon receipt of such form and verification of said work falling within the parameters of paragraph 2, *inform the teacher that he/she will not be required to perform the work.*

Other than to accommodate employees under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Wisconsin Fair Employment Act (WFEA) where their disability prohibits them from packing, unpacking and moving their materials, *teachers who request to move from one classroom to another in the same school may be required move their own teaching materials.*

Wear Orange- Saturday, June 3

The advocacy groups *Moms Demand Action* and *Everytown for Gun Safety* have been working on an educators campaign to show state lawmakers across the country that teachers, administrators, and workers in our educational system do not want guns on campuses or in classrooms. A public event to show support will be held on **Saturday, June 3, from 3-4 p.m.**, at the Labor Temple (1602 S. Park St.). Last year, the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families wrote a report entitled "[ChildDeath Toll: Wisconsin Children Killed by Guns.](#)" It is a tragedy that such a report even exists. Data from the Gun Violence Archive shows that over the past three years incidents of gun violence across the United States is steadily rising. Already this year, there have been 114 mass shootings. See MTI's webpage (www.madisonteachers.org) for further information.

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 will soon be scheduling more opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of MTI members. Check the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org) to sign-up for seminars over the summer.

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: Jump Start Training July 24-26

Another opportunity for those MTI members interested in completing components of National Board Certification next school year is **WEAC's Jump Start training, July 24-26**. *Jump Start* is an intensive seminar geared for teachers pursuing National Board Certification who intend to submit components in the 2017-18 school year. This professional development opportunity has been designed by NEA members who are Nationally Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs). Over the years, these Union members have worked with thousands of candidates across the country assisting with component entry. Union members who are just beginning their National Board journey, can register by going to www.weacjumpstart.org.

Calendar of Events

- Wednesday, May 31, 4:30 p.m., SCFL EA, SEE, SSA General Membership Meeting
- Saturday, June 3—Moms Demand Action
- Thursday, June 8 — Semester Ends
- Friday, June 9 — Staff Only Day
- Thursday, June 22—Mallards Game
- Saturday, July 15—Bike Ride for Boys & Girls Club

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

Volume 51, #38, May 30, 2017

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