

NEWSLETTER OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS (PSRSSTL)

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www.prsstl.org



SPRING 2014



VOLUME XIII ISSUE III

Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis

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MEMBER BENEFIT STATEMENTS

PSRSSTL plans to mail Annual Benefit Statements to active members in August. Members should review their statements carefully to verify that personal information reported to PSRSSTL by the employers is accurate. If there are any errors found in personal information, members must contact their employer's human resources department to make corrections. If questions arise about member contributions, retirement or credited service, members should contact the System.

RETIREMENT SEMINAR

PSRSSTL will soon host the last 2014 retirement seminar in the 2nd floor boardroom at 3641 Olive Street, St. Louis, MO. The seminar will provide members with information about benefits. Members considering retirement within the next year should plan to attend. The Seminar is scheduled for 3:00 - 4:30 pm on Wednesday, May 28th. For more information about the seminar, please contact the System.

HEALTH INSURANCE CONTACTS

If you are a retiree looking for assistance with a health insurance claim, you should contact the insurance company for resolution, as they are responsible for claims processing and history. For assistance with enrollment and administrative issues, you are always welcome to contact the System and talk to a health insurance representative.

Before calling PSRSSTL for assistance with your health insurance issues, a good place to search information is through the new and improved health insurance portal available on the PSRSSTL website at www.prsstl.org.

The System updates the website when new information becomes available. The portal has links to carrier websites, contact information, premium rates and specifics on our health insurance plan designs. And, we are now providing group names and numbers on the website for all our medical, dental and vision insurance plans.

2014 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

June 16th
August 18th
October 20th
December 15th
Usually 4:30 pm

Meetings are open to the public and held in the boardroom on the 2nd floor at 3641 Olive Street St. Louis, Missouri

PSRSSTL extends sympathy to families & friends of recently deceased members:

Alice K. Akers, Sharon G. Akerson, Marie Ashley, Raymonde Baker, Betty B. Bancroft, Eva G. Beckerle, Bernice W. Bostick, Emanuel W. Buren, Amy Collins, Ida J. Collins, Julius Collins, Leroy Cooper, John K. Coyne, Loretta Davenport, Georgia B. Davis, Anthony Delia, Louise A. Dickerson, Del G. Doss-Hemsley, Dorothea E. Driska, Hughie W. Ellison, Elizabeth Erxleben, Emma P. Flesner, Alice E. Foster, Kate Frazier, Earline Glover, Wesley G. Griffin, Rowland Hall, Theresa Johnson, Barbara D. Kelleher, Frances Madison, Marie S. Malcic, Joseph H. Mitchell, Dorothy Muse, Elizabeth J. Nelson, Mary E. Pender, Mildred P. Perry, Gertrude Pettus, Sue M. Pratt, Frieda L. Quinn, Zadie Ratliff, Elvis G. Rhea, Dorothy Sachs, Jacqueline Schaefer, Norbert Schultz, Margaret O. Schwarz, Jane B. Shaw, Ruby E. Smith, Gloriastine T. Smith, Darlene R. Sokol, Alfred J. Ulrich, Reba B. Viscuso, Eleana J. Waide, Lloyd Washington, Marcella R. Weinzettle, Daisy K. Whitley and Mary E. Whorton



MEMORIALS

RETIREMENT APPLICATION DEADLINE SCHEDULE

Applications must be filed at least 15 days prior to retirement. The next six (6) deadlines are:

Deadline	Retirement	Deadline	Retirement
May 16, 2014	June 1, 2014	August 18, 2014	September 1, 2014
June 16, 2014	July 1, 2014	September 16, 2014	October 1, 2014
July 17, 2014	August 1, 2014	October 17, 2014	November 1, 2014

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis is to enhance the well-being and financial security of its members, retirees, and beneficiaries through benefit programs and services which are soundly financed and prudently administered in an effective and efficient manner.

PSRSSTL STAFF CONTACTS

Staff Member

Terri Beckwith Customer Service Representative.....3013
Brenda Buggs Receptionist/Clerical Assistant.....3010
John Henderson Insurance Benefits Specialist.....3011
Angela Johnson Member Services Lead.....3014
Tom Kinealy Technology Manager.....3017
Terry Mayes..... Accounting Specialist.....3012
Fax Number 314-533-0531

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2014 FIRST QUARTER INVESTMENT BRIEF

"Investing your money for lifetime security"

The Retirement System's investment portfolio experienced a positive return of 1.3% during the First Quarter of 2014, and ranked in the top 79% of similar public funds. During the one-year period ending on March 31, 2014, the Retirement System experienced a positive return on investments of 12.1%, a net increase of 4.1% in market value, and ranked in the top 45% of similar public funds. The summaries of the PSRSSTL market value, rankings, investment returns and asset allocation of funds held in trust on behalf of the membership on March 31, 2014 follow.

