



News

Express

Kentucky Retired Teachers Association
Serving Retired Teachers Since 1957



VOLUME X NUMBER 1

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

SEPTEMBER 2026

Proclamation By The Kentucky Retired Teachers Association

To All Whom These Presents Shall Come.

- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers have devoted their careers to the education and training of literally thousands upon thousands of Kentucky's youth; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers have retrained and/or provided primary educational opportunities to hundreds of adults in the state who, for one reason or another, had fallen behind in the formal education needed for job and social skills; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers rendered valuable services in diverse leadership roles in their communities and institutions throughout their careers and continue to render such services as retirees; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers represent the profession, which is given the basic responsibility for launching the careers of state and national leaders and for laying the foundation for the welfare of all members of our society; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers have toiled ceaselessly to improve the quality of life in the state and nation, too often in less than adequate circumstances and for less than adequate pay; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers represent a tremendous pool of experience and training which remains dedicated to the betterment of society everywhere; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's retired teachers represent a loyal, patriotic, and concerned citizenry, which provided dedicated and dependable support to the leaders in our communities, state, and nation; and
- WHEREAS Kentucky's 2014 General Assembly has honored Kentucky retired teachers by recognizing the third week of October as Kentucky Retired Teachers' Appreciation Week

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlotte Benton, President of the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association, do hereby proclaim October 18-24, 2026, as

RETIRED TEACHERS' APPRECIATION WEEK

Done in the city of *Louisville, Kentucky*, the *twenty-eighth day* of *August*, in the year of our Lord *two thousand* and *twenty-six*.

ATTENTION UNDER 65 RETIREES

TEAM KENTUCKY
PERSONNEL CABINET

Kentucky Employees' Health Plan

October 5-26

Open Enrollment

You **WILL NOT** have insurance coverage or a waiver HRA for calendar year 2027 if you do not enroll. This does not apply to those over 65. See Page 11.

The Leadership Issue

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"The impact of a truly great teacher is everlasting, and your legacy will continue to inspire those who follow in your footsteps."

Dates to Remember

Executive Council Meetings:

- December 7, 2026 -KRTA Office
- April 19, 2027 – Holiday Inn East, Louisville, KY
- June 7, 2027 – KRTA Office

KRTA Convention:

- April 19 & 20, 2027 – Holiday Inn East, Louisville, KY

District Presidents Meetings:

- July 27, 2026 – KRTA Office
- April 19 & 20, 2027 – KRTA Convention

2026-27 Membership Campaign: Final membership report printed on January 20, 2027

Retired Teachers Appreciation Week- October 18-24, 2026

KRTA Local and District Recognition Forms:

- March 15, 2027 – Due to the KRTA Office

Volunteer Hours:

- March 15, 2027 – (Jan 1-Dec 31) – Report hours on Local Recognition Form

School Supply Drive/ Feed KY Program: Application for \$50 matching grant will be mailed to local presidents

- March 15, 2027 – Report the number of bags of school supplies contributed on the Local Recognition Form
- March 15, 2027 – Report the number of food items contributed on the Local Recognition Form

Frank R Hatfield Volunteer of the Year Award:

- February 3, 2027 - Local Presidents submit candidates to District Presidents
- March 15, 2027 - District Presidents submit candidates to the KRTA State Office
- April 21, 2027 - State Award Winner Announced

KRTA/AARP Grandparent Essay Contest :

- School Winner Dec 15, 2026
- County Winner Jan 31, 2027
- District Winner March 1, 2027
- State Winner announced at 2027 State Convention

2026-27 KRTA NEWS – Print Dates:

- July 2026 Issue - Submission Deadline May 17, 2026
- Nov 2026 Issue – Submission Deadline Sept 19, 2026
- March 2027 Issue – Submission Deadline Jan 24, 2027

2025-2026 KRTA NEWS EXPRESS (Electronic Newsletter)

Release Dates:

- September 2026
- May 2027

2026-27 Travel with Collette and KRTA

KRTA Members are invited to participate in safe, affordable group travel. Guests are welcome but must travel with a KRTA member. Click below on each trip to view pictures and videos. Itinerary, pricing, and online reservations information is found under book online.

