

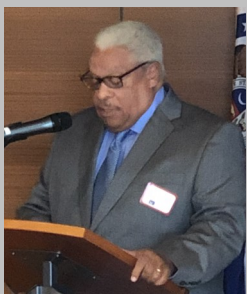
KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM **PENSION NEWS**

Active Member Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

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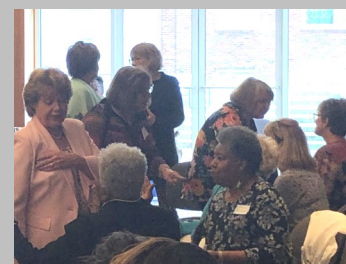
Coming Together to Make a Difference

Retirees, active members, and Board members came together to celebrate 75 years of accomplishments of the Retirement System. The photos on this page are from the 75th anniversary reception held in October of 2019. The event speakers reflected on historical highlights and the importance of the benefits KCPSRS offers its members, retirees, and the KC community.

As we kick off a new decade in 2020, we move forward continuing to focus on **what is best for our members**. KCPSRS works in partnership with the Kansas City School District, Public Library, and all KC charter schools to provide eligible employees with a significant and stable source of retirement income based on the employee's length of service and salary. These employers are essential to the funding of the retirement system. Employers contribute to KCPSRS and send both the member and employer contributions to KCPSRS to help fund benefits.

KCPSRS along with our employers continue to lay the foundation for personal financial security for each generation of teachers, school and library staff, to ensure they have the support they need to thrive in the years to come. The Retirement System is powerful when we are working together.

Winners of the Anniversary Drawing were Active Member, Angela Thomas (Library), and Retiree, Jean Anderson.



There's no higher calling in terms of a career than public service, which is a chance to make a difference in people's lives and improve the world. Jack Lew

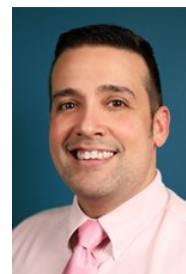
BOARD NEWS

Congratulations to the Winners of the Active Member election!

Javier Alfonso

(four-year term: 1/1/20 to 12/31/23)

Currently, the Assistant Director of Educational Technology for the Kansas City School District, Alfonso received his BS degree in Special Education and a master's in Reading Education from Barry University. He has been a teacher, an instructional coach & coordinator and in his current role led the roll out and implementation of iPads and Chromebooks districtwide.



Anthony Madry

(three-year term: 1/1/20 to 12/31/22)

Currently, the Principal at Central High School, Madry received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Telecommunications/Communication with a minor in music from Texas Southern University and later completed a Master of Education Administration at Prairie View A & M University. He has worked on all three levels of public education and charter schools, spending the majority of his 19-year career focusing on the at-risk students of secondary education.



Vondragas (Von) Smalley

(two-year term: 1/1/20 to 12/31/21)

Currently, an Instructional Coach/Vice Principal intern at Northeast High School, Smalley received a double major in English and African American Studies and a minor in Business Administration. He also has a post bachelor's degree in Finance from Northwestern and a master's in Education and M.S. in Educational Leadership. Smalley came to Kansas City School District as part of the TFA Green Fellowship and is working with the KC PLUS program.



KCPSRS welcomes these three individuals to the Board of Trustees and looks forward to working with them.

Later this year, both Retirees and Active Members will have a chance to nominate a candidate and vote for a retiree and an active member each to serve a four-year term starting in January 2021. Nominations for the next election must be made on October 5, 2020.

You, the members, nominate the candidates.

The September newsletter will provide more details on the next election.

2020 KCPSRS Board of Trustees

Elected Members

Active Members.....Javier Alfonso
Anthony Madry
Roger Offield
Von Smalley
Retired Members.....Beverly Pratt
Curtis L. Rogers

Appointed members

School District Appointments.....Horace Coleman, Jr.
Joanne Collins
Brian Welch
TBD*
Library Appointment.....Debbie Siragusa

District Superintendent.....Dr. Mark Bedell

* to be decided

Make a difference

about something

other than yourselves.

Toni Morrison

The Value of Your Retirement Plan

A report from the [National Institute for Retirement Security](#) finds that 2/3 of working millennials have nothing (\$0) saved for retirement. The report indicates there are many factors contributing to this generation's retirement savings challenges – from depressed wages to the lack of eligibility to participate in employer retirement plans.

The good news is, YOU are in a far better position than 2/3 of working millennials! As a member of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System (KCPSRS) you are automatically enrolled in a defined benefit (DB) retirement plan. But what is a DB plan, and what value does it have?

