



LORCORTA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2025 AN AFFILIATE OF THE OHIO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSN. VOL. XXXXII NO. 2.

SEPTEMBER LUCHEON SEPT. 17, 2025

Please join us on Sept. 17 for our welcome back luncheon at Rosewood Hall in Lorain. Please bring any retired teachers who are not members. It is very important at this time to be aware of what is happening with STRS in Ohio and to join ORTA to fight for us. Our menu consists of rigatoni and meatballs, pasta alfredo, green bean casserole, tossed salad, rolls, butter, beverages and dessert. More information is on the luncheon reservation form included. Please have your check and form submitted to Helen Bibbee by **September 6th. Cancellations are due by Sept. 8th.** Hope to see you there for this interesting program.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! It is time to gather again at the end of the summer with our retired colleagues to share the stories of our adventures and family celebrations during these summer months. It is also time for us to enjoy the fact that we are together but not back in the classroom. Yea!!

Come and enjoy Wednesday's program dealing with a topic we are all encountering each day, "Fraud Prevention," presented by Achieve Credit Union. Ginger Fitch and Nick Hurst will educate us on what to be aware of and how to solve our possible fraud issues. Feel free to invite a retired colleague to join you on September 17, 2025. New Members are always welcome.

Please give a warm welcome to our newly appointed Vice President, Robert Fischer, who will be conducting our meeting this month. We really appreciate his willingness to serve in this capacity.

OUR HOLIDAY LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD **DECEMBER 10** THIS YEAR SO AS NOT TO BE SO CLOSE TO ALL THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

LEGISLATIVE

ORTA reports that in the early hours of June 25, Ohio's Conference Committee finalized a massive budget amendment that stripped four of the seven educator elected seats from the STRS board. These seats will not be filled as current terms expire. That leaves only three elected educators, two active and one retiree- with the rest of the eleven board members filled by political appointees. This is bad for the retired teachers as it is a massive loss of representation, possible COLA risk and fiscal harm, possible benefits sidelined, and the move overturns the democratic voice retirees have earned via elections.

ORTA is working to gather a coalition of stakeholder organizations in an effort to let the elected officials know that we will not stand for our voices to be silenced. A couple of years ago, ORTA established the Pension Defense Fund aimed to fulfill the mission of advocate for the pensions and benefits of active and retired educators. ORTA is asking members to make a sustaining contribution to the Defense Fund to fight current and future lawsuits. You may contribute by going to www.ORTA.org/defensefund on the internet or by sending a check to ORTA 250 E Wilson Bridge Rd. Worthington, Ohio 44083

Lastly, STRS in its June meeting appointed C. Toole as the next permanent Executive Director of STRS Ohio. He replaces Aaron Hood who served as interim Executive Director since last November. Mr. Toole served as Executive Director of the State of North Carolina's retirement systems from 2011-2019, where he led systems covering nearly one million current and retired public employees in the state.

Bernard Machovina
Legislative Chair

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to the following recipients of the Mary Elizabeth Keller Scholarship. These students are entering their junior or senior year of college and majoring in education. We wish all of them well in college and as they pursue their careers in education whatever and wherever it may be!

Aaron Battle is a graduate of Midview and a senior at Baldwin Wallace University. He is majoring in Music Education and plans to seek licensure in Music Education Multi-Age Gr. K-12. He will graduate in May 2026.

Danielle Dudziak graduated from Marion L. Steele and attends the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and will begin her senior year. She is a two year winner of LORCORTA scholarships. Her major is Elementary Education seeking licensure in K-8 math, reading, and science graduating in May 2026.

Meghan Glahn graduated from Marion L. Steele and will be a junior at Bowling Green State University. Her major is Special Education seeking licensure in Mild-Moderate and Moderate-intensive dual certification. Graduation will be in 2027.

Laila Wisecup was homeschooled and graduated from high school and LCCC. She will be a senior at Ashland majoring in PK-5 Dual/Intervention Specialist. She will graduate in May of 2026.

Danielle Dudziak Meghan Glahn



Congratulations to the following recipients of the Orrin R Findley and William and Betty Lute Scholarship. These students are all graduating high school seniors and are a relative of a Lorain County educator. May your college education and experience be a wonderful and successful one whatever your major.

Jocelyn Eldemire is a graduate of Elyria High School and plans to attend the University of Akron. She will major in nursing on a Certified RN Anesthetist track.

Madelyn Fada graduated from Elyria High School and will attend Bowling Green State University. She plans on majoring in Education, K-5 Intervention Specialist and Pre-K-5 Early Childhood Education. We should see her again in the future as she applies for the Keller Scholarship.

Katherine Heighberger graduated from St. Joseph Academy and plans to attend Marietta College. Her planned major is Health Sciences/Biology.

Nicholas Hubbard is a graduate of Midview High School. His plans are to attend The Ohio State University and major in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Madelyn Fada Nicholas Hubbard Jocelyn Eldemire Katherine Heighberger



Donations were made on behalf of Mary McAtee to the Findley/Lute Scholarship Fund by the Executive Board, Bernie and Gloria Machovina, and Jim and Pam McQuown. Thank you for your donations.

TREASURER'S REPORT

LORCORTA CHECKING	\$1,380.11
FINDLEY/LUTE	\$39,159.03
KELLER	\$59,370.31
LORCORTA	\$15,419.98

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Our community participation is growing! For our September meeting we will again contribute to the **Not Forgotten Box** for Christmas. We have to collect early because the Chronicle usually closes donations before our December luncheon. Donating gives LORCORTA good publicity and gives to those less fortunate, so once again bring a toy to the September meeting. Then for our December luncheon, because all of us like to promote good reading habits, we will contribute once again to the neighborhood libraries. So in December, bring slightly used or new books, any age or reading level. Thanks for your donations.

Jean Heller

Current LORCORTA member, Jean Heller, reached her 100th birthday on June 5, 2025. Jean retired from Elyria City Schools as coordinator of Library Services in 1990. Bernie Machovina brought her a beautiful flower arrangement and a box of chocolates as a gift from LORCORTA on her special day. If you would like to send her a note or card her address is: Jean Heller, 610 Kendall, Oberlin, OH 44074



To LORCORTA:

Thank you for your generous donations from your organization for the Walls of Love. The donations included toothpaste, toothbrushes, tissues, deodorant, combs, body wash, soap, and hand sanitizer. A crew from Emmanuel Lutheran Church hung 47 bags filled with the donations along the Second Street "wall" in downtown Elyria on Friday afternoon May 30. Walls of Love helps all those in need. The Lorain County Retired Teachers Association helped make this possible. Thanks, again!

Sincerely,
Emmanuel Lutheran Church



DATED MATERIAL
MAILED AUGUST 25, 2025
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

LORCORTA TREASURER
10863 KILLALOE DR
DUBLIN, OH 43017