Book early—KRTA has partnered with Collette Travel to offer customized travel opportunities. Plans include a reserved block of airline seats for each trip. A deposit is required to reserve your seat and to ensure you receive any advertised price reduction. Reservations made after the seating block is filled, or after the booking date has passed, are based on availability and are subject to a price increase. Prices include round trip airfare from Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport in Louisville. Departures from alternate gateways can be requested when booking.

New York City Holiday December 7 - 11, 2026

South Pacific Wonders (Australia & New Zealand)
January 26 - February 9, 2027

Alpine Lakes & Scenic Trails - April 26 - May 5, 2027

Sunny Spain, Madrid & Costa del Sol
October 18-26, 2027

South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana
November 2-16, 2027

Two Ways to Book Your Trip

1. Book Online—Collette Travel utilizes an online reservation booking system. The links below include itinerary, pricing, and an online reservation form.

[Click here](#) for New York City

[Click here](#) for South Pacific Wonders

[Click here](#) for Alpine Lakes & Scenic Trails

[Click here](#) for Sunny Spain, Madrid & Costa del Sol

[Click here](#) for South Africa, Victoria Falls, Botswana

2. Book Directly—Collette Travel also offers a direct booking number for those who prefer to call, 1-800-581-8942 and refer to the KRTA booking number below:

1319628 *New York City*

1421863 *South Pacific Wonders*

1421846 *Alpine Lakes & Scenic Trails*

1421704 *Sunny Spain, Madrid & Costa del Sol*

1423853 *Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana*

Commonwealth of Kentucky Homepage

<http://ky.gov/>

Kentucky Legislature (Who's My Legislator)

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/findyourlegislator/findyour-legislator.html>

U. S. Congressmembers

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/KY>

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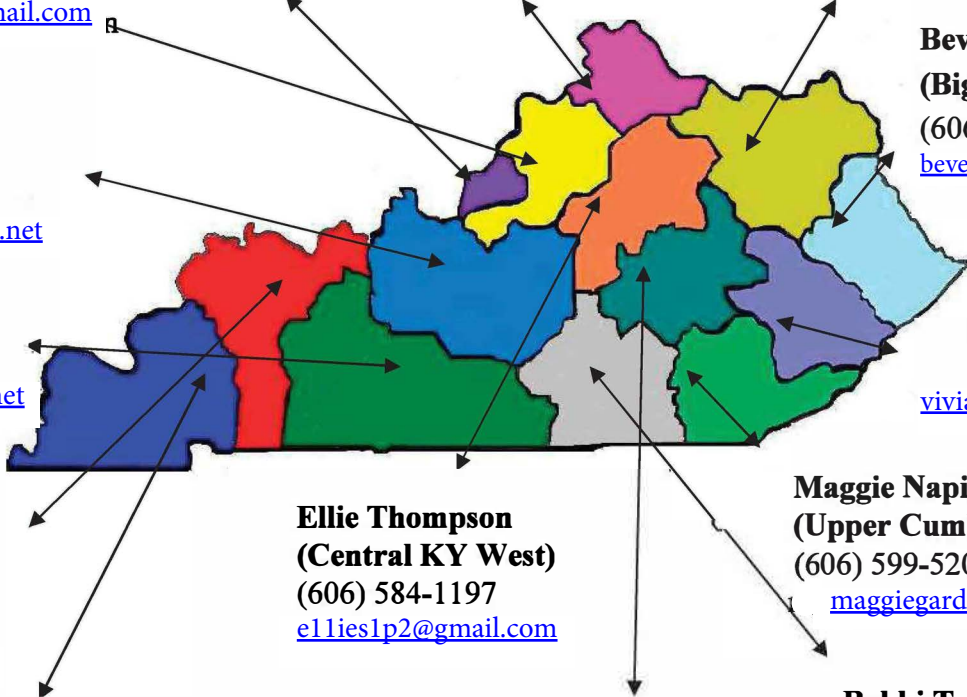
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Where do we go legislatively from
this day forward?



