

CENTRAL KENTUCKY EAST DISTRICT – ANNUAL FALL WORKSHOP  
August 31, 2015

Attending for EKURA – Marshall Myers, Pat Ridgley, Richard Vance, Jackie Vance

Welcome, Pledge, Invocation - Larry Woods, President-Elect  
Pledge and Prayer were followed by a lunch

KRTA President, Patsy Rainey, called the membership to continue to work as a strong and determined organization, symbolized as a “radiant diamond.” She reminded the audience that KRTA is a unified voice of more than 30,200 members who need to continue to work together for the “health” of the membership. Our primary purpose NOW is to emphasize three critical tasks: 1. Support legislation that would improve the actuarial soundness of KTRS; 2. Keep the governance of KTRS as it is presently constituted and oppose efforts to take fiduciary decisions away from the KTRS Board of Trustees; 3. Maintain KTRS as a defined benefit group retirement plan for all Kentucky public school teachers. The overriding goal during the current year is to increase membership within the 14 district RTA’s and 119 local RTA’s so as to increase our voice. She noted that lobbying efforts have gained a great deal of respect from government officials; our visibility in Frankfort has been realized.

Representatives from a variety of groups providing benefits to retirees spoke briefly. The green FACT SHEET mailed to each retiree in the summer by KRTA clearly delineates most of the groups, their purpose, and contact information.

AARP – Cebert Gilbert emphasized partnership, scholarship, and benefits and spoke of the retirees collectively contributing 2.1 billion to the state’s economy in the past year while giving 1.4 million hours and \$19.4M in services while in a volunteer capacity.

KRTA – Betty Hester offered membership suggestions for retaining, regaining and recruiting members to local groups. The goal is 30,616 for the new year.

Health and Security – Don Pace spoke of benefits offered to members and groups which provide those services.

United Health Care – As a part of medical insurance coverage, we are able to participate in programs such as KNOW YOUR RX COALITION, HOUSE CALLS, ADVANCED ILLNESS, EDUMEDICS

KTRS representative Dora Moore gave a succinct picture of the history of the funding for the retirement system and roadblocks encountered specifically in the past ten years. Her experience in the system, as well as a well-prepared slide show, specified activities in the past which have brought the system to what must happen now to protect the pension structure for 45,000 retired teachers and 75,000 teachers in active service. The website <http://governor.KY.gov/KTRS> funding is available to us for more information.

NRTA/AARP report was presented by Cebert Gilbert. He reiterated the AARP goals for retiree groups of teachers and encouraged participation in the National Day of Service on September 11, 2015. He was followed by Don Hines who discussed our legislative agenda and issues we need to be particularly aware of during the upcoming legislative

session. In addition to reminding us of the overarching goal of supporting legislation that would improve the actuarial soundness of KTRS, he reviewed the [2016-2017 Legislative Program](#) which is available to all KRTA members and will be posted on our website. He reminded us that ALL POLITICS IS LOCAL and encouraged us to share information with local members at regular meetings and make them aware of the importance of meeting with legislators to get their support on our major issues. Both he and Steve Gillespie shared information on the value of keeping our pension a defined benefits plan. We were encouraged to KNOW the candidates and their stand on the issues we have with our pension plan. The latest KRTA Newsletter has a question and answer column which focuses on the stand of the gubernatorial candidates; all of us need to be very aware of this information.

Following lunch, a Memorial Service was held recognizing those local members who had died in the previous year; following this, the District meeting convened. The order of business was as follows:

Minutes – Read by Ann Upchurch and approved as read.

Roll Call – Called by county and numbers representing each county had been done early in the day by Dr. Wagoner.

Treasurer’s Report - Nellie Anderson gave the report:

Committee Reports - Each committee chairperson gave a brief report. Steve Gillespie, Legislative Chair encouraged our participation in the meetings of the KTRS Funding Work Group which was appointed by the Governor and meets twice a month with a specific agenda. The next meeting will be September 11, and will call for open questions from constituents who have requested to speak. On September 25, the representative from the Pension Trustee Advisors will begin to give more preliminary information on findings requested from the Work Group.

THERE WAS NO OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next district meeting will be at Michael’s in Estill County on December 8, at 11:00.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Vance, Secretary