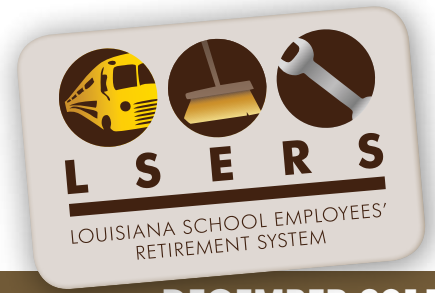


CROSSROADS



A Publication of the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System

DECEMBER 2011

Active-Member District 3 election scheduled for 2012

An election is scheduled to fill the **Active-Member District 3** seat on the LSERS Board of Trustees. The elected member will serve a four-year term beginning January 1, 2013 and ending December 31, 2016.

Candidates for the **Active-Member District 3** seat must be actively employed by a LSERS agency. "Active Member" includes members currently in DROP or working after DROP, but does NOT include any retiree who has returned to work under the provisions of R.S. 11:1006 or 11:1007. Candidates must reside in one of the following parishes: Bienville, Bossier,

Caddo, Caldwell, Catahoula, Claiborne, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, Webster, or West Carroll. A member who resides out of state must be employed in one of these parishes to be qualified as a candidate.

Candidates must submit a **written** request for an official **Nominating Petition** to Mr. Charles P. Bujol, Executive Director of LSERS. The request should be mailed to Post Office Box 44516, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, faxed to 225.922.0350, or delivered to 8660 United Plaza Boulevard, First Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.

Candidates must also obtain signatures and membership information

Continued on page 2

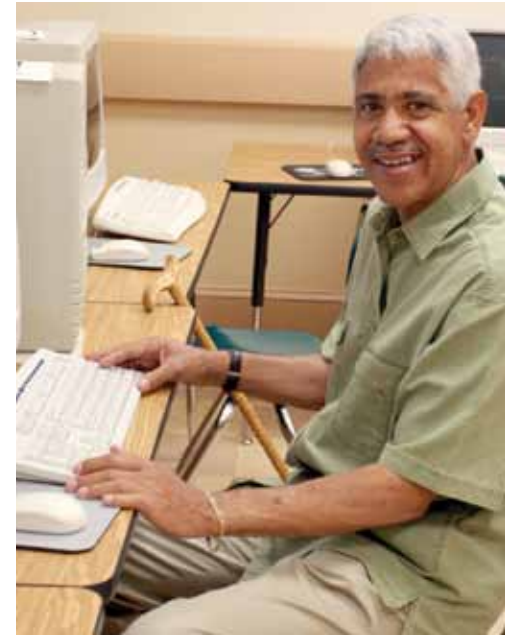
Watch for enhanced features in redesign of LSERSWeb Portal

LSERS current LSERSWeb portal allows members online access to their personal retirement account information, where they can view their beneficiary designation, years of service credit, average salary, employment history, and reported salary.

LSERSWeb portal is being redesigned to:

- Enhance security when accessing data.
- Allow members to update their name, address, and telephone numbers.
- Allow retirees to update their federal income tax withholdings and view their monthly payment and deduction history.

These new enhanced services will be available later this school year.



WALTHER SWORN IN
Mr. Philip B. Walther was sworn in for his second term as an Active-Member Representative for District 1. Mr. Walther will begin his four-year term of office on January 1, 2012. Shown at left, he is being sworn in by LSERS Executive Counsel Warren Ponder.

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2 1099-R's to be mailed in January

LSERS will be mailing 1099-R forms to all retirees by the end of January 2012. Avoid delays in filing your income tax return by making sure we have your current address on file. You can update your address by completing the LSERS

Member Change of Address form located on the last page of this newsletter and returning it to our office as soon as possible.

LSERS retirement benefits are not subject to Louisiana state income taxes for residents filing a Louisiana Income Tax form.

Explanation of amounts on the 1099-R form (see below):

District 3 election

(Continued from page 1)

of **ten (10) active** members of LSERS who reside in District 3. Complete and notarized nominating petitions must be received in LSERS' office by **4:30 p.m. on March 1, 2012**. Confirmation of qualification will be mailed to the candidate following verification of the nominating petition.

