

Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund

Pension News

TRUST.
INTEGRITY.
STABILITY.

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PENSION E-NEWS

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RETIREMENT SEMINARS ADDED

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CTPF recently launched several initiatives designed to offer timely and economical communications for members.

Since January 2011, CTPF has issued an electronic monthly newsletter, *Pension E-News*. The fund has also initiated an immediate alert system, *CTPF E-LERTS*. "Recent actions in Springfield by Illinois legislators underscore the importance of being able to communicate quickly with our members. Oftentimes, e-mail is the most efficient vehicle for this type of communication. We are working diligently to collect members' e-mail addresses so that we can efficiently convey important information when the need arises," explained Kevin B. Huber, executive director.

Monthly electronic newsletters and *E-LERTS* offer immediate access to information and action items for members, and have been well received. "Members appreciate hearing from us with updates and current information," explained Frances Radencic, director,

member and office services. "We have expanded our e-mail list dramatically in the past few months and continue to see

strong growth. We envision expanding our electronic communications program and want to encourage all members to provide us with their e-mail addresses so we can offer important fund information."

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

...the power of 59,000 members is hard to ignore.
Together we can inspire action.



Kevin B. Huber, executive director

The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund is governed by the laws of the State of Illinois, so we rely on elected officials for support. This spring, our lawmakers face a difficult financial situation as they work to balance the state's budget.

As executive director, I have visited Springfield, and have worked diligently to make sure the needs of our members and our fund are represented in budget discussions. I have shared, repeatedly, two important messages: CTPF deserves fair funding and our health insurance spending cap needs to be raised.

We know that when it comes to making an impression, an audience may need at least 3 encounters with a message before it's recognized and up to 11 different impressions to inspire action. We have 79 senators and 118 house members in our current Illinois General Assembly – it means we have to do a lot of talking.

I have only one voice – but when we share our voices – the power of 59,000 members is hard to ignore. Together we can inspire action.

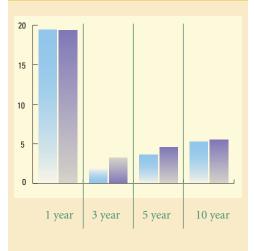
The need to speak as one voice inspired several different initiatives this spring,

CTPF FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

CTPF RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

February 28, 2011

	RATE OF RETURN	Total Fund Benchmarks
1 year	19.42	19.36
3 year	1.85	3.26
5 year	3.60	4.55
10 year	5.27	5.49



RATE OF RETURN

TOTAL FUND BENCHMARKS

As of February 28, 2011, the approximate current value of CTPF's investments was \$10.2 billion.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER continued from cover

including our electronic communication program. We recently introduced two new publications: monthly Pension E-News and timely *E-LERTS*. While electronic communication can save the fund substantial financial resources, the real benefit may come in the form of immediacy. Legislative actions that directly impact our membership can occur with blinding speed. Our traditional forms of communication can take days or even a week to deliver, during which the action may already be taken. CTPF members need to be well informed and well positioned to take action, quickly. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to register for updates and *E-LERTS* at www.ctpf.org.

We saw a great example of members and retirees taking concrete action this spring when CTPF worked with the Chicago Teachers Union, the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago, and the Chicago Principals & Administrators Association on a joint educational effort. The project, Educators Reaching Legislators, sent CTPF members out to meet with lawmakers in their district offices during spring break. Armed with talking points and enthusiasm, retirees and active members took the opportunity to meet face-to-face with local lawmakers to educate them about priorities for CTPF members. Face-to-face meetings with legislators may be the most effective way to communicate our message, and we look forward to continuing this type of coordinated communication.

If you're one of our younger members wondering why you should bother fighting for your pension, take a minute to visit our website and click on the link to the M.A.P. (Monthly Annuity Planner). The M.A.P., introduced earlier this year, estimates the value of your future pension. You can change your years of service and final average salary to play out different scenarios in your career. Your pension provides the foundation for your financial security. Understanding its value and protecting this asset should be a priority no matter what your age.