THE KEY:
"One on one"
work with
legislators

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DISTRICT AND LOCAL MEMBERSHIP PERCENTAGE REPORT

September 16, 2026

DISTRICT	LOCAL	%	DISTRICT	LOCAL	%	DISTRICT	LOCAL	%
BIG SANDY		73.1%						
	FLOYD	64.8%		OWEN	93.2%		GRANT	79.7%
	JOHNSON	86.3%		SHELBY	66.1%		KENTON	68.8%
	LAWRENCE	63.5%		SPENCER	73.9%		PENDLETON	88.1%
	MAGOFFIN	58.3%		TRIMBLE	81.4%	SECOND		77.0%
	MARTIN	88.2%	FIRST		74.7%		CHRISTIAN	78.8%
	PIKE	74.1%		BALLARD	66.7%		DAVIESS/MCLEAN	72.9%
CENTRAL KY EAST		75.7%		CALDWELL	78.0%		HANCOCK	88.8%
	EKURA	52.1%		CALLOWAY	70.8%		HENDERSON	80.4%
	ESTILL	64.6%		CARLISLE	93.4%		HOPKINS	83.9%
	GARRARD	95.5%		CRITTENDEN	84.1%		UNION	92.5%
	JACKSON	66.9%		FULTON	94.8%	THIRD		66.9%
	LEE	94.4%		GRAVES	75.1%		ALLEN	72.0%
	LINCOLN	83.3%		HICKMAN	82.4%		BARREN	58.5%
	MADISON	70.9%		LIVINGSTON	79.5%		BUTLER	93.1%
	MONTGOMERY	87.2%		LYON	82.8%		CUMBERLAND	93.1%
	POWELL	95.2%		MARSHALL	67.0%		EDMONSON	87.8%
	ROCKCASTLE	71.9%		MCCRACKEN	75.0%		LOGAN	68.8%
CENTRAL KY WEST		61.2%		TRIGG	74.4%		METCALFE	96.2%
	ANDERSON	62.6%	FOURTH		72.4%		MONROE	96.1%
	BLUEGRASS	59.6%		BRECKINRIDGE	72.2%		MUHLENBERG	63.6%
	BOYLE	62.4%		E'TOWN/HARDIN/ LARUE	60.6%		OHIO	82.8%
	CLARK	62.9%		GRAYSON	75.7%		SIMPSON	77.3%
	HARRISON	69.3%		GREEN	89.2%		TODD	71.7%
	JESSAMINE	62.4%		HART	89.4%	UPPER CUMBERLAND		63.4%
	MERCER	66.5%		MARION	75.0%		BELL	74.5%
	NICHOLAS	83.8%		MEADE	66.2%		CLAY	56.5%
	ROBERTSON	69.0%		NELSON	81.0%		HARLAN	53.8%
	SCOTT	61.9%		TAYLOR	74.7%		KNOX	54.2%
	WOODFORD	63.9%		WASHINGTON	81.0%		LAUREL	66.4%
EASTERN		74.6%	JEFFERSON		63.7%		MIDDLESBORO	99.0%
	BATH	82.3%		JEFFERSON	63.7%	UPPER KY RIVER		82.3%
	BOYD	70.5%	MIDDLE CUMBERLAND		70.1%		BREATHITT	90.8%
	CARTER	59.0%		ADAIR	75.7%		KNOTT	94.1%
	ELLIOTT	70.2%		CASEY	70.1%		LESLIE	56.7%
	FLEMING	81.0%		CLINTON	78.7%		LETCHER	86.8%
	GREENUP	65.8%		MCCREARY	83.2%		OWSLEY	80.0%
	LEWIS	63.2%		PULASKI	66.7%		PERRY	73.6%
	MASON	94.9%		RUSSELL	54.1%		WOLFE	77.8%
	MENIFEE	98.5%		WAYNE	73.8%			
	MORGAN	88.8%	NORTHERN		74.1%			
	ROWAN	76.7%		BOONE	73.7%			
FIFTH		70.6%		BRACKEN	86.5%			
	BULLITT	77.9%		CAMPBELL	75.3%			
	CARROLL	86.5%		GALLATIN	80.4%			
	FRANKLIN	62.4%						
	HENRY	80.8%						
	OLDHAM	59.5%						

JOIN. SHARE. CONNECT.



