



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

# Solidarity!

## Make Your Voice Heard: *MTI Member Engagement Survey*

**DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT.** *That is one message that should be evident with all that has happened in the last year. A functioning democracy requires an informed and engaged citizenry. **Such is as true with union democracy as it is in a political democracy.** MTI is a union of 4,700 members in five bargaining units, each with Bylaws enabling democratic governance to ensure the union reflects the will of its members. Each MTI unit elects its leadership - every member has a vote, and is free to seek office. Also, Collective Bargaining Agreements are subject to member ratification, with every member having a vote. Similarly, the MTI Budget is enacted only after approval by the MTI Finance Committee and by approval by the MTI Joint Fiscal Group, which is comprised of representatives proportionate to the membership of each of the five bargaining units. But, **just like the right of suffrage cannot ensure voter participation, neither can union Bylaws ensure member participation in the union. Only you can. YOU ARE THE UNION.***

In the coming months, *your union will be engaging in a number of initiatives to further engage individuals in discussion about your union, what we have achieved together, what is at risk, and where we can go from the terrible situation created by Governor Walker's Act 10.* Beginning with a **Member Engagement Survey** which is being sent to the *personal e-mail addresses of all MTI members who have shared their email address with the Union* from all five bargaining units. Members are encouraged to take ten minutes to complete the on-line survey and share their thoughts. If you have not already provided your personal e-mail address to MTI, please do so now by contacting [kantzlerr@madisonteachers.org](mailto:kantzlerr@madisonteachers.org). Those for whom MTI does not have a personal email address may access the survey on MTI's webpage [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org) or by calling MTI Headquarters (257-0491).



*However you choose to do so, make your voice heard!*  
Complete the **MTI Member Engagement Survey** by **FRIDAY, APRIL 27.**

### \*\*\*Important Reminder\*\*\* **Teacher Contracts Due April 16**

The District has issued individual teacher contracts for the 2012-13 school year. **MTI strongly recommends that teachers return their signed contracts, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, to the District Office of Human Resources in person to assure that it is received on time. Take your copy with you and ask that it be stamped "received". Failure to return a signed contract by April 16 may result in the District accepting such as one's resignation.**

### **MTI General Election & Faculty Representative Election**

Balloting by members of MTI's "Teacher" collective bargaining unit for MTI Officers, Bargaining Committee and Faculty Representatives will occur **April 23-25**. *MTI Faculty Representatives will provide members with information regarding balloting procedures and the voting location at each work site. Completed ballots are to be returned to your MTI*

**Faculty Representative**, in accordance with his/her instructions. To be included in the official tally, ballots for Officers and the Bargaining Committee must be received at MTI headquarters by **5:00 p.m., Monday, April 30.**

MTI Faculty Representatives, for the teacher bargaining unit, are also elected on these dates. The Senior Faculty Representative at each work site will conduct the election.

### **MTI Outing to the Madison Mallards Ball Game, Sunday, July 1**

Celebrate the end of a long, hard school year with an MTI outing to the Madison Mallards ball game on **Sunday, July 1**. For \$16 each, MTI members, friends and family receive a game ticket and an unlimited picnic (brats, burgers, hotdogs, chicken, potato salad, chips and soda) for 60 minutes prior to the game. **And, in honor of protest activities that MTI members have participated in over the past year, each attendee will receive a Maynard the Mallard bobble-head complete with protest sign.** Gates open at 3:35 p.m., game starts at 5:05 p.m. **Call MTI (257-0491) by April 18 to reserve your tickets.**

## Numbers That Mean A Lot

**812,086**  
**61,494**  
**124,638**  
**105,041**

These numbers have impacted your wages, health insurance, and employment security. They gave us Governor Walker's Act 10 and much more bad news. Know them. Help correct the problems they have caused.

- 812,086 is the number of people who voted in Wisconsin in 2008, but did not in 2010.
- 61,494 is Dane County's share of the 812,086.
- 124,638 was Governor Walker's margin of victory over Tom Barrett.
- 105,041 was Ron Johnson's margin of victory over Sen. Feingold.

**The Recall Primary Election is in 22 days.** Do your share. Get involved. Help reverse Act 10. Get your family, friends and neighbors to vote. And, if you work in a high school, encourage students 18 and over to vote.

## Health Insurance Selection Meetings

As a result of **Governor Walker's Act 10**, members of MTI's teacher bargaining unit who elected WPS health insurance under prior Contract terms **will lose that coverage June 30, 2012.** The District is in the process of distributing materials by which members of the teacher bargaining unit can become familiar with the options available for coverage commencing July 1. They are **Dean Health Plan, Physicians Plus and Group Health Cooperative.** *Each offers an HMO and a Point of Service Plan. The latter carries a higher premium, but enables more extensive choices for service.* The District has scheduled sessions for those with questions to seek answers from the above-referenced plans.

- April 17 - Memorial Wisconsin Center - 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- April 19 - West LMC - 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- April 23 - East LMC - 4:00-6:00 p.m.

## MTI Faculty Representatives & EA-MTI Building Representatives

Bylaws provide that the *MTI teacher bargaining unit members for each school/work site are entitled to one representative to the MTI Faculty Representative Council for each fifteen members or major fraction thereof.* The Council is MTI's legislative body and is charged with developing MTI policy. **Faculty Representatives for the**

**2012-13 school year are to be elected at the time of MTI's general election which is held during the last week in April.**

Bylaws for *MTI's educational assistant bargaining unit provide that EA-MTI members at each school/work site are entitled to one building representative. EA-MTI Building Representatives are also elected during the last week in April.*

MTI Faculty Representatives and EA-MTI Building Representatives have been provided election information to complete and return to MTI Headquarters.

## SSA-MTI General Membership Meeting April 18

Members of MTI's School Security Assistants' bargaining unit (SSA-MTI) will meet on **Wednesday, April 18, at MTI Headquarters,** commencing at 4:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive nominations for positions which expire on the SSA-MTI Board of Directors and to conduct general business for the organization. Nomination forms have been mailed to members of the bargaining unit. Nominations may also be made at the April 18 meeting. Nominations will close at that meeting.

## Calendar of Events



- **Monday, April 16, 4:30 p.m., MTI**  
MTI Board of Directors
- **Tuesday, April 17, 4:15 p.m., SCFL**  
MTI Faculty Representative Council
- **Tuesday, April 17, 4:45 p.m., SCFL**  
MTI Joint Fiscal Group
- **Wednesday, April 18, 4:00 p.m., MTI**  
SSA-MTI General Membership Meeting
- **Wednesday, April 18, 4:15 p.m., MTI**  
MTI VOTERS Political Action Committee
- **Thursday, April 19, 6:00 p.m., MTI**  
MTI Movie Night - Harlan County USA

## Our Union Makes Us Strong!

MTI's web page - [www.madisonteachers.org](http://www.madisonteachers.org)  
MTI's email - [MTI@madisonteachers.org](mailto:MTI@madisonteachers.org)