





## (Ohio Retired Teachers Association)

### **ORTA (Ohio Retired Teachers Association)**

250 E. Wilson Bridge Road | Suite 150  
Worthington, OH 43085  
614-431-7002 | [www.orta.org](http://www.orta.org)

### **STRS**

(State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio)  
275 E. Broad Street | Columbus, OH 43215  
(888) 227-7877 | [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org)

### **AMBA Benefits**

#### **(Association Member Benefits Advisors)**

6034 W. Courtyard Drive | Suite 300  
Austin, Texas 78730  
(800) 258-7041 | [www.myambabenefits.info/orta](http://www.myambabenefits.info/orta)

Remember to follow and join these sites on Facebook to learn more about what is happening at STRS.

[Ohio STRS Member Only Forum](#)

[STRS Ohio Watchdogs](#)

[Allen County Retired Teachers](#)

### **STRS Board Election Results**



On Saturday, May 7, 2022, the results of the State Teachers Retirement Board election were certified by a board of tellers appointed by the State Teachers Retirement Board and Election Services Company — the independent firm administering the election. The results of the election for the two contributing member seats on the Retirement Board are as follows:

- Julie Sellers, 19,030 votes
- Steven Foreman, 15,247 votes
- Jeffrey Rhodes, 10,494 votes
- Robert A. McFee, 9,817 votes
- Write-Ins, 319 votes

The results of the election for the retired member seat on the Retirement Board are as follows:

- Elizabeth Jones, 24,983 votes
- Rita J. Walters, 21,229 votes
- Write-Ins, 222 votes

The term of office for Steven Foreman, Elizabeth Jones and Julie Sellers will begin on Sept. 1, 2022, and will end on Aug. 31, 2026.

**OHIO DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (ODE) - The new superintendent for OHIO public schools has a local connection!** He graduated from Bath, ONU and was at Elida early in his educational career.



The following was printed in the *Lima News* on May 11, 2022.

The State Board of Education of Ohio today selected Stephen Dackin as the 39th superintendent of public instruction for Ohio and leader of the Ohio Department of Education. Dackin will guide 1.7 million Ohio K-12 students, oversee the development of academic standards and the licensing of teachers. The budget for the Department of Education in fiscal year 2022 was \$12,653,875,388.

“After two and a half years of pandemic-affected learning, Ohio students and educators face many challenges. It’s heartening that the State Board of Education moved deliberately to fulfill the state superintendent role with a proven leader who has throughout his career emphasized high expectations for all students and recognized the importance of empowering parents with high-quality education options,” said Chad L. Aldis, vice president for Ohio policy in a press release from the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, that has a stated mission to improve student outcomes, boost upward mobility, and dramatically increase the number of young Americans prepared for college, career, and citizenship. “We look forward to working with the State Board and Superintendent Dackin on policies that will improve educational outcomes and help every child to reach his or her potential.”

**A graduate of Bath High School and Ohio Northern University, Dackin has more than 40 years of service in education.** Dackin has experience in both post-secondary and PreK12 education settings, having served as a school district superintendent, school principal and classroom teacher. He recently served as superintendent of School and Community Partnerships at Columbus State Community College and, prior to that, superintendent of Reynoldsburg City Schools. He was a previous finalist for the state superintendent’s job in 2011.

“It is a great day for the State of Ohio and our education community as we welcome Mr. Dackin as our next superintendent of public instruction. His leadership, experience, vision for the future, and commitment to supporting students will help position Ohio’s education system to be the best in the nation,” said State Board of Education President Charlotte McGuire in a press release from the Ohio Department of Education.

State Board of Education vice-president Martha Manchester commented, “We are very excited to have selected Steve Dackin as our next superintendent. We think he has a lot of great ideas that will help more Ohio students.”

Steve’s brother Rich Dackin, superintendent of Bath Local Schools had this comment: “Steve has always been passionate about education and will want to be a great servant leader for Ohio’s schools.

I am extremely proud of him and am excited to see him in his new role as Ohio’s next Superintendent of Public Education.” “I congratulate Steve Dackin on his selection as Superintendent of Public Instruction by the State Board of Education,” Gov. Mike DeWine said in a statement.

“His experience, both as a member of the Board and in public education, will help him be an effective voice for Ohio’s students and their parents as he leads the Department of Education.”

Stephanie Siddens held the position on an interim basis after Paolo DeMaria retired in September 2021. The State Board of Education selected Dackin by a vote of 14 to 4, with one abstention.

The start date is yet to be determined.

Dackin and his wife Susan live in Columbus and have two daughters, Jessica and Erika.

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## Message from the President ~ ~

The weather went from winter to summer, I think spring got jumped over this year. I am hoping that many of you will join us for our June meeting to hear from our active teachers that received our grant money this past year. We would love to have a good representation and see many of you again after having to be inside so much the past few years.

In August we are planning to meet at one of the Metro Parks so that we can be outside and enjoy the weather. Details will be coming in the next newsletter, so save Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Your board has been working on updating the bylaws. It has been quite a while since the bylaws have been reviewed. We will present these changes at the August meeting to be voted on at the October meeting.

The STRS election results seem to be sending a loud message that many of us are concerned about what has been happening and the decisions that have been made. My hope is that the new members will ask questions to the "powers that be" to clarify in language that I understand why the decisions are made about my retirement income.

My time as president is coming to an end this year, and I have thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity. This is a term limited position, and I hope someone will step forward to lead this important organization. I will be glad to answer questions and help support you. Please let me know if you would be interested in keeping us moving forward.

Thank you to all that have joined our organization to keep it strong.

