



CT TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BOARD

165 CAPITOL AVENUE HARTFORD CT 06106
Toll free 1-800-504-1102 (959) 867-6333 Fax (860) 241-9295

MINUTES **May 13, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Teachers' Retirement Board was held virtually on May 13, 2026. The meeting convened at 3:02 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clare Barnett, Chair, Retired Teacher Member
William Myers, Vice-Chair, Retired Teacher Member
Carrie Cassady, Active Teacher Member
Joslyn Delancey, Active Teacher Member
Lisa Heavner, Public Member
Kathleen Holt, Public Member
Jonathan Johnson, Public Member
Mary-Beth Lang, Retired Teacher Member
Gregory Messner, Office of Policy and Management
Jon Moss, Active Teacher Member
Edwin Vargas, Retired Teacher Member
Ted Wright, Office of the State Treasurer

ABSENT:

Charles Higgins, Public Member
Stephen McKeever, Active Teacher Member, AFT
Keith Norton, State Department of Education

STAFF PRESENT:

Helen Sullivan, Administrator
Charlene Hill, Assistant Administrator
Bob Ribera, Fiscal Administrative Manager
Amanda Harley, Associate Retirement & Benefits Officer
Naomi Calvi, IT Analyst

ALSO PRESENT:

Virginia McGarrity, Robinson & Cole
Terry DeMattie, Segal Consulting
Rachel Runkle, OPM
Nicolette Niedzwiecki, OFC
Tammy Gowash, ARTC
Jacqueline Norcel
John Gallo
Jennifer Lee
Susan Stepanski
Kerstin Rao
Kristin Grose
Kevin Fenton
Danielle Shink
Kathy Hennessey
Donna Bonin
Bonnie Lieberman
Corinne Colman
Nancy Charest

Shirley Green
Robert Buck
Sandra Avery
Mary Kay Rendock
Mary Moninger-Elia
Norma Cherry
June DiLella
Lisa Teodosio
Audrey Lamy
June Bray
Moiria Schiffer
Jodiann Tenney
Betsy Sword
Terry Buckingham
Patty Linardos
Fonda Green

Call to Order

Chairperson, Clare Barnett called the regular meeting of the Teachers' Retirement Board to order at 3:02 p.m.

1. Approval of March 11, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was moved by Jon Moss and seconded by Lisa Heavner to approve the regular meeting minutes for the March 11, 2026 meeting. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

2. Agency report provided by Administrator Helen Sullivan:**Health Insurance Update:**

Helen advised that there have been a total of 252 enrollments since February, including 187 enrollments in the Medicare Advantage plan and 65 enrollments in the Medicare Supplement plan. She reported that administration of the plans continues to run smoothly. Helen noted that The Hartford is averaging approximately 300 calls per week, while Aetna is averaging approximately 1,000 calls per week. The majority of calls relate to prescription renewals, coverage inquiries, and questions regarding benefits for new enrollees.

In addition, Helen stated that meetings have been taking place with Terry and the other parties involved to explore additional gym options for members beginning in January. She also noted that Medicare has implemented certain changes related to weight loss medications; however, these changes are Medicare protocols and are not specific to the agency's plans.

Regulations Update:

Helen advised that she has been working with the committee and Virginia to finalize the draft regulations, which are currently being uploaded to the eRegulations website. She noted that the regulatory update process involves multiple steps and typically takes approximately six to nine months to complete.

Helen also explained that certain SEBAC language, which had not been anticipated and was not approved by the agency, may have an impact on the regulations. The agency is seeking clarifying language regarding this matter. In the meantime, the agency will continue to follow its standard protocols and administer its plans in accordance with the statutes and eligibility requirements while working to obtain clarification related to state employees.

CORE-CT Update:

Helen advised that phase 3 of the project is moving forward. Some concerns include completing the training and employer reporting for the districts. The districts will need adequate time to prepare as we will be asking for a lot of information. There are also several outstanding questions regarding post CORE follow-up needs, such as self-service which was part of the original plan. Additional information is still pending on those items as well as on the staffing resources needed to continue to support the project.

A discussion followed.

5. Approval of the Administrator's actions regarding:

- a. Granting of service retirement benefits for the months of March and April 2026.
- b. Survivor benefits for the months of March and April 2026.
- c. Reports & recommendations of the Medical Review Committee regarding applications for Disability Payments as presented to the Medical Review Committee at the March and April 2026 meetings.

A motion was moved by Jonathan Johnson and seconded by Joslyn Delancey to approve the granting of retirement service, survivor benefits and applications for a disability allowance for the months of March and April 2026. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

Helen advised that there have been some inquiries regarding the upcoming election. She confirmed that the election will proceed as usual. Individuals seeking information are encouraged to regularly visit the website for the latest updates and details regarding the election process.

MATTERS FOR THE BOARD INFORMATION:

Retirement Statistics for the months of March and April 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jodiann Tenney commented that she believes the TRB is not following 10-145d and the appeals process. Her position was deemed ineligible and she has tried for several months to seek reconsideration and appeal the denials she received. At this time, she has retained counsel and a letter is being drafted.

John Gallo spoke to bring attention to retired teachers who are over 65 who are ineligible for Medicare and in his situation, he is married to another teacher over 65 and ineligible for Medicare. He commented that there are 25 people receiving the \$880 subsidy and would like to know how many of those 25 are Medicare ineligible and married to other Medicare ineligible teachers.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other comments, a motion was moved by Jon Moss and seconded by Carrie Cassady to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.