



Solidarity!

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We're Halfway There: Have You Voted to Recertify?

Today (Monday, November 12) marks the mid-point of the MTI recertification election and we will receive a report from the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission (WERC) on how many votes have been cast in each bargaining unit (MTI-Teachers, ESEA-MTI, and USO-MTI). Each unit needs at least 51% of all eligible voters to vote in favor of recertification in order to maintain MTI as their certified representative. **The larger the turnout, the more powerful the message.**

In order to drive voter turnout, MTI member organizers have been active across the District, encouraging their co-workers to vote and, after they vote, contacting MTI staff to remove the voter's name for further contact lists. Phone banks will be held this week to contact those eligible employees who have yet to confirm with MTI that they have voted. If you can help with phone banking, please contact MTI ([257-0491](tel:257-0491)/mti@madisonteachers.org). Pizza will be provided for phone bank volunteers.

Be sure you do your part. Vote today by calling 1-866-458-9862, and then confirm your vote with MTI so we can remove you from further contact lists.

Recertification Election ends at Noon, November 20.

Stand Together, Vote to Recertify your Union!

A New Day!

In 2011, Governor Walker entered office with an intentional strategy to “**divide and conquer**.” His signature Act 10 dramatically cut funding for education by \$1 billion, stripped public employees of nearly all bargaining rights, and discouraged a generation of young people from entering public service. Our state and nation have been divided and simplified into two colors - neither of which adequately represents the myriad shades of our common humanity.

While the people have been divided, we have not been conquered. When the state abdicated its responsibility to adequately fund our public schools, local communities, including Madison, stepped up and passed school referenda in overwhelming numbers to help fund their public schools. When the state stripped bargaining rights, unions such as MTI reorganized and adapted to the new political environment, finding new and innovative ways to collectively advocate for public education, students, and educators. ***We continue to stand together!***

Last Tuesday, we elected a new Governor, **Tony Evers**, who is intent on uniting our state rather than dividing us further, driven by issues rather than ideology. Evers is a pragmatist with a lifelong commitment to advancing pub-

lic education and restoring respect to those who teach our children and serve our communities. Evers will be joined by **Mandela Barnes** who shares his passion for public education and inclusion, and will proudly serve our state as the first African-American elected to serve as Lieutenant Governor.

Unfortunately, Tony and Mandela will not be joined by new pro-education majorities in either the State Assembly or the State Senate, and will be challenged in advancing all of the goals they shared during the campaign. But, make no mistake, this is a **huge victory** and brings hope and opportunity for public education and educators.

We will have much collective work ahead of us as we continue to work to build the schools that our students deserve, but we will now be joined by strong allies in the Governor's office committed to rolling up their sleeves and doing the hard work with us. Thanks to all of you who contributed to this effort along the way.

Celebrate this new day. And, if you have yet to vote to **Stand Together** and recertify MTI, please do so at: <https://www.aaaelections.org/aaaelections/WERC/index.asp>. **Thank you!**

American Education Week November 12-16, 2018

American Education Week (AEW) presents all Americans with a wonderful opportunity to **celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education.** Public schools are the cornerstone of our communities. We welcome students of all backgrounds, abilities and incomes, and each of us plays a role in ensuring our schools are open to all. This month during AEW, it's time for us to show our public school pride to the world. Help demonstrate that our public schools are here for each and every student — help show that no matter the circumstance, everyone is welcome and all deserve the support, tools, and time to learn. To join in, just snap a picture that represents your pride in public schools and post it to your social channels using #AEW2018. Together, we can show what makes our public schools some of the best in the world: all of us, each of us. For more information and a list of AEW daily celebrations, including Educational Support Professionals Day (November 14), go to: <http://www.nea.org/grants/19823.htm>.

Collective Action Gets Results! Substitute Long-Term Pay Increase Returned to the Budget

Members of USO-MTI (**United Substitutes Organization**) lobbied the Board of Education to restore to the budget an agreed upon long-term pay rate increase for substitute teachers, after removing it last June. Board member **TJ Mertz** put forth the amendment and substitute teachers showed up at the BOE's October Operations Work Group meeting to speak to the need for this increase. The Board, thankfully, reinstated the pay rate increase and agreed to include it in the 2018-19 budget. As a result, substitute teachers who perform long-term assignments will receive an additional increase in their pay rate from **\$185 to \$197** per day. **United We Act!** *This happened thanks to active union members who e-mailed and spoke to the BOE, and Board members who understand that fairly paid substitute teachers are a critical part of the District's success. Solidarity!*



Join Our Movement

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. Click on the "JOIN" icon/link for step-by-step directions on the MTI webpage: www.madisonteachers.org.

**Reminder: Health Insurance
Annual Choice/Open Enrollment/
Flexible Spending Account
Deadline November 15**

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. Sign-up is available on the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org).

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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

American Education Week
November 12-16

BOE Operations Work Group
November 12, 6:00 p.m., Doyle

Recertification Election Phone Banks
November 13 and 14, 4:30-7:00 p.m., MTI

MTI/MMSD Retirement Planning Seminars
November 13 and 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Doyle

USO-MTI Board of Directors
November 14, 4:30 p.m., MTI

Thanksgiving Break—November 21-23

MTI Faculty Representative Council
November 27, 4:30 p.m., MTI

MTI Voters Political Action Committee
November 28, 4:30 p.m., MTI

Recertification Election Ends November 20

Our Union Makes Us Strong!
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MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org
MTI's e-mail - MTI@madisonteachers.org