Measuring the success of our educational initiatives can be difficult. This spring however, we had a bit of good news when *Chicago Tribune* columnist Eric Zorn wrote an excellent story about the inequities in pension funding. You can find a link to his column on our website.

As educators, our membership is uniquely qualified to share our message with legislators. I hope you will take the time to read about our efforts to educate our legislators and lend your time, talent, and voice to support fair pension funding and affordable health insurance for our seniors. We need to reach our legislators and make sure they understand that even in difficult financial times, promises must be kept. We have much work to do, but with 59,000 members working together, we will be heard.

Kevin B. Huber, executive director

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ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS continued from page 1

CTPF Trustees recently voted to eliminate the hard-copy distribution of the CTPF meeting minutes. This change allows the fund to realize substantial cost savings and offers a "greener," more efficient delivery for interested individuals. A complete, searchable PDF version of the minutes will be posted online within seven days of their approval. The fund will continue to print and bind an annual volume, which will be available for public review in the CTPF office. Individuals who prefer a printed version may download and print the material as needed. Find the PDF archive at www.ctpf.org. Electronic versions of the minutes are available for the past five years.

STAY INFORMED. REGISTER FOR CTPF E-LERTS AND E-NEWS AT WWW.CTPF.ORG

FOCUS ON: CTPF GOVERNANCE

The Public School Teachers' Pension and Retirement Fund of Chicago, today known as the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF), was established in 1895 by the Illinois State legislature. From humble beginnings with 8,000 members and \$16,000 in investments, the fund has grown and evolved to become a 59,000+ member organization with more than \$10 billion in assets.

The fund operates as an independent, multi-employer, defined-benefit public employee retirement system. It offers retirement, survivor, and disability benefits for certified teachers and certain employees of the Chicago Public Schools, Charter Schools, and CTPF.

The State of Illinois sets the laws that govern the fund, and a 12-member Board of Trustees ensures compliance with the law and oversees operations. Board members hold fiduciary responsibility for protecting fund assets and benefits.

Fund members elect ten representatives to serve as Trustees and the Chicago Board of Education appoints two members. Trustees do not receive pay for their service.

TEACHER TRUSTEES

Six Teacher Trustees represent active contributors other than principals or administrators. Teacher Trustees serve staggered, three-year terms. Teacher Trustees:

- must hold an Illinois State Teaching Certificate,
- 2. be current contributors, and
- have been assigned on a regular certificate in the Chicago Public or Charter Schools for a minimum of 10 years.

Elections are held in schools each fall to fill two of the six positions.

PENSIONER TRUSTEES

Three Pensioner Trustees represent the annuitants and serve concurrent twoyear terms. Pensioner Trustees must be current service, reciprocal, or disability pension recipients.

Elections are conducted by mail, every two years.

PRINCIPAL/ ADMINISTRATOR TRUSTEE

One Trustee serves a three-year term representing principals and school administrators. The Principal/Administrator Trustee:

- must hold and be employed under a State of Illinois Type 75 Administrative Certificate,
- must not be on the Chicago teachers' or the Chicago charter school teachers' salary schedule, or
- must be paid on an administrative payroll.

Elections are conducted by mail, every three years.

APPOINTED TRUSTEES

The Chicago Board of Education appoints two Trustees, who serve two-year terms.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees' primary responsibility is to protect fund assets and benefits. Trustees also approve CTPF's administrative budget, authorize benefit payments, select investment professionals, initiate necessary legislative changes, adopt actuarial assumptions, and appoint the CTPF actuary and legal counsel.

Meetings

The Board of Trustees holds monthly, public meetings to conduct the business of the fund. Committee and special meetings are scheduled as needed.

Education

All Trustees participate in educational programs on investing and other topics important to fund operations.

Ethics

Each Trustee must file an annual Statement of Economic Interests form in accordance with the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act.

