



Solidarity!

33 Nob Hill Road • Madison, Wisconsin 53713-2195 • Phone: (608) 257-0491

May 1: A Day without Latinxs and Immigrants

MTI has endorsed and supports the “Day Without Latinxs and Immigrants” march and rally on Wednesday, **May 1**. This event is being organized by **Voces de la Frontera** in support of their “Drivers’ Licenses for All” campaign. May 1 is a day of statewide mobilization to urge state legislators to restore drivers’ licenses and state ID cards for immigrant families and low-income people in Wisconsin. In order to succeed in this endeavor, the state legislature’s Joint Finance Committee would need to pass a 2019 state budget that includes drivers’ licenses for all.

Until 2007, all Wisconsinites could obtain a driver’s license, regardless of immigration status. Restoring drivers’ licenses for all will strengthen our economy, improve public safety, and keep families together.

MTI members are encouraged to support the campaign by:

- Contacting legislators, urging them to vote in support of “Drivers’ Licenses for All” initiative in the state budget.
- Contacting local business owners and community leaders, urging them to support the bill.
- Gathering signatures for petitions.
- Organizing meetings to help educate the public.
- Attend the May Day Rally on May 1, 11:00 am, at the State Capitol (see next article).

MTI Advice for Members Who Wish to Participate in May 1 March and Rally

- All MTI members are free to participate, and are encouraged to participate, in May 1 activities that occur *before or after* their contractual work day.
- Any **MTI-represented teachers** (including BRS) who desire to be absent from school in order to participate in May 1 activities occurring *within the contractual work day* are advised to submit a request for a **personal leave day** from their building principal. Teachers are expected to notify the school principal **at least three (3) working days** prior to such an absence; the request may be for either an unpaid personal day or paid personal day (charged to sick leave). Such requests are subject to principal/District approval (see Addendum A, Section 10.04 of the Employee Handbook).
- Any **ESEA-represented staff members** who desire to be absent from school in order to participate in May 1 activities occurring *within the contractual work day* are advised to submit a request for an unpaid personal leave day, or a vacation day or floating holiday (if available).
- **Staff who are absent from work without an approved leave of absence request may be subject to discipline and loss of pay.**

Extending Appreciation on Administrative Professionals Day—April 24

Wednesday, **April 24**, is **Administrative Professionals Day**, a day of recognition and celebration of the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, and other office professionals for their growing and diverse contributions to the workplace. Administrative Professionals Week was formerly “National Secretaries Week.” In 2000, the Professional Secretaries International changed its name to the “International Association of Administrative Professionals” to reflect the expanding role of office staff. MTI represents approximately 200 MMSD administrative clerks, secretaries, and other administrative support personnel in our **Educational Support Employees Association (ESEA-MTI)** bargaining unit. These individuals provide critical and often unrecognized support to District employees, students, and families in school offices and central administration. **Please take time on April 24 to reach out and extend thanks** to the administrative professionals that you interact with who perform this important role and take care of so many of the needs of students and staff in your workplace and across the District. **Solidarity!**

**USO-MTI
General Membership
Meeting
April 25, 4:15 p.m.,
MTI (33 Nob Hill Rd.)
Come and Join the Fun!**



Important Reminder! Teacher Contracts Issued May 15

Teacher contracts for the 2019-20 school year will be sent to teachers on May 15. Signed contracts of all returning teachers must be received in Human Resources no later than **June 15**. MTI strongly recommends that teachers return their signed contracts **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to the District's office of Human Resources, in person, to assure that it is received on time. Take a copy with you, ask that it be stamped "received," and keep it for your personal records. **Failure to return a signed contract by June 15 results in the District accepting such as one's resignation.**

The new contracts will reflect the salary schedule improvement recommendations that came from the MTI/MMSD Teacher Compensation Committee including: the elimination of half-steps; removing the two year "holds" after Step 15 (providing for annual movement); moving improvement levels to every 5 years with 6 credits required to pass; and renaming steps to alpha rather than numeric. An explanation of these improvements has been shared by e-mail with all MTI teacher members.

Restorative Practices Retreat May 17-19

Back by popular demand, MTI CENTRS is partnering with WEAC to host a second Restorative Practices weekend retreat. The retreat will be held at MTI (33 Nob Hill Road) on May 17-19. Participants will meet 90 minutes on Friday night, 9-4 p.m. on Saturday, and 9-1 p.m. on Sunday. Teachers can choose PAC credits or a \$150 stipend from the MTI CENTRS grant. Registration includes training materials, Friday night snacks, and light breakfast and lunch on Saturday and Sunday. The retreat is open to members of WEAC, which includes all members of MTI's teacher bargaining unit. Space is limited to 30. More information and a link to sign up is on the MTI webpage: www.madisonteachers.org.

Take Kids Fishing Day June 1

The 5th annual Madison area **Take Kids Fishing Day** will be on June 1, 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 a perfect opportunity to introduce youngsters to the benefits of fishing and the abundance of public access opportunities available in our community. Each registered child will receive a fishing pole to keep, so 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 May 18.** To register, volunteer, sponsor, or provide door prizes, call Dave Branson at (608-256-3161).

South Central Federation of Labor Scholarship Application Deadline June 28

Members and children of members who belong to any SCFL-affiliated Union, have not received a post-secondary degree, and have not previously been awarded a SCFL scholarship, are eligible to apply for the 2019 SCFL Student Scholarship. Four \$1,000 scholarships, by lottery drawing from among the eligible applications, are awarded. The application deadline is **June 28**. Scholarship rules and application forms are available at www.scfl.org.

MTI Membership Opportunities

The following meetings, seminars, and workshops are available to **all** MTI, ESEA & USO members (*only*).

MTI & WEA Member Benefits: Financial Services for **all** MTI Members

MTI and WEA Member Benefits are providing opportunities to enhance the financial well-being of all MTI members. Check the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org) to sign-up for seminars.

Save the Dates:

- Saving For Your Future—April 25
- Student Loan Forgiveness—May 6

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 **May 8**, at 5:30 p.m., at MTI.

MTI members in need of assistance: See your MTI Faculty/Building 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

Administrative Professionals Week

April 22-26

MTI General & Faculty/Building Rep Elections

April 22-26

MTI/MMSD Joint Safety Committee

April 22, 4:30 p.m., Doyle

MTI-Retired, April 24, 9:00 a.m., MTI

MTI Equity/Diversity Committee

April 24, 4:30 p.m., MTI

USO-MTI General Membership

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

New Professionals—Investment Basics

April 25, 5:00 p.m., WEA Member Benefits

WEAC Representative Assembly—April 27

BOE Regular Meeting

April 29, 6:00 p.m., Doyle

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org

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