



# Solidarity!

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## Bargaining Update: Mediation To Be Scheduled Over Wage Increase

Negotiators for MMSD and MTI have agreed to request the services of a mediator to assist them in resolution of base-wage negotiations. Act 10 provides for collective bargaining over base-wage increases only, and further restricts such increases to no more than the cost-of-living (*without going to referendum for greater authority*). This year's cost-of-living increase has been determined to be **2.13%**. Bargaining commenced on May 9, with the District administration initially offering a **0.5%** base-wage increase for 2018-19, before increasing their offer to 1.26%. MTI continues to push the District to provide a **cost-of-living base-wage increase (2.13%) for all MTI-represented employees and shared the following statement in support of its proposal:**

- A cost-of-living pay increase should be a **minimal expectation of all employees**, particularly those charged with the profound responsibility of educating our children.
- A cost-of-living pay increase should also be a minimal expectation, given the **decreases in take-home pay** that District employees have received over the past eight years due to shifting benefit costs and frozen or negligible salary increases.
- A cost-of-living pay increase should be a minimal expectation for a Union that has worked in partnership with the

District over many years to **reduce benefit costs and increase school revenues.**

- A cost-of-living increase should be a minimal expectation in a **community that strongly supports its public schools and values its educators**, and overwhelmingly approved a referendum in 2016 authorizing the BOE to raise the revenue it needs to maintain our high-quality public schools, which depend on high-quality school staff.
- A cost-of-living increase should be a minimal expectation in a school year in which **Employee Compensation** was promised as a **lead budget strategy** after years in which other "strategic priorities" received greater budget priority.
- A cost-of-living increase should be a minimal expectation for the **2,000 District employees** who will not receive any other form of pay increase next year.
- A cost-of-living increase should be a minimal expectation in a nation that is witnessing a massive mobilization of educators from West Virginia to Oklahoma to Milwaukee demanding an end to decades of cuts to public education and long overdue pay increases for those working to educate our children.

MTI will advise members once a date for mediation is set.

## MTI-MMSD Safety Committee Update

The MTI-MMSD Safety Committee met on May 14 to discuss both short-term (2018-19) and long-term (2019-20) changes to the Behavior Education Plan. The District is recommending relatively minor policy changes for the 2018-19 school year, with a full review of the BEP during that year for more substantive updates in 2019-20. MTI has drafted a platform for **Creating the School Climates Our Students and Staff Deserve** and will be working to advance that platform during Employee Handbook discussions and via the Strategic Framework Planning sessions. The Safety Committee is scheduled to reconvene on June 4 to discuss recommended changes to the Code Red Lockdown procedures, as well as the District's recommendations for safety upgrades to submit to the State for funding. MTI members will continue to receive updates on our Safety Committee work over the summer via e-mail bulletins.

## Important Reminder! Teacher Contract Deadline June 15

Signed contracts of all returning teachers must be received in Human Resources no later than **June 15**. Failure to return a signed contract by June 15 results in the District accepting such as one's resignation.

## 2,841 Years of Service

**Combined service of 2,841 years are departing the District, as 121 employees retire.** Their pending June retirement was cause for celebration at the annual joint MTI-MMSD reception at the Alliant Energy Center on May 10. Topping the list of years of service to Madison's children are:

**Teachers:** Lucerne Rice (45); Susan Lee (39); Susan Dudley (33); Anne Schoenemann (33); and Patricia Arndt (33). **Educational Assistants:** Debra Beckwith (28); Margaret Peterson (28); Jean Vetter (28); Theresa Burr (26); and Torri Grow (21). **Clerical/Technical Employees:** Mary Willadsen (28); Nancy Mohr (23); Lynne Kimball (21); Nancy Battist (19); and Sandra Foreman (14).

