



# Solidarity!

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## Nominations Finalized for MTI Teacher Elected Positions

At the September 27 meeting of the MTI Faculty Representative Council, nominations were finalized for a number of MTI (teacher unit) leadership positions. MTI Bylaws call for nominations to be finalized at the September meeting of the Council and the election for all positions at the October meeting of the Council (these positions are elected by the Faculty Rep Council).

Nominated for three (3) at-large positions on the MTI Board of Directors were **Michael Jones** (Black Hawk) and **Jen Greenwald** (Muir) for one of the positions. The term is two years. Nominated for the second position were **Jessica Hotz** (East), **Susan Stern** (Shorewood), and **Joan Eggert** (Hamilton). The term is for one year. The third position is that held by **Kira Fobbs**. The term is two years.

Nominated for two (2) positions on the Cabinet on Personnel were incumbent **Amy Noble (Doyle)** for one position; and **Halie Xistris** (Doyle) and **Xanda Fayen** (IAE) for the second position. Terms are for two years.

Nominated for three (3) positions on the MTI Finance Committee were incumbent **Bruce Bobb** (Hoyt), incumbent **Holly Hansen** (Lapham), and **Cindy Barbera** (Hamilton). Terms are for

one year.

Nominated for five (5) positions on the MTI Political Action Committee, MTI VOTERS, were incumbents **Susan Stern** (Shorewood), **Kati Walsh** (Muir), **Cindy Barbera** (Hamilton), and **Anne Schoenemann** (Cherokee). Terms are for two years. **Michael Jones** (Black Hawk) and **Sandy Welander** (Schenk) were nominated for the 5th position. The term is for one year.

In addition, four (4) vacancies exist on the MTI Handbook/Bargaining Committee. Nominated were **Steve Somerson** (East) for High School (term expires May, 2018), **Pamela Ferrill** (Doyle) for At-Large (term expires May, 2019), **Kati Walsh** (Muir) for Elementary School (term expires May, 2019), and **Kristin Scheffler** (Sherman) for Middle School Student Services representative (term expires May, 2020).

Nominated for a vacancy as an MTI Delegate to the South Central Federation of Labor was **Cory Hayden** (LaFollette). The term expires March, 2018.

Nominated for one (1) position on MTI Cares was **Lora Schmid-Dolan** (Lincoln). The term expires September, 2018.

## ESEA Meeting Update

The newly-formed MTI bargaining unit Educational Support Employees Association-MTI, a merger of EA-MTI, SEE-MTI, and SSA-MTI, held their first Building Representatives meeting on September 26. Members received an update on the status of the 2018-19 Handbook, currently under discussion, discussed the upcoming Recertification Election and member outreach, and discussed other timely work site issues. One major issue plaguing SEAs is the reassignment of hours to lower-paid EA hours, in possible contravention of the Handbook. As part of MTI's investigation into this issue, all SEAs who have had some or all of their hours reassigned as EA hours should send a copy of their 2016-17 and 2017-18 work assignments to MTI as soon as possible. Also at issue are the G-2 schools who have assigned Chromebook laptops to students, but not to EAs/SEAs, or done any Google training of EAs/SEAs. If your school has forgotten about its hard-working EAs and SEAs in this way, please let us know! Send updates and information to [mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org), or fax it to: 257-0491.



## State Budget Makes Big Changes to Initial Educator and Professional Educator Teaching Licenses

The recently signed 2017-19 State budget includes major changes to teacher licensing, including the creation of Lifetime Licenses for anyone holding a current professional or master license (*i.e.* those individuals will no longer be required to earn credits or complete PDPs to renew their licenses). Major changes will also impact those teachers currently holding initial educator licenses (*though some of those details have yet to be finalized*). MTI will provide additional clarification as it becomes available. In the meantime, teachers are encouraged to check the DPI website for updated information (<https://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/1/news>).

## New Professional Support Series

As we welcome a high number of new hires to MMSD, MTI CENTRS is sponsoring a series of nights to help educators new to Madison acclimate to what it means to be a teacher in Madison and how MTI is here to support them. The *Collaboration Ensuring New Teacher Retention and Success* project (CENTRS) is a grant-funded partnership project among MTI, MMSD, and NEA. It aims to help our early educators and new hires succeed. Our first NEW PROFESSIONALS event is **October 4**, at MTI's new building (33 Nob Hill Rd), from 4:15-6:00 p.m. Snacks will be provided. If you are new to Madison, join us on **Wednesday, Oct. 4—Employee 101: Come learn about your pay stub, your insurance, substitutes, and your Union!** This session is open to all teachers hired in the last 3 years (members and non-members). **Spots are limited to 35 seats**, with the October 4 session being the first of six sessions. Educators can earn a \$25 reward for attending 3 or more sessions! Questions? Interested? Sign up soon! Contact Kerry Motoviloff, Project Lead ([kmotoviloff@madisonteachers.org-CENTRS](mailto:kmotoviloff@madisonteachers.org-CENTRS)).



