

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

3641 Olive Street, Suite 300 ♦ St. Louis, MO 63108-3601 ♦ 314-534-7444

www.psrssl.org



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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 by the end of August. Members should review their statements carefully and verify that personal information reported to PSRSSTL by the employers is accurate. If there are errors found in personal information, members must make updates directly with their employer's human resources department. If questions arise about member contributions, retirement or credited service, members are welcome to contact the System.

RETIREMENT SEMINAR

PSRSSTL will soon host the last 2015 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 with in the next year should plan to attend. The Seminar is scheduled for 3:00 - 4:30 pm on Wednesday, May 27th. For more information about the seminar, please contact the System.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

All members must make contributions from payroll to PSRSSTL while employed. Contributions are a member's property until paid in retirement or refunded. If a member dies before retirement, a beneficiary must be designated to ensure proper distribution of contributions. Otherwise, the funds will be distributed to an estate or to the MO Unclaimed Property Division.

All new employees must designate a beneficiary upon enrollment. For updates, a Beneficiary Designation Form must be completed and filed with PSRSSTL. Active members may designate more than one beneficiary. Please do not designate yourself as a beneficiary.

"Primary beneficiary" means the first person (s) or entity in-line to receive a refund of contributions upon the member's death.

"Contingent beneficiary" means the person(s) or entity in-line to receive a refund of contributions when the primary beneficiary is deceased at the time benefits become payable.

2015 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

June 15th
August 17th
October 19th
December 14th
Usually 4:30 p.m.

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

MEMORIALS

The Retirement System regretfully reports the following members as deceased:

James W. Adams, Shirley Armstrong, Alvia B. Atkinson, Melvin Baumgartner, James A. Bonman, Loretta C. Booth, Ernestine Buckley, Charles E. Burgess, Elise A. Byrne, Houston E. Chandler, Ione Chase, Judy A. Chism, Mary E. Christisen, Francis Craig, Lillie W. Cunningham, Geneva Davis, Roger W. Depuy, Lincoln I. Diuguid, Carl Douglas, Doris J. Dowell, Ida Echols, Johnnie P. Evans, Delores Everett, Arthur Ford, Roy Fraction, Azerlee Freeman, Mary Gericke, Inez J. Giles, William M. Glenford, Sylvia Glone, Josephine Gold, Dorothy Hamer, Thomas R. Hancock, Ruby Harriel, Helen Holmes, Sandra House, Mary L. Howard, Carol E. Johnson, Jewel I. Johnson, Maudline L. Jones, Eva Karl, William Long, Margaret L. Macadam, Delores Mayes, Alice Mayo, Catherine McClain, Gayle McNamara, Eldonia Merriweather, Chester Moore, Mary C. Murphy, Emily Nelson, Francis O'Leary, Theodore Peterson, Cecelia A. Pierce, Marcella L. Piper, Mareta C. Rothweiler, Versa L. Rule, Cecille Sandford, Katherine W. Saunders, Welbon L. Schermesser, Mary Simmons, Ruby Sykes, Pamela A. Thomas, Allean Winston



RETIREMENT APPLICATION DEADLINES

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

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Retirement</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Retirement</u>
May 18, 2015	June 1, 2015	August 17, 2015	September 1, 2015
June 16, 2015	July 1, 2015	September 16, 2015	October 1, 2015
July 17, 2015	August 1, 2015	October 19, 2015	November 1, 2015

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

314-534-7444

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Ext.</u>
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
Dawn Taul	Customer Service Representative.....	3013
Fax Number		314-533-0531

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**2015 FIRST QUARTER INVESTMENT BRIEF***"Investing your money for lifetime security"*

The Retirement System's investment portfolio experienced a positive return of 2.6% during the 2015 First Quarter, ranking in the top 22% of similar public funds. During the one-year period ending on March 31, 2015, the Retirement System experienced a positive return on investments of 5.9%, a net decrease of 1.2% in market value, and ranked in the top 72% 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 for the reporting period follow.

