

**Mission Statement:**  
**Madison Teachers, Inc. is a member led organization  
which advocates for its members and students in order to  
advance quality public education for all students.**



Our mission statement is supported by our belief statements in three goal areas:

**Member Led Organization**

MTI is an organization that is dedicated to supporting and advancing the needs and interests of all members. We strongly believe that every member's voice matters and our organization is committed to a structure that allows these voices to be heard.

As educators we know that opinions and decisions are most effective and powerful when those making them are well informed about all facets of a topic. Education is a complex task and it is our obligation to ensure that membership is informed about the beliefs, information and context that our professional decisions are based upon.

In order to best represent our members, it is crucial that we engage all members and provide opportunities for each member to realize their full potential as a professional, an educational leader and a union activist.

A union is the ultimate representative body and works to represent all members. Our systems and leadership will be responsive to members and engage them in decision making processes.

**Advocates for Members, Students and Our Community**

The best interests of students, educators, families and the community should be at the center of all decision and policy making for our public schools. In order to make that happen educators and other school employees should drive policy/decision making. The voices of those who work most closely with students should be honored in decision making processes in a meaningful and proactive way.

Educators are professionals and our work requires constant continuing education and training. As an organization of professionals we have the capability and responsibility to provide resources, training and support to our members.

We will work to advocate for compensation, benefits, and working conditions that attract and retain a highly qualified workforce.

There is ample evidence that valuing the worth and dignity of professional educators improves the quality of service they provide our students and families. Our working conditions are our students' learning conditions. MTI will work to ensure that the work that is being done by staff is both manageable and meaningful in nature.

Public education is a basic right and one that is guaranteed by the Wisconsin Constitution. The power of education is transformative in nature and is the cornerstone of a just democratic society. MTI believes that it is our responsibility as professionals to provide educational opportunities and services that support the diverse needs of our students and prepare them to be global citizens.

Public schools have a moral responsibility to provide a quality education, broad and equitable in nature, to all students with no exceptions, exclusions or disparities. We support a diverse approach to meeting the needs of our students that is publicly accountable and publicly funded.

MTI is committed to supporting staff members as they work to provide an educational climate that is inclusive, safe and values the many diverse facets of both our educational community and the greater community that we serve. We work for all of our students and respect and value their diversity of thought, culture, identity and ability.

### **Advance Quality Public Education**

Public education is at the heart of a healthy and sustainable society. Our accountability to the community, oversight by an elected Board of Education and deep connections with the community supports the common interests that all citizens have in educating our young people.

Community partnerships are vital to educating the whole child. We are engaged with community members and organizations as we work to provide the best opportunities possible for our students.

Public funding for our schools is a trust that the community gives the work that we do as educators. As an organization we will work in a system of mutual accountability that seeks the necessary resources to fulfill our professional responsibilities and transparently allocates those resources to support our students' safety and learning. This includes ensuring adequate staffing, safe facilities and meaningful instruction and materials for our students.

Public schools are part of a process that is political in nature and as a profession we must be advocates for ourselves and our students. MTI will engage in political activism that supports public accountability for our schools, legislation, staff and administration.