Trustees must also complete ethics training and adhere to the CTPF Code of Conduct – Ethics Policy, available at www.ctpf.org.

COMMITTEES

To facilitate the work of the fund, the board has established four standing committees to review and research various topics. These committees meet periodically and generally make recommendations for approval during regular meetings. Committees include:

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee sets investment policy, selects and monitors investment managers, and recommends action.

Finance and Audit Committee

The Finance and Audit Committee provides oversight of management's administration of the fund's budget, financial operations, and personnel policies.

Pension Laws and Rules Committee

The Pension Laws and Rules Committee establishes the fund's legislative agenda. The committee also recommends the endorsement or opposition to proposed legislation and recommends statutory amendments to the Pension Code.

Claims and Service Credits Committee

The Claims and Service Committee recommends action on applications for pensions, disability applications, death benefits, and refunds.

Other Committees

Sub-committees may be established on an ad hoc or temporary basis as needed. Sub-committees generally include three Trustees, and duties are established by the full Board. Current sub-committees include Personnel and Service Providers, Disability Claims, Health Insurance, and Communications.

2011 TRUSTEE ELECTION NOTICE



The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund has set Friday, November 4, 2011, as the date for the 2011 Teacher Trustee Elections.

Teacher Trustees (contributors other than Principals/Administrators)

The Election for two Teacher Trustees will be conducted in schools and at other designated polling places on November 4, 2011. Teachers and other active contributors will elect two Trustees to serve three-year terms from November 2011 to November 2014. Typically, the election is held on the last Friday of October, which would have been October 28, 2011. The election was moved because the CPS school calendar has scheduled a professional development and/ or student non-attendance day for many schools on October 28, 2011.

Candidate Eligibility

Candidates for a Teacher Trustee position must hold an Illinois State Teaching Certificate, be current CTPF contributors, and have been assigned on a regular certificate in the Chicago Public or Charter Schools for a minimum of 10 years.





Nomination Packets

Members interested in running for office should request a nomination packet by contacting the CTPF Election Team at 312.604.1400 ext. 132 or 169. Candidate eligibility will be verified before the packet can be issued. Nominating petitions must be returned by 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 30, 2011.

Additional Information

Additional information is available in the *Election Policies and Procedures Handbook*, at www.ctpf.org. Election questions may be directed to the CTPF Election Team at 312.604.1400 ext. 132 or 169.

CALLING ALL PENSION REPRESENTATIVES

Help us stay in touch

Do you serve
as a CTPF Pension
Representative?
If you do, please
take a minute
and send your e-mail
address, school, and cell
phone number (if you use
text messaging) in an e-mail
addressed to our pension
representative coordinator
at pensionrep@ctpf.org.

SAVE THE DATE

The 7th annual pension representative seminar will be held on October 1, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 733 West Madison Street, Chicago. Registration information will be available in the summer *Pension E-News*.



PLANNING TO VISIT? PLAN AHEAD

Scheduled appointments with Member Services counselors are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walk-ins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., but wait times

will vary and may be lengthy during busy periods. An appointment is always recommended. Call 312.641.4464 to schedule an appointment. CTPF is located at 203 North LaSalle Street, suite 2600 Chicago, Illinois 60601-1231

The 203 North LaSalle building has a self-park garage and easy CTA access. Reduced parking vouchers, available from the office, can be bought for \$15, (check only, no cash). The CTA's blue, green, brown, pink, purple, and orange lines all stop at Clark and Lake.

M.A.P. YOUR FUTURE

Retirement planning should begin the day you become employed. CTPF members enjoy a guaranteed pension for life, based on final average salary, years of service, and a pension percentage (currently 2.2% for service earned after July 1, 1998).

One of the most frequent questions Field Services and Member Services staff members encounter is "How much will my pension be at retirement?" While the only way to get a truly accurate picture of your financial future is to request a pension estimate; members may also receive a quick calculation using the online M.A.P. (Monthly Annuity Planner).

