



Solidarity!

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

BOE Meets Tonight (9/16) on Cost-of-Living Increase; Bargaining Scheduled for September 24

Our mobilization to secure a cost-of-living base-wage increase for all employees continues. These mobilizing efforts have succeeded in prompting the Board of Education to schedule a meeting tonight **Monday, September 16** (in closed session) to review the status of base-wage negotiations and determine whether to provide additional authorization to their bargaining team. Prior to the BOE meeting, MTI President Andy Waity and members of the MTI Bargaining Committees will hand-deliver *petitions signed by over 3,000 individuals in support of a cost-of-living salary increase for ALL MMSD employees*. A final bargaining session has been scheduled for **September 24** in hopes of reaching agreement on a cost-of-living increase. **An all-MTI member meeting has been scheduled for September 26, commencing at 4:45 p.m., at MTI Headquarters, at which time we hope to ratify a tentative agreement.** Stay tuned for additional bargaining updates, including Action Alerts, as bargaining continues.

MMSD Superintendent Search Update

One of the major issues this year will be the search for the next superintendent for the MMSD. After Superintendent Cheatham announced her resignation last spring, MTI immediately gathered feedback from MTI members and member leaders around both the search process and the characteristics staff would like in a new superintendent. We shared this information with the Board of Education.

Over the summer, MTI leadership has continued to be engaged in the process. MTI President Andy Waity has attended numerous Board of Education meet-

ings in which the search process was discussed, and has maintained regular contact with BOE President Gloria Reyes (who attended the MTI Board of Directors meeting last week to update the MTI Board on the search process). The BOE has now selected a consulting firm (BWP) to assist them with the search process which is expected to start this week. The BOE has committed to continue include MTI as a key partner and critical stakeholder in the process, providing MMSD employees with a voice in the process. Updates will continue to be shared with members as they become available.



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 on the MTI webpage (www.madisonteachers.org) for step-by-step directions.



USO-MTI General Membership Meeting September 26, 2019

4:15 p.m., MTI
(33 Nob Hill Road)

Sabbatical Leave—Deadline October 1

Under the terms of the Employee Handbook (Section 10, page 130), the Board of Education budgets \$45,000 for **sabbatical leaves** for members of MTI's teacher bargaining unit. Such is for the purpose of advanced study and/or research. **Either a one-year leave at half pay or a one-semester leave at full pay may be granted.** Applications for the second semester of the 2019-20 school year are due at MTI headquarters by October 1, 2019. Applications for the 2020-21 school year or the first semester are due February 1, 2020. An application and the MTI/MMSD agreed-upon policy can be obtained by visiting MTI's webpage: (www.madisonteachers.org).

Student Loans and the Federal Student Loan Forgiveness Program—October 1

For many educators, student loans are a major part of the financial picture long after graduation. MTI is partnering with WEA Member Benefits to offer a series of **free** events supporting educators and staff. In this session, we uncover things an educator needs to know about student loans, student debt, the federal student loan forgiveness program, and more. Go to the MTI website (www.madisonteachers.org) to sign-up.

PAC Rebates—Deadline October 1

The MTI VOTERS' Political Action Committee is funded to assist in promoting political causes of interest and benefit to MTI members via an assessment of 5% of one's annual Union dues. Funds are used exclusively to support Committee-approved pro-education candidates and pro-education causes. Any member who does not wish to participate in the Union's political efforts must deliver **WRITTEN NOTICE** of their intent to MTI Headquarters by **October 1**. Advance refund of the school year's PAC deductions will be issued by November 30. MTI VOTERS endorses candidates who pledge to support education and educators.

Christina Stafslie Charity Golf Outing—October 4

Teachers at LaFollette High School have organized the **15th Annual Christina Stafslie Charity Golf Outing** to honor the memory of their colleague and former LaFollette math teacher. The event will be held at the Monona Municipal Golf Course on Friday, October 4, at 4:00 p.m. Proceeds from the tournament will go to the **Christina Stafslie Scholarship Fund** which is awarded to a deserving LaFollette student. Sign up is available on MTI's website (www.madisonteachers.org) or by contacting event organizer and LaFollette teacher Ted Ryan at: tryan@madison.k12.wi.us.

Notify MTI of Financial or Employment Status Changes

We understand things are constantly changing and life can be chaotic. We want to give members a gentle nudge to notify MTI of any changes to your employment or updates to your financial records. Oftentimes, MTI does not get these types of updates from the District. We value our members and rely on members to update us on any changes. Please keep MTI in the loop about adjustments to your contract percentage, if you have an impending resignation, or are planning to retire. Also, let us know if your credit card has been lost, stolen, has expired, **or your banking information has changed.** Feel free to contact MTI at 608-257-0491 or nicholsj@madisonteachers.org.

MTI Membership Opportunities

The following meetings, seminars, and workshops are available to all MTI members.

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

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

- **Save the date:** Student Loan Forgiveness—October 1

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In addition, *for members only*, **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 National Board Certification Information Session for Teachers. Learn about the benefits of National Board Certification and the supports available for you to achieve it. September 17, 5-6:00 p.m., at MTI. E-mail invite sent to MTI teacher members.

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

MTI Faculty Representative Council
September 17, 4:45 p.m., MTI

National Board Certification Info Session
September 17, 5-6 p.m., MTI

ESEA-MTI Building Representatives
September 18, 4:15 p.m., MTI

Base-Wage Bargaining
September 24, 4:30 p.m., MTI

MTI-Retired
September 25, 9:00 a.m., MTI

MTI Equity & Diversity Committee
September 25, 4:30 p.m., MTI

National Board Certification Training
September 25, 5:30 p.m., MTI

Contract (Base-Wage) Ratification
September 26, 4:45 p.m., MTI

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

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MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org

MTI's email - MTI@madisonteachers.org