

National Council on Teacher Retirement

RESOLUTIONS



Adopted at the

**NCTR 94th Annual Conference
Annual Business Meeting**

**October 12, 2016
2:30 pm**

Presented by:
The 2016 NCTR Resolutions Committee

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IN MEMORIAM CLARENCE COLE

WHEREAS, Clarence Cole, Board Member of Kansas City Public School Retirement System of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri (KCPSRS), passed away from this earth on June 20, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Cole served faithfully as a Trustee of the Retirement System of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri (KCPSRS), for 14 years, as a School District appointee; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Cole was a dedicated advocate for the active members and retirees of KCPSRS, representing their interests at the National Council on Teacher Retirement conferences over the years; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Cole taught in Missouri schools for thirty-seven years, retiring in 1996 from the School District of Kansas City, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Cole was active in community involvement and volunteered tirelessly with the Midtown Kiwanis, National Black Caucus of Special Education, Missouri Vocational Special Needs Association, Y.M.C.A, and North America Baptist Men's Fellowship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the Board and Staff of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System to hereby extend their heartfelt sympathy to Clarence's wife of 36 years, Stephanie, and their 4 children, 12 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and extended family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Mrs. Stephanie Cole and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Conference of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: The Board of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System



IN MEMORIAM CAROLINE HELMKAMP

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp served faithfully as a Trustee of the Retirement System of the School District of Kansas City, Missouri (KCPSRS), for 17 years, and a member of the National Council of Teachers Retirement's Trustee Education Committee; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp taught in Missouri schools for 26 years, retiring in 2008 from the School District of Kansas City, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp during her teaching career taught Social Studies in middle school and was a pioneer for promoting computers and on-line technology with her students; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp was first elected to the KCPSRS Board of Trustees to represent active members and after her retirement in 2008 was re-elected as a retiree representative; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp was a staunch advocate for the active members and retirees of KCPSRS, representing their interests at the National Council on Teacher Retirement conferences over the years; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp will be fondly remembered by the Board and staff of KCPSRS for her bicycling adventure stories and tireless energy in her every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp during her tenure on the Kansas City Public School Retirement System proactively embraced new technology for the System; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Helmkamp passed from this earth on October 24, 2015; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the Board and Staff of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System to hereby extend their heartfelt sympathy to Caroline's husband, George, and their children, and extended family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Mr. George Helmkamp and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: The Board of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System



IN APPRECIATION
ALONZO R. “LONNIE” LUCE, PH.D.

WHEREAS, Alonzo R. “Lonnie” Luce, Ph.D., served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana from December 3, 2012, through May 31, 2016, representing active members employed as city and parish public school superintendents; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the board, Dr. Luce served with distinction on the Budget & Finance, Elections, Legislative, and Personnel committees, and held the position of vice chair of the Membership & Entitlements Committee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luce has been committed to preserving the defined benefit structure of the retirement plan, and to continuing the dedicated work of the Board in protecting the interests of the pension system and its members, including supporting passage of sensible pension reform legislation that provides greater budget stability and has more than \$5 billion in potential savings to the state; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Luce’s tenure on the TRSL Board, the System was recognized for its cost-efficient pension administration, high-quality customer service, and outstanding fund performance, most notably in Fiscal Year 2014 when assets reached an all-time high of \$17.9 billion and TRSL earned a market return of 19.9%, making it the second highest performing pension fund that year among public plans with more than \$1.0 billion in assets; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luce has always provided thoughtful commentary and insightful analysis on matters considered by the board, particularly those that protect the fiscal soundness of the System; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Luce has been a member of the public education community at the secondary and postsecondary level for almost 20 years where he’s been a leader in school technology, served as deputy superintendent of the Greenville County School District in South Carolina, and for the last nine years, has been the superintendent of the St. James Parish School System; and

WHEREAS, since 1985 and throughout his career as an educator, Dr. Luce has also served his state and country as a member of the Louisiana National Guard, where he currently holds the rank of colonel and is commander of the 199th Leadership Regiment at Camp Beauregard in Pineville, Louisiana; and



WHEREAS, Dr. Luce’s service to the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana was performed with unwavering dedication and commitment that meets the highest standards of honor and integrity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana to hereby express their appreciation to Dr. Luce for his dedicated service to the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana as a trustee and fiduciary; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Alonzo R. “Lonnie” Luce, Ph.D., and be included in the proceedings of 94th Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana



IN APPRECIATION JEFFREY L. EZELL

WHEREAS, Jeffrey L. Ezell served the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia with vision, dedication, distinction as Assistant Controller, Controller, Deputy Director, and, starting in January 2000 and serving through July 2016, as Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, Jeff's total service to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia was 33 years; and

WHEREAS, Jeff's thoughtful analysis and effective communication skills working with the Georgia General Assembly and the Governors of Georgia have been essential in ensuring the continuation of a defined benefit structure for the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, during Jeff's tenure as Executive Director the membership in the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia has grown from approximately 190,000 active members and 47,000 retired members in 2000 to 250,000 active members and 117,000 retired members in 2016; and

WHEREAS, at retirement Jeff managed the largest public retirement plan in Georgia with assets of \$67 billion and a yearly benefit payroll of \$4.3 billion; and

WHEREAS, Jeff always put the members first and wanted excellent communication and to that end he promoted a new web site that allows all members to access their individual accounts and increased the ability of members to get individual counseling related to their retirement benefits; and