This calculator can help you estimate your monthly pension income at retirement. Visit www.ctpf.org and click on the M.A.P. link. Enter your basic retirement information: age at retirement, your final average salary at retirement, your years of service, and the date you first contributed to CTPF or a qualified reciprocal system (before 1/1/2011 or after). The M.A.P. will estimate your retirement pension.

Please note: the M.A.P. assumes the 2.2 upgrade for all service. This planner does not replace an actual estimate based on your current salary and service credit. Call Member Services at 312.641.4464 to request a personalized estimate.

2011 RETIREMENT SEMINARS

RETIREMENT SEASON UNDERWAY . . .



The calendar said winter, but at CTPF retirement season was in full swing during February and March. More than 900 current teachers attended CTPF's 2011 Retirement Seminars held February 21 at the Renaissance Hotel O'Hare, February 26 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Chicago, and March 7 at the Hilton Oak Lawn.

The seminars, offered for the sixth year, provided an overview of the retirement process and offered assistance to individuals who completed retirement applications. Representatives from CTPF, the Chicago Public Schools, and the Social Security Administration made presentations. In addition, representatives from retirement-related services also hosted informational booths and offered services to retirees.

"We always strive to have a one-stop shop available for members who want to retire," remarked Member Services Manager Sheron Banks-Fallis, "Retirement seminars offer a broad overview of the process, designed to answer the most common questions, but also provide individual counseling, along with photocopying and notary services.

"We enjoy meeting with our members and coaching them through this process. The feedback we received from our members was overwhelmingly positive."

The high demand for retirement seminars this year led to the addition of six Retirement Seminars held during spring break. Nearly 200 members attended these sessions, held April 19, 20, and 21 in the CTPF office.





Clockwise (1) Retiring members gathered at the March 7 Retirement Seminar at the Hilton Oak Lawn. (2) Marianne Schury counsels a retiring member. (3) CTPF employees (left to right) Sharena Bennett, Naomi Batie, and Kristen Jurich welcomed members.

LOOKING AHEAD

With a large number of teachers scheduled to retire under the Pension Enhancement Program (PEP) in 2012, Field Services will offer a series of "Application Completion Workshops" next fall. These workshops target teachers who have submitted their resignations to CPS, but still need to complete a CTPF retirement application. Workshops are tentatively planned for October and November. Watch for more information in September.



NEW SEMINAR . . . ROAD MAP TO RETIREMENT

Thinking of retiring in 2012 or beyond? Retirement planning should begin early in your career and should escalate as you near your retirement date. This summer CTPF will launch "Road Map to Retirement" planning sessions. These sessions, scheduled for July 12 and August 10 in the CTPF office, are designed for members considering retirement in the next five years. Seminars will provide an overview of the retirement process and offer insight into important retirement decisions.

"Our staff has seen an increase in requests for information from members not yet ready to retire, but considering retirement within a few years," explained Sheron Banks-Fallis, Member Services manager. "We hope that these information sessions will help members feel better prepared when they decide to initiate the retirement process. These seminars will offer an introduction to the process and will highlight the steps you can take before you retire to ensure a successful transition."

CTPF CALENDAR

CTPF Board of Trustees meetings, held in CTPF offices, are open to the public.

MAY

- 2 Teacher Trustee election nomination packets available
- 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting
- 30 Memorial Day observed, office closed

JUNE

9 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting

JULY

- 4 Independence Day, office closed
- 12 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 1:00 -3:00 p.m., and 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Road Map to Retirement information sessions, CTPF office. See page 5.
- 21 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting

AUGUST

- 10 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 1:00 3:00 p.m., and 4:00 6:00 p.m. Road
 Map to Retirement information
 sessions, CTPF office. See page 5.
- 18 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day, office closed
- 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting
- *30* 5:00 p.m., completed nomination packets due to CTPF