Barb

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**ACRTA BOOK PROJECT:** *Profits will go into the Teacher Grant Fund*

**IT IS HAPPENING – WE STILL NEED YOUR STORIES !!!!!!!!!!!**

Here are the cover and first page of the book that we have samples of to look at during the June meeting. We are still adding to it.



**Purpose:** *Allen County Retired Teachers Association Fund Raiser* for Dr. Jon Rockhold Teacher grants – The book will be available in both paperback and electronic through Amazon. Paperback may also be available through the ACRTA and local book sellers.

**Authors:** Any retired teacher from Allen County/Lima City/Delphos City schools. Teachers will provide brief bio: Include School building, district, years there, other info you would like to include up to 100 words total.

**Editor:** David Reedy, PhD (Assistant Editors, English/Writing Volunteer retirees).

**Specifics:**

Stories of 150 words or more, multiple submissions from authors will be considered.

PLEASE submit your story or any questions to [davidreedy99@gmail.com](mailto:davidreedy99@gmail.com)

**We hope to have this available by the beginning of next school year.**

# Happy Birthday



## JUNE

Patricia Rockers - 2nd

Deb Boedicker - 8th

Ben Conner - 14<sup>th</sup>

Kaye Keller - 16th

Paula Millhoff - 19th

June Orr - 23rd

Joan Pedlow - 4th

Judy Horlander - 10th

Judy Gephart - 15th

Dave Hochstetler - 17th

Ted Savidge - 22nd

Carol Hearne - 24th



## JULY

Sarah Arnett - 1st

William Herr - 5th

Joanne Guy - 12th

Elizabeth Eley - 22nd

Marilyn Morningstar - 27th

Nancy Leatherman - 28th

Kathy Dixon - 31st

Ed Hoffmeyer - 3rd

Deb Pauff - 6th

Patrice Keating - 15th

Judy Kent - 26th

John Mason - 27th

Lana Gerber - 30<sup>th</sup>

\*\*If we have missed you or have incorrect information, please contact us so that we can update our records.



~~~~~ Quote to ponder ~~~~~

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,  
but people will never forget how you made them feel. - Maya Angelou

2022 ACRTA

**Meeting**

Dates

General Membership Meetings -Lunch at 11:30 a.m. followed by program/meeting.

\*June 2<sup>nd</sup> \*August 4<sup>th</sup> \*October 6<sup>th</sup> \*December 1<sup>st</sup>

Board Meetings - 1:00 p.m.

\*July 7<sup>th</sup> \*September 1<sup>st</sup> \*November 3<sup>rd</sup>

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The following are the proposed draft minutes for the April General Meeting:

**ACRTA General Meeting**

**April 7, 2022**

**Elida Immanuel IMC**

The meeting was called to order by co-vice president Cheryl Quay.

**Secretary's Report:** Melinda King: Filed as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sue Cramer: We have a balance of \$10,112.53. We will do the proposed budget in June. Report filed for audit.

**Membership:** Norma Penn: We have 208 paid members for 2022. Reminders were sent last month. We currently have about 25 members from last year who have not renewed. If you have a friend who has not renewed, please remind them.

**ORTA:** Bruce Hodges: Reported on the STRS Board race. Liz Jones' interview was distributed. She is endorsed by ORTA. Please vote by May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The COLA issues are in the Ohio Supreme Court.

**Legislative:** Bruce Hodges: Primary elections are Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 am- 7:30 pm. Go to the Allen County Board of Elections View Ballot to see your individualized ballot. Research the candidates for yourself. *Who Stole My Pension* is available.

**Teacher Grants:** Jerri Kohlhorst: The five grant recipients will be at the June meeting to present their projects.

**Old Business:** Stories are still needed for our book initiative to raise funds for the grant program. Put in a biography for yourself.

**New Business:** Please vote in the STRS Board election. Liz Jones is endorsed by ORTA. Allen County Museum is asking for volunteers for the Presidents of Ohio exhibit this summer. Please contact Barb Hochstetler if you would like to help.

**Raffle:** Winner of the candy and flower was Mila Schwabero. The winner of a free meal was Brenda Frazier.

**Next Program** is grant recipients from 2021.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, June 7, 2022, 11:30 at Elida Emmanuel UMC.



Opportunities for you.

- The Allen County Museum needs people to help with a new exhibition on the 8 Ohio Presidents that is coming in late June through October. You would work a few hours to monitor the exhibit hall to ensure the exhibits are safe and help visitors as needed.

Several have volunteered already 😊

They are also in need of docents. Some of our members serve in this capacity now and are a great help to the visitors at the museum.

- Be on the ACRTA nominating committee to bring names to the membership for the office of president and secretary. Both persons are term limited. Voting will be at the October meeting.
- Write a story from your educational experience and submit it to David Reedy, per information above.
- Submit your name to run for president or secretary of ACRTA for a 2 year term. Can serve two terms maximum.



## Candy Trivia Questions



1. What were the four original flavors of Life Savers as introduced in 1921?
2. Who created the first, mass-produced candy bar?
3. What candy has the slogan, "It melts in your mouth, not in your hands?"
4. This candy bar was included in the U.S. soldiers' rations during World War II?
5. What M&M color was discontinued in the 1970s?
6. This candy bar makes you "feel like a nut."
7. How much chocolate and candy are produced in the United States each year?
8. Why can chocolate melt in your mouth?
9. Which U.S. holiday sees the highest candy sales?
10. When is National Candy Corn Day?
11. What was the original name of the Sugar Daddy candy on a stick?
12. Which five flavors are included in a package of Bottle Caps?
13. Which famous candy was Mr. Owl talking about when he asked, "How many licks does it take to get to the center...?"
14. In which year did the makers of Bazooka bubble gum announce they would stop including Bazooka Joe comic strips in the wrappers?

\*The answers will be given at the June General Meeting and in the next newsletter 😊