## How Do I Join MTI?

Click on the "RENEW" icon/link on the MTI webpage ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)) for step-by-step directions. When you join your colleagues as an MTI member, you are making a decision to *stand together in solidarity on important issues that impact your profession, our schools, and our students*. MTI provides you with a voice in the workplace with the School Board, and at the State Capitol. Our opponents are highly organized. We need to be as well.

## Employee Wellness Fair October 7

Join MMSD for the 1st Annual Employee Health and Wellness Fair. All MMSD employees and their family members are invited! The Fair will take place on Saturday, October 7, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30p.m., at the Warner Park Community Center (1625 Northport Drive, Madison). There will be informational booths, financial advisers, short instructional classes, flu-shots, yoga sessions, and kid-friendly activities. For more details see the [MTI website](#) under Employee Wellness, or e-mail the MMSD Employee Wellness committee at: [wellness@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:wellness@madison.k12.wi.us).



### USO-MTI Board of Directors Nominations Due by October 12

Attention substitute teachers! Your Union, USO-MTI, is holding elections for all five offices on the Board of Directors. These offices are two-year terms and include: President, Vice President\* (7 -12), Vice President (K-6), Vice President (At-Large), and Secretary\*. (\*Currently vacant or seeking replacement.)

The Board of Directors represent substitute teachers in Handbook discussions with the District and can also form and appoint committees to work with MMSD administration on substitute-related concerns. *Nominations are currently open to all USO-MTI members and will close at the USO Board of Directors meeting on October 12.* Elections will be held at the next USO-MTI General Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 26, 4:15 p.m., at MTI.

E-mail [mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org) or call (608) 257-0491 to nominate yourself or someone else. To join and add your voice, please see [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org) or call 257-0491. One must be a member of USO-MTI to hold office or vote.

We need member involvement and engagement to help elevate the concerns of substitute teachers. It requires about 10 meetings a year to be an effective Board member. Substitutes are a necessary and critical part of a functional district. We are currently forming a regular work group to meet with representatives from the Substitute Placement Office to work toward improvements. Run for a seat on the Board, or attend the October 26 meeting to meet your Board of Directors candidates and find out about current events with USO-MTI.

### Your Input Needed on MTI Website

MTI is starting the process of redesigning the MTI website ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)) to increase its effectiveness as a communication tool and information hub for both members and the general public. As part of that process, we are looking for MTI members interested in serving on a focus group to provide feedback on the redesign. Please contact MTI at [mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org) if you are interested in assisting with this effort. This work is expected to be completed this fall/winter.

## 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 are providing more opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of MTI members. Sign-up links and information for the following seminars are available on the MTI website ([www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)).

- **Retirement Planning 101**—October 26, 4:30-5:45 p.m.
- **Student Loan Forgiveness** —November 29, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

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. Sign-up is also available on MTI's website.

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**MTI National Board Certification Training Workshops for 2017-18.** MTI members pursuing National Board Certification are invited to participate in monthly NBC support workshops. The next session is October 11. Contact MTI to register.

**MTI members in need of assistance:** See your MTI Faculty Representative or contact MTI staff (608-257-0491 or [mti@madisonteachers.org](mailto:mti@madisonteachers.org)) should you have a question or need *assistance with any work-related matter*.

## Calendar of Events

- Monday, October 2, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103  
BOE Instruction Work Group
- Wednesday, October 4, 9:00 a.m., MTI  
MTI -Retired
- Tuesday, October 10, 4:30 p.m., MTI  
MTI Board of Directors
- Tuesday, October 17, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- Wednesday, October 18, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
ESEA-MTI Board of Directors
- Monday, October 23, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103  
BOE Operations Work Group
- Wednesday, October 25, 4:15p.m., MTI  
MTI VOTERS Political Action Committee
- Wednesday, October 25, 5:00 p.m., Doyle Room 103  
BOE ERO ad hoc Committee
- Thursday, October 26, 4:15 p.m., MTI  
USO-MTI General Membership
- Monday, October 30, 6:00 p.m., Doyle Auditorium  
BOE Regular Meeting

## Our Union Makes Us Strong!

Volume 52, #5, October 2, 2017

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

MTI's email - [MTI@madisonteachers.org](mailto:MTI@madisonteachers.org)