OCTOBER

- 1 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m., Pension Representative Seminar, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Chicago
- 10 Columbus Day, office closed
- 20 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting

NOVEMBER

- 4 Teacher Trustee Elections in Schools
- 11 Veterans Day, office closed
- 17 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting
- **24-25** Thanksgiving holiday observed, office closed

DECEMBER

- 8 9:30 a.m., Trustee meeting (tentative)
- 26 Christmas holiday observed, office closed

OFFICE/MAILING ADDRESS

Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund 203 North LaSalle Street, suite 2600 Chicago, Illinois 60601-1231

312.641.4464 p. 312.641.7185 f.

www.ctpf.org memberservices@ctpf.org

Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. M-F

YOUR FIRST PENSION PAYMENTS

Members who plan to retire in June should plan for the "gap period" in between the last paycheck and the first pension payment.

Most June retirees can expect their first retirement payment deposited in September. The first payment will be retroactive to the retirement date and will include any additional refunds or payouts due from the fund.



The schedule for mailing checks/direct deposits advices and the date for posting direct deposits is listed below. Please use this as a guide for budgeting.

Most members who retire in June will receive their payments through direct deposit. Direct deposit funds are normally available on their posting date. Retirees will receive a direct deposit advice by mail, each January, December, and any time there is a change to the check amount.

Month	Mailing Date	Direct Deposit Date
July 2011	June 29, 2011	July 1, 2011
August 2011	July 29, 2011	August 1, 2011
September 2011	August 30, 2011	September 1, 2011
October 2011	September 29, 2011	October 3, 2011
November 2011	October 28, 2011	November 1, 2011
December 2011	November 29, 2011	December 1, 2011
January 2012	December 30, 2011	January 3, 2012
February 2012	January 30, 2012	February 1, 2012
March 2012	February 28, 2012	March 1, 2012
April 2012	March 30, 2012	April 2, 2012
May 2012	April 27, 2012	May 1, 2012
June 2012	May 30, 2012	June 1, 2012

EDUCATORS REACHING LEGISLATORS

April 13, 2011, the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund, the Chicago Teachers Union,

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago, and the Chicago Principals & Administrators Association united in an effort to educate Illinois legislators about pension funding and affordable post-retirement health insurance for Chicago's teachers.

The group set up appointments with legislators during spring break week and organized coordinated visits.

Armed with talking points, active and retired members

met with many legislators. "We think this was a great initiative by all agencies," commented Kevin B. Huber, executive director. "Meeting directly with elected officials is the best way to help our lawmakers understand the issues facing the fund."



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund is governed by Illinois law. Changes to the governance of the fund begin in Springfield, Ill. Legislators have been seeking budget cutting opportunities and pensions continue to be a prime target. CTPF and its members have been actively working to educate our legislators about the reality of pension funding.

CTPF encourages all members to take an active role contacting legislators and advocating for the fund. Members may find additional information and a complete list of the fund's legislative priorities for 2010-2011 at www.ctpf.org.

CTPF Director Testifies in Springfield

CTPF Executive Director Kevin B. Huber spent March 17 in Springfield, meeting with Speaker Madigan and President Cullerton's key staff members to discuss options for tackling the current unfunded liability of all pensions in the state.

"We worked to educate legislators about the impact that changing benefits for current active employees has on the unfunded burden for pensions. They listened, but were noncommittal. We will keep providing legislators with information as they deliberate," explained Huber.

House Bill 3639 Passes

House Bill 3639 was passed unanimously by the Illinois House of Representatives on March 31, 2011. An amendment to this bill gives more than \$2.5B in funding for the downstate Teachers Retirement System and appropriates \$10M to CTPF.

Senate Bill 1831 Passes

CTPF, Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) recently agreed to amend the payroll provisions of Article 17 of the Illinois Pension Code. This article defines the service credit calculation. Under the current rule a teacher who works 5 or more days in a 10-day period gets 2 weeks of service credit, but a teacher who works less than 5 days gets no service credit.

