



TRTA Newsletter

Published for the Trumbull Chapter of the Ohio Retirement for Teachers Association

September 2025

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TRTA General Meeting Dates:

October 14 and December 9 every other month on the second Tuesday, 12:00 Noon, at Ciminero's Banquet Centre, 123 N. Main Street, Niles, Ohio 44446.

October Program: Our October speaker will be Stark County Commissioner Richard Regula whose father Ralph served the 16th Congressional District for 18 consecutive terms. His mother Mary was the founder of the National First Ladies' Library in Canton.

Hospitality: Mary Fuller, Chairperson
"With the first day of autumn, nature reveals its most stunning palette."

~Unknown

Our decorations will incorporate the colors of autumn in a variety of centerpieces, candlesticks, wreaths and more on Halloween, Thanksgiving and fall themes. Happy Fall to All!!

Collected at all meetings: Cell phones, eyeglasses, and hearing aids.

Mailing Meetings:

Won't you please consider joining us to help with the mailing at **9 a.m.** at **St. Paul Lutheran Church, Market St., Warren** on **November 11.**

From our President, Cindy Harris

Welcome to another school year, the beginning of fall and all that goes with it like changing leaves, pumpkin spice and apple cider. TRTA would like to congratulate the 2025 Trumbull County STRS retirees. We know that you will enjoy your endless summers and snow days. As a recent retiree, you will receive a TRTA Newsletter in September and November. In January retirees will receive a welcome letter and application for TRTA. Please consider joining us.

"Bake It or Make It" Sale

Come and enjoy the **"Bake It or Make It"** sale at the October 14 meeting and then be prepared to **"Take It Home"** to enjoy. Bring your baked goods and items to sell by **11:15 a.m.** Do you have peppers, tomatoes, squash or other garden goodies? Did you preserve jellies or canned fruits or pickles this fall? How about Halloween crafts and treats? Anyone handy with yarn or craft items? Cash donations are also welcome. All proceeds will be used for Teacher Grants. Be sure to come early if you are bringing items to sell!

Treasurer's Report, August 31, 2025

Checking account balance	\$ 3,939.70
Savings account balance	\$ 6,044.83
Scholarship Fund	\$14,514.00
Teacher Grant Fund	\$ 2,386.00
11 Month CD	\$ 5,000.00



You may view the detailed treasurer's report on the TRTA website <https://trumbullrta.wixsite.com/trta>

Community Service, Joyce Mahan, Chairperson

Many thanks for your donations of backpacks for August's meeting benefitting NOAS. They will be distributed with the water bottles collected in June. Also, \$112 was collected to go towards additional backpacks. Thanks to Gretchen LaLiberte and her team for collecting and dropping off the book

bags. In October we will be helping "Small Town Neighbors", a nonprofit organization in the Badger School District in Kinsman, Ohio. 2025 will be STN's 14th annual winter outerwear giveaway for students in the Joseph Badger School District. They hope to take a small financial burden off any family living in the school system by providing NEW coats, boots, gloves and hats for any students who can use them.

October Meeting: NEW hats, gloves, boots and coats for all age groups. We will also sign Veterans' Day cards for November to be distributed to Veterans at Washington Square and the Veterans' Hospital.



TRTA Lifelines, Carol Hart

Surprising Places Where Germs Live

We think we know all about germey places; however, here are a few you may not have thought about. Spice containers can harbor germs. Wash your hands before you cook and after handling raw meat. And wipe those spice shakers. The microwave control pad should be wiped with mild soap and water. Don't spray with cleaner. Whirlpool bathtubs can harbor bacteria in the jets. Use a special sanitizing cleaner. Because the laundry room is a moist, warm environment, it can be a source of bacteria and mold. Use a fan or a dehumidifier in that area. (AARP: the Magazine, June/July 2025: 11.)

Longevity

We think usual reasons for living longer include genes, diet, sleep, exercise, connection, and purpose. Recently researchers have discovered other forces involved in longevity: "resilience formed in hardship, the sustaining power of love, the anchoring strength of faith and the surprising life-extending impact of conscientiousness." Faith can refer to a religious connection or to the belief that tomorrow holds promise. Being conscientious encompasses taking care of yourself and continuing health screenings even if you think you're too old for them. (AARP: the Magazine, June/July 2025: 50-56.)

Autumn

Although the season of plants is winding down and Autumn often seems like a time of sadness, it is also associated with courage and new beginnings! Enjoy the colors of the season and fall foods like pumpkin, butternut squash and apples.



Membership, Luanne Hite, Gretchen LaLiberte, Chairpersons

There were approximately 71 new retirees at the end of 2024-2025 school year. The retirees are invited to our luncheons starting on October 14, 2025, and any future luncheons they wish to attend. We are hoping to see many new faces. If you are acquainted with one of the new retirees, please extend a personal invitation. This seems to work the best. Please extend a warm welcome

to our new member, Tami Mazella.

