



# LORCORTA NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2026 AN AFFILIATE OF THE OHIO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSN. VOL. XLIV NO. 2

## SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

Please join us as we welcome the ORTA Executive Director to our September Luncheon. Our retirement is being attacked, so this is a very important and timely speaker. All retired Lorain County teachers are invited. So invite your friends for lunch and information. All reservations need to be received by Sunday, September 6. There are no cancellations after Thursday September 10. The menu consists of tossed salad, chicken marsala, green bean casserole, scalloped potatoes, roll and butter, coffee, unsweetened iced tea, pop, and dessert.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our September meeting will be held at Rosewood Hall (in the back), and the cost of the luncheon will be \$18.00.

LORCORTA has invited the Executive Director of ORTA to speak to our members at our September 16, 2026 meeting. Robin Rayfield will be coming from Columbus to inform us of the current status of Ohio's Retired Teachers and to answer questions and concerns. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the luncheon and encourage you to invite a retired teacher friend to attend the program with you to hear Robin speak.

Barbara Sommers  
President

## FINDLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Philip and Anna Copeland Estate made a generous donation to the Findley-Lute Scholarship this spring. Anna was a long-time member of LORCORTA. She passed away in 2023 and her husband passed away in 2025.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This past summer there was no new legislation proposed nor was there any action taken on previous introduced legislation.

ORTA reported on an article taken from “The Political Economy of Public Pension Governance.” The crux of the article revealed that when STRS self-reports their financial numbers, **which are unaudited and also the numbers on which STRS performance bonus incentives are based**, their reported financial numbers were found to be overreported 95% of the time. The data showed this happening 19 out of the last 20 years. ORTA has requested the STRS Board to investigate why this self reporting process appears to be overly biased.

To clear up any misinformation, the recently granted 1.6% COLA increase, beginning in fiscal year 2027, will remain a permanent part of your ongoing monthly retirement benefit. Each year the STRS Board evaluates whether an additional COLA will be payable during the following fiscal year.

Bernie Machovina  
Legislative Chair

## SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON MINUTES MAY 20, 2026

12:05 President Barbara Sommers led the Pledge of Allegiance, God Bless America, and the Invocation. Lunch followed with pasta choices, and the rest.

1:10 The meeting was called to order and Scholarship Presenter, Teresa Brown announced the winners of the Findley-Lute Scholarship: Derek Dieterich, Leah DiFranco, Max Hauck, and Eliot Rion. Sandra Drabiak announced the winners of the Keller Scholarship for college students in Education, Alyssa Caldera, Megan Glahn, and Ellamarie Green.

1:30 The business meeting commenced.

Helen Dupont reported 251 current members.

JimMcQuown reported \$1,188.37 in checking, \$15,075.93 in the investment account, \$50,759.79 in the Findley-Lute Scholarship Fund, and \$60,038.87 in the Keller Scholarship Fund.

Karen Sprague reminded us about the toy collection in the Fall as well as Walls of Love with small toiletries and hygiene items.

Bernie Machovina reported no new Legislative action.

Barb Shuster, Newsletter, watched the latest AMBA webinar. AMBA has a discount program.

Teresa Brown and Sandra Drabiak are looking for Scholarship Committee members.

Barbara Sommers- Robin Rayfield, Executive Director of ORTA will be our speaker in September.

Adjournment at 1:53 PM.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

LORCORTA CHECKING \$1,502.41

LORCORTA INVESTMENTS \$15,764.43

FINDLEY-LUTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$51,426.09

KELLER SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$62,962.54

### **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

PLEASE remember toys for the Not Forgotten Box. Because of the date of our December meeting, you can bring toys in September as well as December meetings. Also the Walls of Love need small toiletries and hygiene items.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We have 209 unified members (LORCORTA AND ORTA), and 43 LORCORTA only.

LORCORTA TREASURER  
10863 KILLAKOE DR.  
DUBLIN, OHIO 43017

DATED MATERIAL  
MAILED AUGUST 20, 2026  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY  
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION