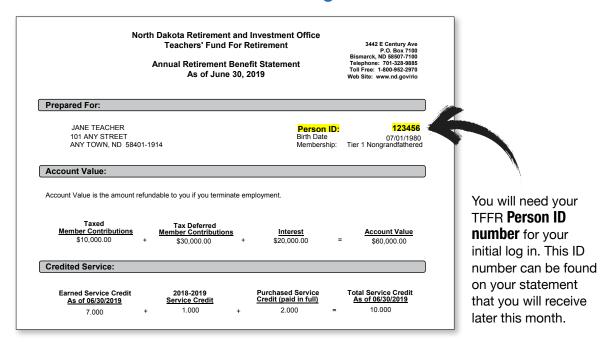


REPORTcard

Annual Benefit Statement Mailing Discontinued

Due to the high cost of printing and mailing services, annual benefits statements will no longer be mailed to active members beginning August 2020. Your last mailed annual statement will be sent to you in August 2019. The 2019 statement and future annual statements will be available online. If you have not yet logged in to TFFR Member Online, please see the information on page 3.



Pension Administration Software Project to Begin in 2019!

The 2019 Legislative Assembly gave spending approval of TFFR funds to upgrade or replace TFFR's outdated pension administration computer system during the 2019-21 biennium. TFFR's current system has been in operation for nearly 14 years and is at the end of its product life cycle. A modern web-based system will provide significant improvements in functionality, efficiency, and system security for TFFR members, employers, and staff.

We are excited to begin this challenging project in the next year. We will do our best to continue providing excellent customer service utilizing the current system while we re-engineer business processes and automate pension administration activities, reporting capabilities, electronic communications, and member and employer services through implementation of a new system. Thanks for your patience!

TFFR Board of Trustees

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RIO Administrative Office

David Hunter, Executive Director/CIO
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ND Retirement & Investment Office

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Articles are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendation.

Other forms of this newsletter are available upon request.



Fay Kopp

NDTFFR Chief Retirement Officer
NDRIO Deputy Executive Director

TFFR: It's the *Real* Thing



Do you remember Coca-Cola's "It's the Real Thing" advertising campaign?

Being "real" has been part of Coca-Cola's slogan many times over the years. The ads sure worked on me. I liked it then. I still like it today. I'll probably like Diet Coke forever.

I guess I'm just a "real things" kind of person. Family. Friends. Home. Health. Good food. Hard work. Nature. Retirement security. It all adds up to a pretty good life.

Did you catch that retirement security thing? Well maybe it's just me, but I think a financially sound retirement plan is a very "real thing" and should be supported, protected, and celebrated. Without a secure retirement, it may be difficult to enjoy all of the other "real things" in our golden years.

At TFFR, we take seriously the very real responsibility of providing a strong and stable retirement plan for North Dakota's educators. As fiduciaries of the trust fund, the TFFR Board and staff must administer the TFFR plan solely in the interests of the active members and retirees for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits. Trustees must act impartially in investment, management, and distribution of the trust funds. They must administer and invest the trust like a prudent person would by exercising reasonable care, skill, and caution, and by incurring only reasonable costs. The Board must also adhere to a code of conduct designed to inspire the confidence, respect, and trust of our members, employers, and the public.

A trustee's fiduciary duty is the same whether you just started your teaching career today, or have been retired for 30 years.

This undivided loyalty to you, the participants of the TFFR trust, is one of the most important aspects of managing your retirement plan. In fact, the fiduciary standard has been called the highest standard under the law. It's the very basis for what makes TFFR the real thing for ensuring retirement security for ND teachers and administrators. Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow.

Please feel free to call, email, or write me with any questions or concerns about TFFR.

TFFR Trustee News

Gumeringer Re-Appointed

Governor Burgum has re-appointed Toni Gumeringer to a five-year term on the TFFR Board effective July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2024. Toni is a Bismarck Public school teacher and has served on the TFFR Board since 2016. Toni also represents TFFR on the State Investment Board. We appreciate her commitment to serving on the Board.



TFFR Member Online

Have you signed up for TFFR Member Online? Your pension information is available 24/7 and is waiting for you!!

The initial login is an easy two-step process using two different ID numbers:

- Go to www.nd.gov/rio
- Select TFFR link
- Select TFFR Online Application Link
- Review TFFR Member Online Instructions



Sign up for <u>TFFR</u> <u>Member Online</u> today!

1. Enter your Personal North Dakota Login

- A. For example, if you have a Personal ND login for ND Teach, STARS, DOT, or a Hunting/Fishing License, you can use that here.
- B. If you do not have a personal ND Login, please create one by clicking "Register Now" and fill out only the required fields marked with an asterisk (*).

2. TFFR Person ID Number

Once you log in successfully with your Personal ND Login and password, you will be prompted for your TFFR Person ID Number (6-digit number listed on your Annual Statement you receive from TFFR or any TFFR correspondence). If you do not have your TFFR Person ID number, please contact the TFFR office and your ID number will be mailed to your address we have on file.

TFFR Retirement Services Staff

TFFR Retirement Services includes five knowledgeable retirement professionals who provide exceptional customer service with support from administrative and technical staff.

The Retirement Services team works together to ensure your calls and questions are answered, claims are processed accurately and timely, and your personal retirement account information is kept secure and confidential. Retirement Services takes pride in serving ND teachers and administrators while diligently working to educate you about your retirement plan.





State Investment Board
P.O. BOX 7100

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2019-20 Group Benefits Counseling Schedule

Don't miss the opportunity to attend this valuable retirement education session. The content of a Group Benefits Counseling Session is geared towards members within a few years of retirement but all TFFR members are invited to attend. During the 60-90 minute group session, you will receive personalized TFFR information.

The TFFR presenter will explain the different benefit options and detail the process and paperwork required to begin TFFR benefits. There will also be time for questions.

Devils Lake · September 18, 2019 5:00 – 6:15 (open for any TFFR member)

Dickinson · September 25, 2019 5:00 – 6:15 (open for any TFFR member)

Grand Forks · October 1, 2019

4:00 – 5:30 (Grand Forks teachers only) 6:00 – 7:00 (open for any TFFR member)

Williston • October 2, 2019 5:00 – 6:15 (open for any TFFR member)

Minot · October 3, 2019

5:00 – 6:15 (open for any TFFR member)

Fargo • October 9, 2019 4:00 – 5:30 (Fargo teachers only) 6:00 – 7:00 (open for any TFFR member)



To register, please complete the <u>online registration form</u>, or call the Administrative Office at 1-800-952-2970. You will be asked for your current salary, so please have that available. Your spouse is also encouraged to attend these sessions. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today. Confirmation of the location will be sent to you before the scheduled session.