Market Value		
Period Ending 03/31/2015	One Quarter	One Year
Beginning Market Value	\$927,957	\$938,897
Net Additions/Withdrawals ¹	(23,471)	(66,366)
Return on Investment	23,352	55,307
Ending Market Value	\$927,838	\$927,838
¹ Withdrawals to pay pensions	(Dollars in \$000's)	

Period Ending 03/31/2015	Percentile Ranking (Public Funds Universe)	Investment Return
One Quarter	22 nd	2.6%
One Year	72 nd	5.9%
Three Years	61 st	9.1%
Five Years	52 nd	9.0%
Ten Years	28 th	6.9%

Asset Allocation Summary Period Ending 03/31/2015		
Asset Class	Market Value	% of Portfolio
Domestic Stocks	\$330,789,681	35.7%
Domestic Bonds	121,684,881	13.1%
International Stocks	124,363,660	13.4%
International Bonds	36,120,496	3.9%
Credit Opportunities	10,172,033	1.1%
Tactical Asset Allocation (GTAA)	119,017,228	12.8%
Hedge Funds	86,933,028	9.4%
Real Assets	18,653,576	2.0%
Real Estate	50,258,565	5.4%
Alternatives	21,645,041	2.3%
Cash	8,199,603	0.9%
Total	\$927,837,792	100%

PSRSSTL INFORMATION & NEWS FLASH

- ♦ If you are a retiree or survivor beneficiary, please remind your loved ones to contact PSRSSTL immediately upon your death to avoid the collection of overpayments.
- ♦ Retirees are encouraged to visit the PSRSSTL website at www.psrssl.org for newly added and detailed health insurance coverage information.
- ♦ If you are a retiree with dependent(s) covered under your health insurance and/or benefit payment option, and your dependent(s) predecease you, please notify the retirement system at once to ensure changes are made timely to your insurance coverage and retirement benefits.
- ♦ The waiting period to replace a lost pension check is ten (10) calendar days and, in most cases, replacement checks may only be reissued after the 10th of the month.
- ♦ Parking is provided free-of-charge in the Scottish Rite Parking Garage across Olive Street. Make sure to bring your parking voucher when you visit us.

HAS YOUR MAILING ADDRESS CHANGED?

Retired or inactive members should notify us in writing. Active employee members must make address updates directly with their employers and they in-turn will notify PSRSSTL.

Mailing Schedule for the Remainder of 2015

Newsletters: August & November

Annual Report Summaries: July

Annual Member Statements: August

Health Insurance Open Enrollment Packets: October

Election Information: as needed

FINANCIAL MARKETS COMMENTARY

During the 2015 1st quarter, central banks around the world eased monetary conditions across economies and global risk assets responded. Non-US developed market equities rallied with the world index returning 4.9% for the quarter while emerging market equities gained 2.2%.

In the US, the focus remained firmly on the Federal Reserve, which appears on track to raise interest rates sometime this year. Expectations of a Fed rate increase relative to rate cuts across the globe pushed the value of the dollar higher. The Fed continues to state that a rate increase will be dependent on economic conditions. This uncertainty and the resultant volatility are likely to remain as conflicting US economic growth and jobs data keep investors guessing on the timing of a Fed rate increase.

US stocks were affected by the uncertainty at the Fed and experienced volatility during the quarter. The S&P 500 grew by a modest 1% while small cap stocks gained 4% despite already high valuations. A continuation of the high returns seen over the last five years appears unlikely in the face of slowing earnings growth, a strong dollar and market valuations trending above historical averages.

The 1st quarter did end with most asset classes on positive ground but given a return of volatility in the markets this trend may not last. As a result, financial experts continue to encourage investors to remain disciplined by maintaining diversified, risk-balanced assets in their portfolios. This approach best serves the ability of long-term investors, such as the retirement system, to withstand the affects of the multitude of economic environments around the world. Rest assured, the Board of Trustees remains focused on long-term investing through a well-diversified asset allocation policy.