## ESEA-MTI End-of-Year Appreciation Picnic May 31

You've worked hard all year, now it's time to get together and celebrate the end of the year! Please join us for a cookout and short ESEA-MTI membership meeting. If you are inclined to bring a non-member with you, feel free; we can show them what

the UNION is all about! **Thursday, May 31, 4:15–6:15 p.m., at MTI (33 Nob Hill Rd.)**



## MTI Listening Session—May 23 Schools Our Students Deserve

Have you ever wanted to gather with colleagues and develop a plan to better serve and support our students and families? As educators, you see first-hand the needs of our students and families everyday. As such, your Union believes you are the best people to articulate a vision or strategy on how schools can best address and support these needs. MTI Community Schools Task Force is holding an open listening and visioning session. Join us on **Wednesday, May 23rd, from 4:15-5:45 p.m., in the MTI Lounge**. Come hear what is making a difference across the nation. Come share what you want to happen here in Madison. Come hope. Come dream. Come lead. RSVP to Kerry Motoviloff at: [kmo-toviloff@madisonteachers.org](mailto:kmo-toviloff@madisonteachers.org).

## #WearOrange—June 1 and 2 MTI Joins Moms Demand Action for Gun Violence Awareness & Safety Day

We will be wearing orange on **Friday, June 1**, to honor the more than 96 Americans shot and killed every day and the hundreds more wounded. The **Wear Orange** campaign invites everyone who agrees we can do more to save American lives from gun violence to do one simple thing: **#WearOrange** – a color that symbolizes the value of human life – on June 1, 2018, National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and to attend the **Wear Orange** gathering on **June 2**. Orange expresses our collective hope as a nation – a hope for a future free from gun violence. For further information, see MTI's webpage: [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org). Order your orange **ENOUGH** t-shirts (a fundraiser for Wisconsin Anti-violence Effort). Call MTI or e-mail [kmotoviloff@madisonteachers.org](mailto:kmotoviloff@madisonteachers.org). \$12 checks are payable to MTI.

## Take Kids Fishing Day June 2

The 4th annual Madison area **Take Kids Fishing Day** is June 2, from 9-11:30 a.m., at Tenney Park (300 N. Thornton Ave.). 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. Register, grab your camera, and get ready for a fun day at Tenney 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 18. To register, volunteer, sponsor, or provide door prizes, call Dave Branson at (608-256-3161).

## Save the Date - July 21 Team MTI Cares Joins the Bike Ride for the Boys and Girls Club

Choose an 8, 20, or 50-mile bike ride and raise money for the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. This will be MTI Cares' 5<sup>th</sup> year with a team and we'd like to make it the biggest team yet! We usually have riders in each distance, and family and friends of MTI are encouraged to join the team. To join or donate to Team MTI Cares, go to the MTI Cares tab on MTI's webpage at: [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)

## 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 be providing more opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of MTI members. More information and sign-ups for future seminars and individuals consultations can be found at: [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org) or [www.weabenefits.com/mti](http://www.weabenefits.com/mti).

In addition, **Steve Pike** (retired teacher and current WEA Member Benefits Consultant) is available for a **free 60-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.

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### MTI members in need of assistance:

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

### National Board Certification: Information Session May 24 and Jump Start Training July 30-Aug. 1

MTI and WEAC Region 6 are partnering to provide information on National Board Certification and the support your Union can provide to National Board candidates. The next **information session** is **May 24, 5-6:00 p.m., at MTI**. An e-mail with a signup link was sent to all MTI teacher unit members.

Another opportunity is **WEAC's Jump Start training, July 30-August 1**. *Jump Start* is an intensive seminar geared for teachers pursuing National Board Certification who intend to submit components in the 2018-19 school year. This professional development opportunity has been designed by NEA members who are National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs). **Union members** who are just beginning their National Board journey, can register by going to: [tinyurl.com/NBCJumpStart](http://tinyurl.com/NBCJumpStart).

## Calendar of Events

**MTI Voters PAC—Candidate Interviews**  
May 22 and 23, 4:15 p.m., MTI

**SCFL “Bean Feed”**  
May 23, 6:00 p.m., SCFL (1602 S. Park St.)

**USO-MTI End-of-year Social & Picnic**  
May 24, 4:00 p.m., MTI

**Memorial Day—May 28**

**Handbook Discussions**  
May 29, 5:00 p.m., MTI

**ESEA-MTI End-of-year Appreciation Picnic**  
May 31, 4:15 p.m., MTI

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## Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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