Market Value		
Period Ending 3/31/2014	One Quarter	One Year
Beginning Market Value	\$950,554	\$902,313
Net Additions/Withdrawals ¹	(24,000)	(70,815)
Return on Investment	12,680	107,736
Ending Market Value	\$939,234	\$939,234
¹ Withdrawals to pay pensions	(Dollars in \$000's)	

Period Ending 3/31/2014	Percentile Ranking (Public Funds Universe)	Investment Return
One Quarter	79 th	1.3%
One Year	45 th	12.1%
Three Years	67 th	8.1%
Five Years	53 rd	14.3%
Ten Years	20 th	7.1%

Asset Allocation Summary Period Ending 3/31/2014		
Asset Class	Market Value	% of Portfolio
Domestic Stocks	\$335,150,508	35.7%
Domestic Bonds	118,995,650	12.7%
International Stocks	130,227,271	13.9%
International Bonds	41,858,783	4.5%
Credit Opportunities	9,733,092	1.0%
Tactical Asset Allocation (GTAA)	111,762,520	11.9%
Hedge Funds	85,520,152	9.1%
Real Assets	22,467,071	2.4%
Real Estate	50,176,124	5.3%
Alternatives	22,631,423	2.4%
Cash	10,711,593	1.1%
Total	\$939,234,187	100%

CORRECTION: 2014 WINTER NEWSLETTER

The family of Mr. Paul Neel has informed PSRSSTL that his first name was reported incorrectly in the Winter 2014 Newsletter. Mr. Neel's first name was erroneously reported as Pauline. The Retirement System apologizes for any further grief this misinformation may have caused Mr. Neel's family.

PSRSSTL INFORMATION & NEWS FLASH

- ♦ If you are retired, please remind your loved ones to contact PSRSSTL immediately upon your death to avoid the collection of overpayments.
- ♦ The waiting period to replace a lost pension check is 10 calendar-days and in most cases a check will not be reissued until the 11th day of the month.
- ♦ Parking is provided free-of-charge in the Scottish Rite Parking Garage across Olive Street. Make sure to bring in your parking voucher when you visit us.

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

Periodically, PSRSSTL mails information to members so please maintain a correct mailing address with us. If you are a retired or inactive member and change your address, please notify us in writing so our records are current. If you are an active employee member, address updates should be made with your employer and they in-turn will notify PSRSSTL.

Mailing Schedule for Remainder of 2014

Newsletters: August & November

Annual Report Summaries: July

Annual Member Statements: August

Health Insurance Open Enrollment Packets: October

Election Information: as needed

FINANCIAL MARKETS COMMENTARY

Most investments gained in the 2014 1st quarter as markets generally ignored geopolitical tensions and slowing growth in emerging regions. While emerging market stocks and bonds rallied in March, US stocks saw modest gains in the quarter ended March 31, 2014. After a strong 2013, US stocks dropped in January over concerns of the Fed's bond tapering. Stocks then rebounded in February, hitting new all-time highs, after the Fed said it would maintain low short-term interest rates even if unemployment drops below 6.5%, with a caveat that inflation must remain below 2%. Stocks wavered in March following contrary remarks by the Fed that short-term interest rates may increase sooner than later.

Bonds rose in the 1st quarter, moving beyond the 2013 challenges faced by most fixed income sectors. Early in the quarter, investors moved to these safer, higher-quality investments over concerns of an economic slowdown in China and the harsh winter in the US. This move continued into the middle of the quarter because of the Ukraine crisis. Like stocks, treasuries lost ground in March after Janet Yellen's first remarks to Congress as the new Fed chairman about a possible increase to federal fund rates.

The 1st quarter, although choppy, ended with most asset classes on positive ground. Growth assets in developed markets inched upward and emerging markets rallied. Although investors mostly ignored the geopolitical tensions in the Ukraine, unexpected events like this disrupt market growth expectations and cut into future returns. As a result, financial experts continue to encourage investors to remain disciplined by maintaining diversified, risk-balanced assets in their portfolios.