If more than one candidate qualifies, a ballot and brochure containing the name, profile, and photograph of each candidate, as well as a self-addressed, postage-paid return envelope, will be mailed to each voter's home address on **May 2, 2012**. Ballots must be returned by **4:30 p.m. on June 4, 2012**. Counting of ballots will be conducted on June 11, 2012.

Questions regarding this election should be directed to Warren Ponder, Executive Counsel, at 225.925.6560 or toll free 1.800.256.3718 if calling outside the Baton Rouge calling area.

“Statement of Annual Earnings & Disability Receipts” due by May 1, 2012

“Statement of Annual Earnings & Disability Receipts” will be mailed by February 1, 2012. Disability retirees are mandated by state law to report all earned income to LSERS by May 1 each year to avoid any interruption of benefits. This requirement stays in effect until the disability retiree reaches regular service retirement eligibility, which is usually at age 60.

Nursing home residents are excluded from this reporting requirement; however, a letter from the nursing home certifying residency must be on file with LSERS for the exemption to apply. Have questions about filing your “Statement of Annual Earnings & Disability Receipts”? Please contact Katenia Self at 225.925.6484 or toll free at 1.800.256.3718 if calling outside the Baton Rouge area. You may also email us at webmaster@lsers.net.

PAYER'S name, street address, city, state, and ZIP code		1 Gross distribution	OMB No. 1545-0119	Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.
PAYER'S federal identification number		2a Taxable amount	2011	
RECIPIENT'S identification number		2b Taxable amount not determined <input type="checkbox"/>	Total distribution <input type="checkbox"/>	Internal Revenue Service Center File with Form 1042-S
RECIPIENT'S name		3 Capital gain (included in box 2a)	4 Federal income tax withheld	
Street address (including apt. no.)		5 Employee contributions / Designated Roth contributions or insurance premiums	6 Net unrealized appreciation in employer's securities	2011 General Instructions for Recipients
City, state, and ZIP code		7 Distribution code(s)	8 Other	
10 Amount allocable to IRR within 5 years		11 1st year of desig. Roth contrib.	12 State tax withheld	13 State/Payer's state no.
			9b Total employee contributions %	14 State distribution

- Box 1 Gross Distribution - Total amount you received in the 2011 calendar year
- Box 2a Taxable money you should report on your income tax return
- Box 4 Federal tax withheld from your retirement benefit
- Box 5 Tax-free portion of retirement benefits you received during the calendar year. This is NOT the amount of your insurance premium. It represents *unsheltered contributions withheld* from your salary before 7-1-1994 that had already been taxed. This amount is the difference between the *Gross* distribution in Box 1 and the *Taxable* amount in Box 2a.
If you have no amount in Box 5 - you have no tax-free benefits.
Note: Disability retirees will not have tax-free benefits reflected in Box 5 until they reach their normal retirement eligibility age.

Meeting Schedule

LSERS Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held in the First Floor Board Room of LSERS Building, located at 8660 United Plaza Blvd., in Baton Rouge, LA. The following is the meeting schedule for the next few months:

DAY	DATE	TYPE OF MEETING	TIME
Friday	1/6/12	Investment Committee	9:00 a.m.
Monday	2/13/12	Quarterly	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday	2/14/12	Quarterly	8:30 a.m.
Monday	3/12/12	Investment Committee	9:00 a.m.
Monday	4/16/12	Investment Committee	9:00 a.m.
		*Personnel Committee	

* held upon adjournment of Investment Committee

WHY use direct deposit? It's all about you!

You and Your Security

Direct Deposit is automatic and provides security by offering you

- Protection against **identity theft** by providing a safe, effective and private way to transfer money and eliminate **check fraud**.
- Reduction in the number of people who handle your transaction. A paper check is handled by an average of five to nine people as compared to an electronic transaction that is handled by one or two people.

You and Your Peace of Mind/Convenience

Direct Deposit provides peace of mind and convenience by offering you

- Relief from worrying about a lost or stolen check.
- Funds that are accessible in your bank on the 1st banking day of the month.
- Payments that are automatically posted to your account once direct deposit is set up.
- More flexibility in not having to rush to the bank or meet banking hours to assure your check is deposited on time.