April 14, 2011, the Illinois Senate passed Bill 1831, which amends the language so that teachers earn one day of pension service credit for each day of paid employment (day-for-a-day rule) and defines a year of service credit as 170 days. These new rules will apply to all teachers, full-time, part-time, half-time, or substitutes. At press time the bill was waiting on the governor's signature.

Support House Bill 3401

CTPF encourages all members to contact legislators and ask for their support of Illinois House Bill 3401. This bill requests that CTPF be allowed to increase its spending on health insurance for retirees from \$65M to \$100M annually. The state set the health insurance spending cap at \$65M in 2003-2004, and has not increased the amount since that time. During the same period, the number of CTPF retirees has increased almost 36%.

Unless the cap is raised, the amount CTPF can offer to retirees for health insurance premium subsidies will continue to decline.

House Bill 1544 Defeated

Illinois House Bill 1544 passed out of committee but was defeated on the House floor in a roll call vote on April 11. The bill provided language mandating that CTPF receive about 20% of the annual allocation made to the Teachers Retirement System (downstate teachers). This bill would provide an additional \$400M annually to CTPF from the state and would help to stabilize the fund with a more equitable funding structure. CTPF will continue to work towards passage of this type of legislation.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR KEY ILLINOIS LEGISLATORS

Governor Pat Quinn

207 State House Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.0244 p. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph, 16-100 Chicago, IL 60601 312.814.2121 p.

Senate President John J. Cullerton

327 Capitol Building Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.2728 p. 217.782.3242 f.

4237 N. Lincoln Avenue Chicago, IL 60618 773.883.0770 p. 773.296.0993 f.

Speaker of the House, Michael J. Madigan

300 Capitol Building Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.5350 p. 217.524.1794 f. mmadigan@hds.ilga.gov 6500 South Pulaski Rd. Chicago, IL 60629 773.581.8000 p. 773.581.9414 f.

House Appropriations Committee Elementary and Secondary Education Rep. William Davis, Chair

254-W Stratton Building Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.8197 p. 217.782.8197 f. williamd@ilga.gov 1912 W. 174th Street East Hazel Crest, IL 60429 708.799.7300 p. 708.799.7377 f.

House Personnel and Pensions Committee Rep. Kevin McCarthy, Chair

261-S Stratton Building Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.3316 p. 217.789.6250 f. 8951 W. 151st Street Orland Park, IL 60462 708.226.1999 p. 708.226.9068 f. kevmac37@sbcglobal.net

Senate Pensions and Investments Committee Kwame Raoul, chair

122 Capitol Building Springfield, IL 62706 217.782.5338 p. 217.558.6006 f. 1509 E. 53rd Street, 2nd Floor Chicago, IL 60615 773.363.1996 p. 773.681.7166 f. raoulstaff@gmail.com





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CTPF BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MISSION STATEMENT

To provide, protect, and enhance the present and future economic well being of members, pensioners and beneficiaries through efficient and effective management of benefit programs, investment practices and customer service, and to commit to earning and keeping the respect and trust of the participants through quality service and by protecting retirement benefits, in compliance with applicable laws and standards.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Jeffery Blackwell

Alberto A. Carrero, Jr.

Peggy A. Davis

Jeanne Marie Freed

Chris N. Kotis

Jay C. Rehak

James F. Ward

Kevin B. Huber, executive director

AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

Processing death benefits is a sad but important CTPF responsibility.

When a recent death notice came in, the fund's staff initially thought that a mistake had been made. The information described an active member with more than 63 years of service.

The staff began checking, and soon the explanation became clear. The individual who had passed was Dr. Catherine M. Wells, a legendary CPS educator. The principal of Farnsworth Elementary School on Chicago's north side for the past 38 years, Dr. Wells died in active service in March 2011.

Dr. Wells will be missed greatly by her family and the Farnsworth community. Her extraordinary service is unparalleled in the memory of the fund's staff.