In a DB plan, your retirement benefit is calculated using a formula “DEFINED” by Missouri law that uses your total years of service, your highest average salary and a multiplier. Funding for the retirement benefit comes from your 9% contribution, contributions from your employer, and KCPSRS investment returns. When you terminate employment and when you meet the retirement age and service requirements, you can apply and begin to receive a lifetime KCPSRS monthly benefit. Your lifetime monthly retirement benefit never runs out and your KCPSRS benefit amount does not fluctuate with the financial markets, it is a defined amount.

Retirement researchers have long acknowledged the importance of the so-called “three-legged” stool—of a defined benefit (DB) income (your

KCPSRS benefit), Social Security benefits, and supplemental individual savings—in providing Americans the greatest opportunity to achieve financial security in retirement.¹ Each leg of this stool provides a specific, unique purpose.



Social Security, administered by the Federal Government, provides a guaranteed, cost-of-living adjusted income for life in retirement. Your KCPSRS DB plan provides a defined lifetime monthly income in retirement. You might also save in an individual plan—IRA, 401(k) or 457 plan. Having individual savings on top of your KCPSRS benefit and Social Security is helpful, especially if you experience unexpected hardships, for example, long-term care cost for you or a loved one.

¹Oakley, D., and K. Kenneally. Pensions and Retirement Security 2013: Roadmap for Policy Makers. Washington, DC: National Institute on Retirement Security.



IMPORTANT DATES

KCPSRS Seminars

Pre-Retirement Seminar Registration is Open!

If you are within one to three years of retirement eligibility*, register now to attend a Pre-Retirement Seminar. Seminars include information about KCPSRS benefits, Social Security, and the [AIG personal saving plan offered to school district and some charter school employees](#).

Seminars will be held on the following dates, times and locations. You must register to attend. Your spouse or guest is welcome to attend with you and must be registered as well.

Register Online! <https://kcpsrs.wufoo.com/forms/kcpsrs-preretirement-seminars/>

Enrollment confirmation and reminders will be sent to the email address used when registered online.



Date	Time	Location & Address	Registration Deadline
February 18	4:00—6:30 pm.	KCPSRS—3100 Broadway Rm 130 (first floor)	February 10
February 27	4:00—6:30 pm	KCPSRS—3100 Broadway Rm 130 (first floor)	February 18
March 16	10:00 am—12:30 pm	KC Public School—2901 Troost Boardroom auditorium	March 6

**Members with at least five years of service and employed prior to 1/1/14 are fully eligible at age 60 or 75 points (age + years of service). Members with at least five years of service and employed on or after to 1/1/14 are fully eligible at age 62 or 80 points (age + years of service).*

Reminder about our cancellation policy:

Seminars fill up quickly! Once you register, we reserve a seat for you (*and any registered guest*). If you (*or your registered guest*) are unable to attend, please call KCPSRS at 816-472-5800 as soon as possible to cancel and/or reschedule.

2020



3100 Broadway
Suite 1211
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Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PHONE
816-472-5800

FAX
816-472-5909

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kcpsrs@kcpsrs.org

WEBSITE
www.kcpsrs.org

JANUARY

- 1 KCPSRS Office closed—New Year's Day
- 6 Board of Trustees meeting
- 20 KCPSRS Office closed—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 31 Deadline to apply for March 1st retirement

FEBRUARY

- 3 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 17 KCPSRS Office closed—President's Day
- 18 Pre-Retirement Seminar @ 3100 Broadway, Room 130 (4:00 pm—6:30 pm)
- 27 Pre-Retirement Seminar @ 3100 Broadway, Room 130 (4:00 pm—6:30 pm)
- 28 Deadline to apply for April 1st retirement

MARCH

- 2 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 16 Pre-Retirement Seminar @ 2901 Troost, Boardroom Auditorium (10:00 am— 12:30 pm)
- 31 Deadline to apply for May 1st retirement

APRIL

- 6 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 10 KCPSRS Office Closed—Good Friday
- 30 Deadline to apply for June 1st retirement

MAY

- 4 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 25 KCPSRS Office closed—Memorial Day
- 29 Deadline to apply for July 1st retirement

JUNE

- 1 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 30 Deadline to apply for August 1st retirement

JULY

- 3 KCPSRS Office closed—Independence Day
- 31 Deadline to apply for September 1st retirement

AUGUST

- 31 Deadline to apply for October 1st retirement

*Great things
are not done
by impulse, but
by a series of
small things
brought
together.*

George Eliot