On April 11 and 12, thousands of Texas retired teachers converged on the state capitol to lobby for a cost-of-living-adjustment for retirees. The galleries in the House and Senate were filled with retirees adorned in red. It was quite a sight to see. When Dr. Greg Bonnen, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, welcomed retirees to Austin, all representatives in the chamber (except one who was not mobile) gathered around him to show their support for a TRS COLA, the bill which Bonnen himself authored. Retirees in the audience gave him a resounding applause for his dedication to retired teachers. Dr. Bonnen was made aware of the plight of retirees who have not had a COLA since 2004, and especially the 300+ over 100 years old who are having a hard time meeting their financial obligations, by TRTA members, the TRTA legislative committee, and individual members who "told their stories" through face-to-face encounters, phone messages, letters, and emails. TRTA Executive Director Tim Lee expressed high hope that 2023 will be the year that TRS retirees finally get a COLA! However, it is not a done deal until it is done! TRTA membership is on the increase, and knowing that "numbers count," we in MJCRSP are hoping you will renew your membership again this year so that we make a strong impression on legislators –not only for our gratitude for their considering a COLA, but also because WE VOTE! Join those who have been working hard for ALL retirees by returning the membership renewal form below with your dues!

Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel Membership Form 2023-2024 (Membership drive begins March 1 each calendar year. Yearly memberships expire June 3				
Name(s)	Date			
Address	City/State			
Zip Code	E-mail			
Phone	Cell Phone	_ □ Check if cell only		
Please check one: New Member Membership Renewal (2023-2024)				
Active Member (TRTA &	\$45.00			
Life Member (LOCAL dues only)		\$10.00		
Current Monthly Member (Payroll Deductionlocal dues only)		\$10.00		
Add \$1 (or more) toward of	\$1.00			
Scholarship Donation (optional)				
	TOTAL	\$		
Make Check Payable to: MJCRSP  Mail to Lynne James, 5305 Oakwood Circle, Orange, TX 77630  or bring form and check to MJCRSP meeting.				
at the PNGIS	meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 1: SD Administration Bldg., 766 Magnolia (Hwy 366), Port to monthly newsletter for any change in meeting place.			

## 2022-2023 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Charles Jehlen President

## Lynne James Immediate Past President

Yearbook

Retirement Education

Technology Contact

#### Becky Dungan

First Vice President Membership

#### Cathy Purgahn

Second Vice President Book Project Programs

#### Donna Lumpkin

Secretary

## Tricia Kimball Treasurer Elect

Dixie Tucker

## Parliamentarian

Richard Briggs

#### Legislation

Linda Briggs Scholarship

## Gail Krohn Publicity

#### Candye Martin

Community Volunteer Services

#### Helen Reynolds Health

Mary Sue Carter Safety

## Shelley Dettman Member Benefits

Clara Graham

## Foundation

Representative

#### **Linda Fong** Memorials & Get-Well

#### Olive Hall & Jolene LeMaire

Historians Newsletter

#### Rosalie Reese Hospitality

**Patricia Allen** Social Media

#### Loretta Morman Audit



#### TRTA District 5

**Spring Conference** 

### Tuesday May 5, 2023

10 am to 2 pm
'First Baptist Church'
1911 Nederland Avenue
Nederland



RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL NEWSLETTER

#### **MJCRSP**

Meeting

Tuesday May 9, 2023

1:30 pm

PNG Boardroom 766 Magnolia

**Port Neches** 



## A message from MJCRSP President



# Can We Celebrate NOW?

Wrapping up a school year brings conflicting emotions to educators.

"Out with the old and in with the new" refers to friends, colleagues, and students. Some are retiring from public service, others are transitioning into a new phase of their life's journey. Most are happy, some are sad. An aura of anticipation covers everyone as we move towards summer.

This May we will celebrate another successful year as a chapter. Members participated in April's Rally at the Capitol. Our outreach activities will culminate with the awarding of scholarships at Nederland and Port Neches-Groves High Schools.

TRTA Executive Director **Tim Lee** posts weekly video updates on the progress of our legislative priorities. The COLA is working its way through the law-making process. During the remainder of the regular session (and possible special sessions) go to the TRTA website to get accurate information and ways members can support the effort.

New chapter officers will be installed at our May 9th meeting. I hope to see you at the PNGISD Administration Building at 1:30 PM. We appreciate the support given to us by our Mid-County school districts. When visiTing with their employees my favorite line is "Y'all are so nice to us because you want to be reTired like us!"

Encourage your friends to join TRTA. It's also time for each member to renew their efforts at local, state, and national levels. Join one of our committees and GET INVOLVED. We are planning next year's activities and need your input.

### **ARE YOU READY?**



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <a href="www.mjcrsp.org">www.mjcrsp.org</a> — SEE OUR VIDEO SCRAPBOOK VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: <a href="www.facebook.com/MJCRSP/">www.facebook.com/MJCRSP/</a>



Turn in Membership		Becky Dungan	
May 5	Friday	Cinco De Mayo	
May 4	Thursday	National Day of Prayer	



© Drawing will be @ May 9th meeting

First Baptist Church

1911 Nederland Ave.—Nederland

**10** am to **2** pm

5	Spring Comerciae		
May 9	Tuesday	Teacher Appreciation Day	
May 14	Sunday	Mother's Day	
May 20	Saturday	Armed Forces Day	
May 29	Monday	Memorial Day	



© Cathy Purgahn - needs IDEAS for next year Programs

**TRTA** District 5

Spring Conference

- \* 211 books were distributed to 4th graders at Groves Elementary
- Becky Dungan TRTA statewide membership increased to 95,000 this year
- ② Candye Martin Our Chapter had 36,976 volunteer hours with 88 members contributing

#### **Helen's Health Tips**

**Friday** 

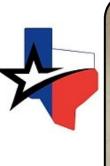
For healthy aging, the 3 most important foods are fruits and

vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products like yogurt and cheese. Enjoy these

May

delicious, healthy foods every day.









# TRTA Day at the Capitol

