

School Safety Update: April 6, 2018

Saturday, March 24: Hundreds of MTI members joined over 2,500 allies on the [March for Our Lives](#) march and rally in downtown Madison. MTI Board member and Blackhawk Middle School teacher Michael Jones gave a rousing speech at the rally which you can find posted on the MTI Facebook page.

Monday, March 26: Many MTI members spoke out on social media concerned about comments attributed to Superintendent Cheatham in a [Wisconsin State Journal article](#) which appeared to blame teachers for increasing classroom behavior issues. The MTI Board of Directors also took exception to the comments in the article and [issued this response](#) to Superintendent Cheatham the following day.

Wednesday, March 28: MTI staff and members of the MTI Safety Committee participated in an active shooter (CRASE) training conducted by the Madison Police Department to help identify what components of that training should be incorporated into the Code Red lockdown procedures currently practiced by the District. The Safety Committee will continue that discussion later this month.

Monday, April 2: MTI President Andy Waity and Executive Director Doug Keillor met with the Superintendent to discuss the concerns raised in the newspaper article and receive her clarification on the comments attributed to her. Later that day, MTI Board members attended the Board of Education Work Group meeting to convey the sentiments of MTI members on the Superintendent's comments to the BOE and to advise the Board that MTI would be sharing educator recommendations on improving school climate at the May 7 BOE Work Group meeting when BEP considerations are scheduled for consideration. You can view the public comments of MTI leaders [here](#) beginning around the 7:20 mark.

Tuesday, April 3: The Superintendent forwarded an e-mail message to all staff addressing the criticism she had received for the newspaper comments and clarifying her intentions.

Friday, April 6: E-mail blast to all MTI members with the timeline for drafting and sharing the MTI platform for the *School Climate Our Students Deserve*.