



Solidarity!

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Recertification Information Being Distributed High Voter Turnout Needed

Engage and inform: That was the charge delivered to MTI Faculty Reps, ESEA Building Reps, and Member Organizers last week as we prepare for our annual MTI recertification elections, which will be conducted from October 31-November 20. The Member Organizers will begin to distribute recertification materials to **all MTI-represented employees** this week, including “fish-flyers” and **palm cards** with detailed recertification voting instructions. Many worksites will have “**10-minute meetings**” in the coming weeks to update employees on the status of Employee Handbook discussions and to answer any recertification-related questions.

Get-out-the-vote! Voter turnout is critical in any election, but it is even more important in recertification elections.

Recertification elections **require at least 51% of all eligible voters to vote YES in order to prevail, not just a majority of those voting as in most elections.** Unlike political elections, in **recertification elections a non-vote counts as a NO vote.** MTI has prevailed overwhelmingly in the past four annual recertification elections because of high voter turnout and our experience shows that when employees vote, they overwhelmingly vote **Union YES!** Where recertification elections have been lost in other school districts, it is frequently because less than 51% of the eligible voters cast a ballot. Both members and non-members are eligible and encouraged to vote.

Additional information on MTI’s recertification election is available at: www.madisonteachers.org.

Make Your Voice Heard: Attend a BEP Feedback Session

The District is currently engaged in a review of the Behavior Education Plan (BEP) and MTI is working to ensure that employee feedback is part of that process. The District has scheduled multiple **BEP feedback sessions** for staff to attend and at MTI’s urging, staff feedback sessions have been scheduled during Monday PCT time to allow staff to attend during the work day. Principals have been advised to accommodate staff who want to participate. **MTI encourages all interested members to participate as their schedule allows.** The District has also sent out a **survey** to gather feedback from staff and MTI encourages all members to participate in this survey. The information obtained from the feedback sessions and survey will inform work on needed revisions to the BEP.

Members can also contact the MTI Safety Committee with concerns/ideas they have on: mti@madisonteachers.org. The MTI-MMSD Safety Committee will meet October 22 to discuss additional ways to bring educator voice to these considerations.

MMSD Behavior Education Staff Feedback Sessions (2:15-4:00 p.m.):

- Monday, October 22, La Follette High School, Room TBA
- Monday, October 29, West High School, Room TBA
- Monday, November 5, East High School Auditorium

“What’s Next for Our Public Schools?”

**Wednesday, October 24, 2018
6:30pm – 8:00pm
Christ Presbyterian Church
(944 E. Gorham Street)**

A public forum is being held to hear from our State Representatives and Senators about what actions they will propose in the next legislative session. Local referenda are passing at record rates, and public school funding has been at the center of our conversations and concerns. K-12 education ranks as one of the top issues among Wisconsin voters. Some of the areas to be discussed on October 24 include accountability, local control, funding of public education, and privatization. **What new approaches to public education will our state legislators be proposing?** All of our local legislators have been invited; many have already confirmed their attendance. *The event is free and open to all.*

Teacher Salary Schedule Being Reviewed

The MTI-MMSD Teacher Compensation Committee is discussing potential changes to the teacher salary schedule. Last year’s work was suspended in February when the parties shifted focus to base-wage bargaining. The Committee has scheduled meetings over the next **four weeks** in hopes of having some recommendations to forward to the BOE in November as they prepare their 2019-20 MMSD budget. District representatives have been charged with recommending salary schedule changes that will be more “**sustainable**” in light of the current revenue limitations. MTI representatives are interested in pursuing recommendations that teachers will value, allowing MMSD to attract and retain the high-quality staff our students deserve. The November political elections, which **are critical in determining the revenue our schools will receive**, will largely determine the direction of these discussions. *All MTI members will receive e-mail updates on these discussions and the status of MTI’s Employee Handbook work.*

MTI Teacher Unit Election Results; PAC Nominations Finalized

At its October 16 meeting, the MTI Faculty Representative Council re-elected to the MTI Board of Directors **Pete Opps** (*LaFollette*) **Jessica Hotz** (*East*) to two-year terms; and elected **Amy Turkowski** (*Franklin*) to a one-year term. The MTI Board consists of the President, Vice-President, Past-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four at-large positions. Officers are elected by the general membership each April, and two at-large positions by the MTI Faculty Representative Council each October.

In other elections, the Council re-elected **Holly Hansen** (*Lapham*) and **Cindy Ball** (*Jefferson*) to the MTI Cabinet on Personnel. Terms are for two years.

Elected to the MTI Finance Committee were incumbents **Bruce Bobb** (*Hoyt*) and **Holly Hansen** (*Lapham*); and **Melina Lozano** (*Hawthorne*). Terms are for one year.

Two (2) vacancies existed on the MTI Handbook/Bargaining Committee. Elected as a high school student services representative was **Jason Pasch** (*LaFollette*) and as an elementary school representative was **Nobel Perez** (*Muir/Crestwood*).

In addition, nominations were finalized for six (6) positions on MTI's Political Action Committee, MTI VOTERS. Three (3) positions (1,2, and 3) are currently held by incumbents **Sandy Welander** (*Schenk*), **Kathryn Burns** (*Shorewood*), and **Liz Donnelly** (*Elvehjem*). Terms are for two years. The other three (3) positions (4, 5 and 6) are vacant due to retirements/resignation. **Natasha Sullivan** (*West*) was nominated for position 4 (one year term); **Darlinee Kambwa-Bell** (*Mendota*) and **Abby Morrison** (*Olson*) were nominated for position 5 (one year term); and **Nobel Perez** (*Muir/Crestwood*) was nominated for position 6 (two year term). The election will be held at the November 27 Council meeting.



November 6 Election Critical to Public Education

The importance of the election on **November 6** cannot be overstated. There are many reasons for this, but top among them for your family and your students is **public education!**

Wisconsin needs a governor and legislature that will support our public schools after years of severe budget cutting and direct attacks on teachers. It's time for real change.

Let's Get Out the Vote! MTI VOTERS Volunteer Events:

- **Saturday, October 27** - Canvass from the Labor Temple, pick up materials between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. (**Wear Red for Public Ed**).
- **Thursday, November 1** - MTI Phone Bank, 4-8 p.m., Rm. 212 - Labor Temple.

Contact mti@madisonteachers.org to sign-on and bring a friend! These events are critical to getting out every last vote in Dane County. Contact MTI at 608.257.0491 with any questions.

For MTI-endorsed candidates and other election related information go to MTI's Political Action Website: [Elections - Fall 2018](#).

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 opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of MTI members. Check the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org) to sign-up for seminars. Invitations will also be sent via e-mail to MTI members only.

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.

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MTI National Board Certification Training Workshops for 2018-19. MTI members pursuing National Board Certification are invited to participate in monthly NBC support workshops. The next session is **November 14**, at 5:30 p.m., at MTI.

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

Calendar of Events

MMSD BEP Listening Session

October 22, 2:15 p.m., LaFollette

MTI/MMSD Safety Committee

October 22, 4:30 p.m., MTI

MTI/MMSD Handbook/Planning Time Committee

October 23, 4:30 p.m., MTI

What's Next for our Public Schools Forum

October 24, 6:30 p.m., Christ Presbyterian

USO-MTI General Membership

October 25, 4:15 p.m., MTI

MTI/MMSD Handbook/Compensation Committee

October 25, 4:30 p.m., Doyle (Room 100A)

Staff Only Day—October 26

Recertification Election October 31-November 20

VOTE! General Election November 6

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org

MTI's e-mail - MTI@madisonteachers.org