Find us at
Facebook.com
/KentuckyRetiredTeachersAssociation



KRTA MEMBERSHIP STATEWIDE BY DISTRICT SEPTEMBER 16, 2026



<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>POTENTIAL MEMBERS</u>	<u>ACTIVE MEMBERS</u>	<u>%-AGE</u>
Big Sandy	1,694	1,238	73.1%
Central KY East	2,728	2,05	75.7%
Central KY West	5,232	3,203	61.2%
Eastern	2,497	1,863	74.6%
Fifth	2,741	1,934	70.6%
First	2,896	2,162	74.7%
Fourth	3,110	2,251	72.4%
Jefferson	5,491	3,498	63.7%
Middle Cumberland	1,868	1,310	70.1%
Northern	3,297	2,444	74.1%
Second	2,915	2,246	77.0%
Third	3,705	2,477	66.9%
Upper Cumberland	2,230	1,413	63.4%
Upper KY River	1,288	1,060	82.3%
Out of State	3,383	1,638	48.4%
Associate	62	50	80.6%
TOTALS	45,137	30,852	68.4%

<u>MEMBERSHIP TYPE</u>	<u>SEPT 17, 2025</u>	<u>SEPT 16, 2026</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Automatic Dues	27,034	27,043	9
Cash	4,085	3,809	-276
TOTALS	31,119	30,852	-267
POTENTIAL TOTALS	44,566	45,137	571
PERCENTAGE	69.8%	68.4%	-1.4%



MEMBERS ARE THE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS

What Should We Do to Recruit/Retain Members?

- Encourage Involvement
- Emphasize Value
- Communicate Appropriately
- Survey Former Members

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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kylawrm@gmail.com

KRTA FINANCE & INVESTMENT INFO

Hank Hensley 800-927-0030

KRTA DENTAL and VISION PLANS

Jason Weilage 502-500-9623

www.krtadentalandvision.com

HEARING INSTRUMENT PLAN

Heuser Hearing Institute

502-584-3573 or <https://thehearinginstitute.org/>

COMMONWEALTH CREDIT UNION

800-228-6420 / 502-564-4775 or <https://www.ccuky.org/>

COMFORT KEEPERS

606-676-9888 or <https://www.comfortkeepers.com/>

HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE

888-343-0182 or <https://www.homeinstead.com/>

HOME HELPERS HOME CARE

800-990-9750 or <https://homehelpershomecare.com/>

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE PLANS

Jim Curley 502-299-1414 or

Jeff Johnson 502-553-7630

COLLETT TOURS & TRAVEL

800-581-8942

<https://krtar.org/collettetravel/>

HEALTH INSURANCE

65+ (MEHP)

Humana 866-307-2494

Express Scripts 877-866-5834

KYRx Coalition 855-218-5979

Silver Sneakers 888-423-4632

TruHearing 888-939-3635

Corielle DNA Testing 888-454-9024

GO 365 866-307-2494

MD Live (Virtual Care) 888-673-1992

Humana Well Dine 877-402-1030

PERS (Life Line) 800-5338954 code 54076

Under 65 (KEHP)

Anthem BCBS 844-402-KEHP

CVS Caremark 866-601-6934

KYRx Coalition 855-218-5979

Living Well Promise 866-681-6758 (CastLight)

Smart Shopper 855-869-2133

Virtual Healthcare www.livehealthonline.com

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF KY

800-618-1687 or www.trs.ky.gov

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Kentucky Employees' Health Plan (KEHP)

Benefits for those Under 65 and Not Medicare-Eligible
2027 KEHP HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION

Open enrollment for 2027 is October 5-26, 2026, and is mandatory. You must enroll or reenroll.

If you do not reenroll, you will lose coverage.

Watch for a mailing in the next several weeks from the KEHP with details.

Retirees can prepare for open enrollment by logging into khris.ky.gov to verify your user name and password, reset your password if needed and be ready for open enrollment.

More information about open enrollment for Under 65 retirees will be posted on the TRS website as it is received from the KEHP. 2026 KEHP Plan Information

If you are Over 65, no reenrollment is required.



Membership Deadlines

- ▶ Deadline for white cards by 10/5/26
- ▶ ADDs received after 10/5/26 must be accompanied with a check
- ▶ Cash Forms must be received by 1/20/27 to be counted toward Convention awards

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EMILY CAREY

OPERATIONS MANAGER

ALMA WOOLEY

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KRTA NEWS

KRTA NEWS EXPRESS

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FRI. 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM