



821 Williamson Street • Madison, Wisconsin 53703-4503 • Phone (608) 257-0491 • Fax (608) 257-1168

Solidarity!

Register Now for Course: Teaching Labor History Course

Many members have asked that MTI once again sponsor a staff development course conducted by the UW Extension's School for Workers on ***“Teaching Labor History Through Film and Media: Struggles from Our Past & Present, Part 2”***. Using films, music and other sources (which were not shown during last year's course) this class will look at some of the epic struggles of workers in recent and contemporary history and will discuss ideas about teaching labor history and collective bargaining in the classroom. The course will also examine the impact of economic, social and political conditions on workers and their unions, as well as the role played by business and government. The course will also examine the significance of immigration, and ethnic, racial and gender differences to the evolution of the American working class.

The ten (10) hour, two-day course will meet from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on **August 6 and 7, 2012**. The course is offered at no cost to MTI members, a light lunch will be provided. Space is limited to the first 40 registrants. Under the terms of MTI's Collective Bargaining Agreement, Madison teachers may be eligible for 1.0 PAC credits, subject to approval by the MTI/MMSD Professional Advancement Credit Committee.

Contact MTI to register (257-0491 or mti@madisonteachers.org).

Insurance Changes During Summer (Dependent Coverage)

MTI represented District employees are advised to call the District's Benefits department (663-1795) regarding insurance benefits which are available via MTI's various Collective Bargaining Agreements, if any of the following events occur during the summer: ***one gets married, changes address, changes name, retires, resigns, takes a leave of absence, has or adopts a child, and/or if one's dependent and/or spouse becomes ineligible/eligible for health or dental insurance coverage.*** (See the health or dental insurance provision in the appropriate **MTI Collective Bargaining Agreement**; call **MTI** with questions.) One must add a new eligible person (e.g. child, including a new born, or spouse) *within 30 days of eligibility*.

ERRATA - Dependents: The State Legislature, at the prompting of Senator Erpenbach and former Governor Doyle, *enacted legislation by which a child could stay on a parent's group health insurance plan, as is provided under the MTI/MMSD Contracts, until the end of the calendar year in which the child turned 27.* Thus MTI's past and recent advice to its members via MTI Solidarity, the Union's weekly publication.

While it was thought that the District erred when it advised otherwise in its HR Benefits Publication dated 5/25/12, upon researching, however, **it was discovered that Wisconsin's Legislature, in Governor Walker's Act 32, modified state insurance statutes to conform with federal legislation.** *Under the revised state law regarding dependent coverage, adult children are eligible to remain on a parent's health and dental plan until the end of the year in which the child turns 26. Given the change in Wisconsin law, the health and dental coverage provided by a parent's plan for a child who has turned 27, or will turn 27 in 2012, will end June 30, 2012.* Anyone who has a child who is impacted by this revision should contact the MMSD Benefits Department promptly.

Spouse: A spouse will become eligible by marriage, termination of his/her employment, loss of insurance with his/her employer, or become ineligible because of divorce. If one gets married, his/her spouse is not automatically covered by health or dental insurance. One must contact the District's Benefits Department to add the new spouse.

Remember the above-referenced 30 day rule. Waiting until fall to act, may render one's spouse or other dependents ineligible. ***Acting promptly assures your rights to MTI negotiated insurance.***

First-time Home Buyers

Education classes are offered free of charge to those interested in becoming first-time home buyers. Learn about the pros and cons of home ownership, money management, credit issues and how to choose a realtor and lender, as well as what down payment assistance may be available. The classes are two-sessions on June 12 and 19 (6-9:30 p.m.) or one session on June 23 (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) at 1922 S. Stoughton Road (Hwy 51), Madison. For more information, contact Ellen Bernards at 608-576-8658 / ebarnards@greenpath.com.

SEA Training this Summer

Attention all SEAs. Pursuant to Wisconsin Act 125, training in the use of restraint and seclusion of students is now **mandatory** for any school staff member who may need to use physical restraint. The District is therefore planning several paid trainings for all staff that are crisis responders, including cross categorical teachers and special education assistants.

The 2-day crisis management intervention training sessions will be offered August 20-21, August 23-24, and August 29-30. There will also be training offered during the school day next fall.

For further information and to register, see the District's professional development home page: staffdevweb@madison.k12.wi.us or call the District's Human Resources or Educational Services office.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game 5th Annual MTI Day at Miller Park August 8

MTI has scheduled the 5th annual MTI Day at Miller Park for **Wednesday, August 8** when the Milwaukee Brewers take on the Cincinnati Reds. MTI's charter bus will depart Madison at 9:00 a.m. and arrive at Miller Park in time for a pre-game tailgate party (game time is 1:10 p.m.). **Space is limited to the first 50 people to reserve their seat(s) by delivering the \$50 per person deposit to MTI.** Cost includes charter bus, game ticket (*great seats in Section 222*) and pre-game tailgate party.

RSVP to MTI as soon as possible (257-0491 or bettnerj@madisonteachers.org).

Last Issue of MTI Solidarity for 2011-12 School Year

MTI Solidarity! and its predecessor, ***The MTI Reporter***, have been keeping the members of MTI's bargaining units apprised of current Union issues, information relative to bargaining and member Contract rights and benefits, for 46 years. It is published for delivery each Monday of the school year. This is the last issue of ***MTI Solidarity!*** for the 2011-12 school year.

MTI staff wish all Union members a safe and enjoyable summer. MTI's office remains open during the summer to serve its members. Summer hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 7:30 a.m. - Noon on Fridays.

Sabbatical Leave Applications Due September 1

Under the terms of MTI's Collective Bargaining Agreement, 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.** The recipient of a sabbatical leave must agree to return to the Madison District for at least two full years of service following the sabbatical leave or repay the compensation received for the sabbatical leave. MTI's Contract guarantees that one who receives a sabbatical leave returns to the position held at the time the leave was granted.

Applications for the second semester of the **2012-13 school year** are due at MTI Headquarters by **September 1, 2012**. An application and the MTI/MMSD agreed upon policy can be obtained by calling MTI or by visiting MTI's web page. MTI's appointees to the Sabbatical Leave Selection Committee are **Jane Allen-Jauch** (Muir), **Betsy Barnard** (West) and **Matt Mulligan** (Black Hawk).

Calendar of Events



- June 30 - July 5 - NEA Representative Assembly
- July 3 & 4 - July 4th Holiday (MTI Office Closed)
- August 6 & 7 - Labor History Course
- August 8 - MTI Day at Miller Park
- August 27, 28 & 29 - New Teacher Meetings
- August 30 - Staff Development
- August 31 - All Staff Day
- September 3 - Labor Day
- September 4 - Semester Begins

Thanks to all those who gave so much effort, on behalf of the middle class and their public employee colleagues, in last week's election.

Our Union Makes Us Strong!

MTI's web page - www.madisonteachers.org
MTI's email - MTI@madisonteachers.org