



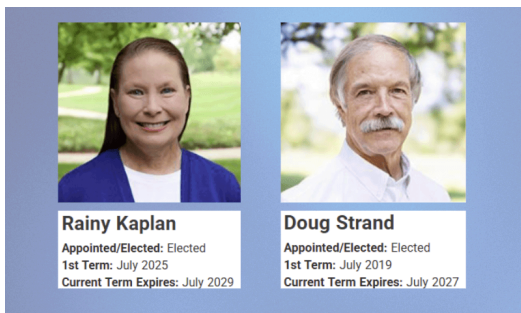
News Sheet "Update" August 11, 2026 ~ #59

Wendy Wiegers, Editor ~ wowiegers@comcast.net

Lambs Farm Magnolia Café & Bakery ~ Noon

Doug Strand & Rainy Kaplan (and, IRTA VP!)

TRS Trustees



From the June 26, 2026 Report

- The State of IL has made its 2026 statutory contributions of \$6.495 billion in full.
- As of April 30, 2026 the monthly payroll to annuitants is approximately 738 million to the 135,000 retirees.
- Pension payrolls for 2026 is approximately \$9.6 billion!
- The Plan has assets under management of \$84.67 billion.
- TRS is the 35th largest pension system in the US.

2026 LAKE COUNTY IRTA FOUNDATION EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING GRANTS -
Thank you for your donations!



Adler Park School-Libertyville
 Principal Kendall Miller, **Erin Carr** - \$749.25 – Global Bookshelf: Diverse collection of high-quality, durable books in Spanish, Ukrainian, and Russian to bridge the gap between their home languages and English proficiency.

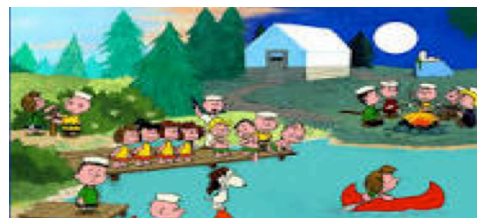


John Lewis Middle School Waukegan, **Angela Kucharski** - \$457.28: Music for Ensemble Contest ultimately leading to more motivated and engaged learning so students can continue to grow in their musical talents and skills.



Lake Villa Librarian **Michelle Lawniczak** and the Principals from her 4 schools! \$685: Integrating Barb Rosenstock's *The Great Lakes: Our Freshwater Treasure*, students "catch" realistic native fish and use lab stations to analyze water quality data fostering critical thinking about water conservation and the biological needs of native species.

2026 LAKE COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION	
Sept. 8	Marti Swanson: Meet the Candidates
Oct. 13	Fall Luncheon - Edizon Dayao, Entertainer (Reservations Required)
Nov. 10	Dave Wiegers ~ Lincoln and Gettysburg
Dec. 8	Holiday Fun!



TRS (Teachers Retirement System) P.O. Box 19253 Springfield, IL 62702 1(800) 877-7896 www.trs.state.il.us	IRTA (Illinois Retired Teachers Association) 828 S. Second Street Springfield, IL 62702 1(800) 728-4782 www.irtaonline.org	LCRTA (Lake County Retired Teachers Association) Box 8107, Gurnee, IL 60031 www.lcirta.net
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**JOIN MARTI, SEPT. 8 TO MEET THE CANDIDATES
A REMEMBRANCE FROM MARTI SWANSON, IRTA LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE**



I was State Legislative Chair for IRTA and was in Springfield on Barack Obama's first day in office as State Senator. I was visiting all newly elected state senators and representatives to welcome them to Springfield, introduce myself, and tell them about the issue we were promoting; I don't remember now if it was to save our health insurance (which the state was trying to drop) OR to guarantee the compounding of our annual 3% annuity increase. Obama asked me to explain the issue, and he responded by saying, "That's something I would support; put me down as a co-sponsor!" I became an instant Obama fan!