WHEREAS, Jeff made it a priority to attend and participate in meetings of members and their Organizations throughout the state, keeping them informed about their Retirement, and earned their trust and admiration; and

WHEREAS, Jeff shared his knowledge and wisdom of Pension issues by serving NCTR as a member of its Legislative Committee, Administrator Education Committee, Executive Committee, and as President; and

WHEREAS, Jeff's service to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia and NCTR has been one that exhibits the highest standard of honor and integrity; now, therefore, be it



RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia to hereby express their grateful appreciation to Jeff for his dedicated service and extend their best wishes for good health and happiness in all of his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Jeffrey L. Ezell and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Conference of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016

Submitted by: Teachers Retirement System of Georgia



IN APPRECIATION NANETTE SISSNEY

WHEREAS, Nanette Sissney has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) from October 2009 through April 2016, mindful of her duty as caretaker of a trust to those who teach or otherwise serve our state's children and thereby shape its future; and

WHEREAS, she has provided leadership to the system during a time when the retirement system grew to more than 1.4 million members and annuitants; management controls were strengthened, new investment allocations and procedures were adopted and implemented, the TRS Enterprise Application Modernization (TEAM) Program was launched and with significant progress made, the State Auditor's Office reports provided unqualified opinions with no material findings, and TRS annually received the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officers Association; and

WHEREAS, she served TRS in numerous ways, including as vice chair of the board, chair of the Budget, Compensation and Ethics Committees, and as a member of the Audit, Benefits, and Investment Management Committees; and

WHEREAS, she served on the board at a time when TRS conducted an important legislative study on pension fund sustainability, which enabled the legislature to make modifications that made the pension fund actuarially sound, allowing for the first permanent cost-of-living increase for a majority of retirees in more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, she played an active role in selecting a new executive director for TRS in February 2011; and

WHEREAS, she served on the board during the time of TRS' 75th anniversary and joined other trustees in commemorating that special event; and

WHEREAS, she represented TRS on the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR) Resolutions Committee, Trustee Education Committee and Legislative Committee; and

WHEREAS, she helped guide the agency through prudent oversight of trust assets during a challenging period of extreme capital market volatility, including one of the nation's most serious recessions, when the TRS Pension Fund rebounded from approximately \$90 billion in October 2009 to approximately \$129 billion as of June 2016; now, therefore, be it



RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the Teacher Retirement System of Texas to hereby express appreciation to Ms. Sissney for her dedicated service as a trustee and fiduciary; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Nanette Sissney and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Conference of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: Teacher Retirement System of Texas



IN APPRECIATION MRS. SARAH S. SWINDLE

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sarah S. Swindle has been a dedicated public education advocate for fifty-six years, serving as a classroom teacher, an active member of the Alabama Education Association and the Alabama Education Retirees Association, and as a Board Member of both the Alabama Teachers' Retirement System and the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Program for more than twenty years; including serving as chair of each of those Boards respectively for more than ten years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Swindle has served with honor and provided invaluable leadership to the Boards governing these two critical programs, and the TRS and PEEHIP staff administering these programs that provide vital financial and health insurance benefits for more than 225,000 active and retired education personnel in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Swindle has always held as her number one priority the protection and improvement of the retirement and health insurance benefits for both active and retired members of TRS and PEEHIP; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins with the Alabama Teachers' Retirement System Board of Control and the Public Education Employees' Board of Control to hereby extend to Mrs. Sarah S. Swindle their sincere appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the public education employees of Alabama, and her exemplary service on these Boards, which she has so selflessly performed; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Mrs. Sarah S. Swindle and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Conference of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: Alabama Teachers' Retirement System



IN APPRECIATION EUGENE WASCHBUSCH

WHEREAS, Eugene “Gene” Waschbusch served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the St. Paul Teachers’ Retirement Fund Association (SPTRFA) for 40 years, from January 1976 to January 2016, and as its Executive Director for 17 of those years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Board, Gene served in numerous leadership roles, including Secretary-Treasurer, Chair of the Investment Committee, and member of the Executive, Annuities, Audit, Refunds, and Personnel Committees; and

WHEREAS, while serving on the Board, Gene tirelessly served his community and fellow teachers by, among other things, teaching Mathematics in St. Paul Public Schools and St. Paul Technical College for 25 years; serving as an Officer of the Minnesota Council on Teachers of Mathematics; leading the St. Paul Teachers Scholarship Fund; and founding the St. Paul Teachers Political Action Committee; and

WHEREAS, Gene was a tireless supporter of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, serving in various leadership roles, including President; Chair of the Nominating Committee; and Member of the Special Committee on Resolutions Procedures; and

WHEREAS, Gene represented the National Council on Teacher Retirement to the President’s Commission on Pre-Retirement Savings; and

WHEREAS, throughout his extraordinary career, Gene has been unreservedly dedicated to two of our nation’s most important missions—educating our country’s future leaders and safeguarding the retirement security of the educators who so selflessly serve our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Gene has proudly spent four decades serving the teachers of St. Paul with dedication, passion, and distinction, the SPTRFA Board of Trustees, Staff, and Members thank him for his remarkable efforts and wish him and his wife, Carol, all the best in their well-deserved retirement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this twelfth day of October 2016, the National Council on Teacher Retirement joins the SPTRFA to hereby express appreciation to Eugene Waschbusch for his distinguished service to the St. Paul Teachers’ Retirement Fund Association; and be it further



RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Eugene Waschbusch and be included in the proceedings of the 94th Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2016.

Submitted by: The St. Paul Teachers' Retirement Fund Association

