

November 29, 2017

Dear Member,

PENSION NEWS



The Kentucky Education Association is the preeminent voice for quality public education.

We unite, organize and empower members to advocate for themselves and to ensure a quality public education for every Kentucky student.

Quick Links

[Pension Information](#)

[KEA Scholarships](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

1) On Monday Dec. 11th I will tape an episode of *Issues & Answers* on WYMT that will air on Monday night at 7pm ET. You can watch the program on WYMT's website.

2) New funding statistics have come out about our pension plans.

- For TRS the pension funding status rose from 54.6% as of June 30, 2016, to 56.4% for June 30, 2017. The medical insurance fund rose from 21.9% to 26.7% for the same period.
- The CERS Non-Hazardous funded ratio as of June 30, 2017 is 52.8% for the Pension fund, and 66.4% for the Insurance fund.

3) The Teacher Retirement System of Kentucky has created a new COLA Calculator for participants. This uses TRS calculations to estimate the amount of money lost to individual if a COLA was suspended as outlined in the Governor's Plan. You can find it [here](#).

4) Please [read this response](#) to an editorial recently published in the Courier Journal offered by JCTA President Brent McKim on putting teachers in a 401K plan.

5) Make sure to have conversations with your Superintendent about attending a Special Session of the General Assembly if one occurs. The more folks we can have in Frankfort the better. Please be sure to include any retirees you may know and include them in your plans as well.

Please continue to contact legislators EVERY DAY to protect public school employees from unnecessary

structural changes to our pension system. The system is not the problem- don't be misled. The problem lies in the lack of funding. Our legislature needs to **#FindFundingFirst!** Call the Legislative Message Line 1-800-372-7181- tell your legislators to **#FindFundingFirst**

Museum Classroom Kits for WWI



The Hopewell Museum in Paris, KY has assembled and is offering to lend to teachers WWI teaching kits. These kits provide a resource to enhance student engagement with WWI. Each kit includes a hands-on artifact and copies of primary sources in paper and digital form. The kit provides a lesson plan and other resources that teachers can adapt as need. Items in the kit include a WWI Uniform Jacket, "WWI in 3D: Stereoscope and photographs, mini lpad with links to WWI websites with primary sources and lesson plans, and Paul Reed Peak primary source documents. Kits can be checked out for 2-week periods, with shipping time added if needed. Kits are free to pick up from the Hopewell Museum, 800 Pleasant Street in Paris, KY or for the cost of shipping. Kits are available to any school in Kentucky. You can make reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. Items are to be returned to the Museum in the condition they were received. The school is responsible for the cost of any damaged items. To reserve a trunk, call or email at 859-987-7274 or info@hopewellmuseum.org. The Museum Kit is sponsored by Kentucky Bank, The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, Bourbon Community Hospital, Traditional Bank, American Legion Post 30, Frames on Main Gallery, Marking History Matter and the Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund.

KEA #DifferenceMakers Student Art Contest

The KEA Membership, Organizing, Visibility, and Engagement (MOVE) Committee is sponsoring a student art contest called #DifferenceMakers. Students P-12 are encouraged to submit original portraits of a public school employee that has made a difference in their lives. Photos and other media in 8 ½" X 11" size submission are permitted. Cash prizes will be awarded to one student and their teacher in each of the 4 grade spans. For details and rules please find more information [here](#).

Have you held Local Delegate Elections for KEA DA?

If the answer to this questions is NO, then you need to contact your local President. Only delegate names turned in by Nov. 30th will receive KEA Candidate materials before the Delegate Assembly. Please be sure to [use this link](#) to find out more information and forms needed for submission by each local.

Dates to Remember:



- Nov. 30** KEA Locals deadline to submit KEA DA Delegate list to KEA
- Dec. 11** Int Joint Education Committee Mtg in Capitol Annex 1:00 pm ET Rm 154
- Dec. 20-Jan.2** KEA offices closed for holiday break
- Jan. 2** 2018 Legislative Session begins

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

KEA President
401 Capital Ave
Frankfort, KY 40601
1-800-231-4532
www.kea.org