



March 20, 2020



MTI Friday Update

Throughout the school year, MTI provides a weekly Friday Update e-mail to MTI member leaders. Given the ongoing pandemic and school closures, MTI will be extending this weekly update to **all MTI members** in order to share timely information during this time of crisis. This weekly update will include summaries of daily e-mail blasts that MTI members will receive throughout the week and provide additional, timely information and updates.



Keep Calm and Carry On; Message from MTI President Andy Waity

MTI membership stands in Solidarity with our community as we address the many challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic creates for all of us.

As of today our schools continue to be closed until at least April 3. MTI members will be ready to support the students and families we serve. We know that our community relies on our public schools and staff for so many critical things. These days will provide an opportunity for our school communities to plan and prepare for the upcoming weeks.

We call on MMSD administration to work collaboratively with MTI to ensure the best possible supports are in place to meet the needs of all who work and learn in our public schools. There is much that must be done to make sure that the basic needs of our entire community are met. It is critical that the voice of those who work directly with students and families are heard as decisions are made.

We also know that staff must be supported and we will continue to advocate that pay issues are addressed. Employees need to know that they are supported so that they can focus on their work with students and families.

This is a time for all of us to unite around our schools, our students and our educators/staff. MTI's membership will continue to be a source of strength and support for the Madison community.

What We Know Now

- All MMSD schools are closed through April 3. Governor Evers has closed schools for the duration of the pandemic (i.e. until further notice).
- MTI has gained MMSD assurance that all MMSD staff (other than substitutes) will continue to be compensated through April 3.
- The BOE changed Spring Break from March 30-April 3 to March 23-March 27 (*see relevance below*).
- The District is considering commencing on-line/web-based learning in early April.
- The District is considering providing staff on-line/web-based PD on how to provide on-line instruction in late March (possibly the week of March 30, formerly Spring Break).
- MTI has waived USO-MTI dues for substitute teachers, sub SEAs, sub Clericals for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year given their unpaid status.

- MTI is offering [Solidarity Fund](#) loans of up to \$1,000 for MTI members in need of financial assistance.
- MTI has donated \$50,000 to the United Way to help fund Community Support during the pandemic and we will be linking interested and available members to volunteer opportunities available during the pandemic.
- Our state and national affiliates (WEAC and NEA) have been in constant communication with Governor Evers, and State and National elected leaders and Executive Orders and legislation have been enacted to address aspects of the pandemic.
- All of us need to take care of ourselves, our family, and our community and [follow the recommendations of Public Health](#) relative to hand-washing, social distancing, etc.

WHAT WE ARE STILL ADVOCATING FOR

Madison Teachers Inc.

PAY FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS, SUBS SEAS, AND SUBSTITUTE CLERICALS DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES.



COMPASSION, EMPATHY, FLEXIBILITY, GRACE, UNDERSTANDING, AND SOLIDARITY AS WE COLLECTIVELY RISE TO THIS CHALLENGE.



DISTRICT ASSURANCE THAT ALL EMPLOYEES WILL CONTINUE TO BE COMPENSATED FOR THE DURATION OF THE PANDEMIC (I.E. BEYOND APRIL 3 IF NECESSARY).

MEANINGFUL MTI TEACHER VOICE IN ANY DISCUSSIONS/CONSIDERATIONS RELATED TO DISTANCE/WEB-BASED LEARNING.



DISTRICT ASSURANCE THAT THEY WILL BE REQUESTING A WAIVER FROM DPI RELATIVE TO REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES DUE TO THE PANDEMIC.

THROUGH OUR STATE AND NATIONAL AFFILIATES (WEAC AND NEA), WE WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM OUR STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE SUPPORT DURING THE PANDEMIC.

MADISONTEACHERS.ORG

MTI@MADISONTEACHERS.ORG

What We Are Still Advocating For

- Pay for substitute teachers, subs SEAs, and Substitute Clericals during school closures.
- District assurance that all employees will continue to be compensated for the duration of the pandemic (i.e. beyond April 3 if necessary).
- Meaningful MTI teacher voice in any discussions/considerations related to distance/web-based learning.
- District assurance that they will be requesting a waiver from DPI relative to required instructional minutes due to the pandemic.
- Through our State and National Affiliates (WEAC and NEA), we will continue to advocate for additional resources from our State and Federal government to provide support during the pandemic
- Compassion, empathy, flexibility, grace, understanding, and solidarity as we collectively rise to this challenge.

Teacher positions available for Internal Transfer Posted April 3

Teacher unit positions available for internal transfer will be posted beginning Friday, April 3rd, 2020 and every Friday thereafter (through the end of June 2020.) All transfer postings open on Friday, and close the following Wednesday night. Directions for how to apply for transfer can be found on HR's Staff Only page: <https://hr.madison.k12.wi.us/employeeforms#hide10>.

Questions can be directed to Shauna Foss, HR Analyst at sfoss@madison.k12.wi.us.

Meeting Wisconsin's Child Care & School-Age Needs

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) are collaborating with the Registry Inc., Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA), Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), the Wisconsin Hospitals Association to ensure that the child care and school age needs of Wisconsin's essential personnel are met during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are an educator who is able to serve, we're seeking your help in providing care to Wisconsin's essential personnel. Please fill out the below survey with your information and availability so we can connect you with local service needs. Thank you.

By filling out this survey, you may be considered to assist in providing child care for individuals who provide essential services in Wisconsin: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WI-early-care>.

UW Health is also launching a program called [Matching with Care](#). This program is intended to match all available caregivers in local communities, ranging from high school or college students to local teachers or day care providers, with UW Health staff who need emergency backup care services. Complete this survey if you or someone you know is available to assist with childcare: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3YMB6Q9>

Request your Absentee Ballot

Request an Absentee Ballot

[Click here to be directed to the MyVote Wisconsin website where you can request an absentee ballot.](#)

2020 Elections

2/18/20 - Spring Primary

4/7/20 - Spring Election

8/11/20 - Partisan Primary

11/3/20 - General Election



All voters in Wisconsin can request an absentee ballot be mailed to them for any reason. Voters must be registered before they can request an absentee ballot.

Voters may request their absentee ballot in writing. To request an absentee ballot on MyVote.wi.gov [click here](#). You must provide a photo ID with your absentee ballot request, [more information on photo ID can be found here](#).

[Myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

Where To Find Additional Information

[MTI COVID-19 Updates](#)

[MTI COVID-19 FAQ](#)

[MMSD COVID-19 Updates](#)

[Dane County Public Health office](#)

[Download Solidarity Fund Application](#)



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This is a communication with members of MTI per Wisconsin Statute 11.29

Our mailing address is:

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