Membership Dues for 2026

Dues for 2025 need to be renewed by December 31, 2025, unless you are a Life member. If you are not sure of your membership status, check the address label on your newsletter. Due to increased operating expenses, the Board voted to increase dues. Annual Membership is \$30 and a Life Membership is \$175.



Temporary, Permanent and Snowbirds

If you have an address change or will be gone for a few months, please contact Sue Datish with your new address. Email: suedat@gmail.com. Phone: 330.719.1978.

EMAIL ADDRESS Let Sue Datish know if you have added or changed your email address; the TRTA board uses email to send important information between newsletters.

Luncheon Reservation

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

12:00 Noon at Ciminero's Banquet Centre

Please make reservations by October 1, 2025

Member Name: _____ Guest Name: _____

TRTA Member's District of Retirement: _____ Phone number: _____

Email: _____

_____ Lunch(es) @ 17.00 = _____

Scholarship Donation: _____

Teacher Grant Donation: _____

_____ Boscov Passes @ \$5.00 each= _____

Total Enclosed: _____

If you make a reservation and are unable to attend, regretfully there can be no refunds or carry overs for the next meeting as TRTA has to pay Ciminero's for the lunches ordered.

A RESERVATION IS REQUIRED; NO WALK INS. Thank you for your understanding.

Social distancing rules will follow state guidelines.

The recipient of the free lunch for the October meeting is Janet Burkey.

Make one check payable to TRTA.

Send this form to:

Linda Cowin

PO Box 152

Leavittsburg, OH 44430

330.399.1448

Legislative Update, Denise Deltondo and Jeff McClain, Chairpersons

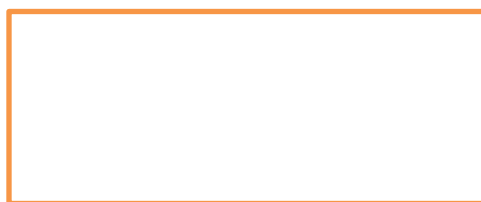
Please write to Sandra O'Brien and Nick Santucci urging them to reverse the STRS takeover. In the state budget (House Bill 96), the majority party in the legislature passed a provision that radically changes the composition of the STRS Board. It removes four members of the Board elected by active and retired teachers and replaces them with four political appointees. This shifts the majority of the Board away from those who represent the active and retired educators of Ohio. It also prevents members of the system from serving as Chair or Vice Chair of the Board. This is a direct attack on the voice of educators and the ability for them to have a meaningful say in the direction of their own pension plan. Here is some important information: 1) A change in the STRS Board composition was not included in the budget bill as initially passed by the House or Senate. It was added to the conference committee report by the majority party members of the HB 96 Conference Committee at the eleventh hour without the opportunity for public debate. 2) This is a direct attack on Ohio's teachers. Of the state's five public retirement systems, only STRS was targeted. Only Ohio's public teachers had their ability to set the direction of their pension system stripped away. 3) STRS investments are performing well, and the system is well within the financial metrics established by state law. 4) This is yet another attack on the voice of educators. The legislature has also undercut educator collective bargaining rights, removed elected members from the State Board of Education, and continues to come up short in funding our public schools.

STRS Ohio posted a net total fund return of 10.4% for the year ended June 30, 2025. The fund ended fiscal year 2025 with \$100.6 billion in investment assets. Meketa, our investment consultant, shared that for the five-year period ending June 30, 2025, the total fund earned a net annualized return of 10.3%; its performance ranked in the top 11% of pension funds across the country.

TRTA

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Warren, OH 44484

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**Boscov Passes**

Once again, Boscov's is sponsoring a community day, Friends HELPING Friends, for one day on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. For a donation of \$5, you will receive a shopping pass worth 25 percent off the lowest price of items. One hundred percent of the \$5 donation will go to TRTA. You can get your pass at our October luncheon. Many are choosing to make a donation to TRTA and buy extra passes to share with their friends! The donations from the sale of the shopping passes will be used for Teacher Grants. Thanks, Boscov, and thank YOU for donating!!!

Mark the number of passes you want on the luncheon reservation form in the newsletter and include \$5 for each pass purchased with your luncheon check.

- a. If you are attending the luncheon, you can pick them up at the luncheon.
- b. If you are NOT attending the luncheon, Marilyn Stanton will mail them to you.

Web Address: <https://trumbullrta.wixsite.com/trta>—Follow Trumbull Retired Teachers Association on Facebook. Please email comments or corrections for the TRTA Newsletter to Cindy Harris, Editor, at cindyharris513@gmail.com.