You and Your Environment

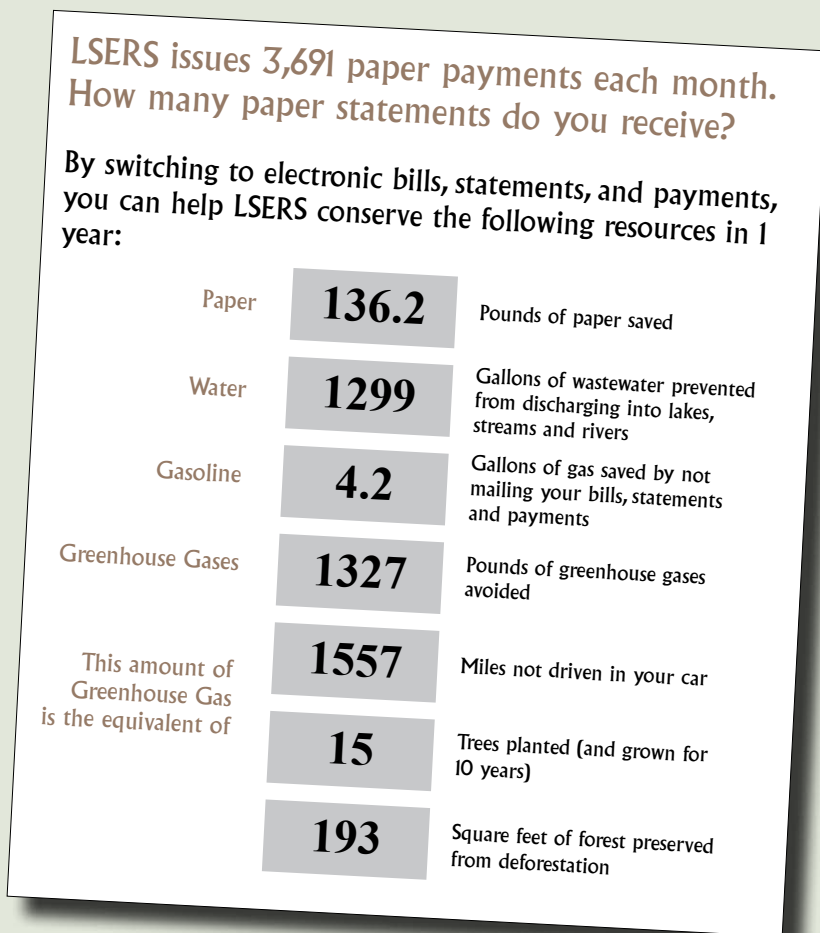
LSERS prints 3,691 paper checks each month. The illustration at right provides an idea of how much can be conserved in 1 year by switching these paper checks to Direct Deposit.

Want to make the switch? It's easy to get Direct Deposit!

Complete LSERS Form 8, *Authorization for Direct Deposit*, and send it to our office. Your payment will be sent electronically the following month if it is received by the 23rd of the month. This form is available at www.lasers.net under Resources, Forms. You can also request a copy by phone at 225.925.6484 or toll free (outside the Baton Rouge area) at 1.800.256.3718, or email us at webmaster@lasers.net.

Have you changed banks?

If you changed banks recently or intend to do so, make sure you send LSERS a new Authorization for Direct Deposit (Form 8) that reflects the information of your new financial institution.



CHECK MAILING DATES - 2012

Regular retirement benefits are paid on the 1st of each month. For example, the payment received on January 1 is for the month of January. DROP and IBRP withdrawals are paid on the 5th of each month.

Paper Check Mailing Dates

Benefit Month	Regular	DROP & IBRP
January	December 30	January 4
February	January 31	February 3
March	February 29	March 2
April	March 30	April 4

Direct Deposit

Regular retirement payments are scheduled to post to your bank account on the 1st day of the month. If the 1st falls on a weekend or holiday, banks generally post payments on the next business day.

Stop Payment Due to Lost or Stolen Check

If your payment is mailed to you and you have not received your paper check by the 7th working day after it was issued or if you believe your check has been lost or stolen, contact LSERS at 225.925.6484 or 1.800.256.3718 if outside the Baton Rouge calling area.

Getting to LSERS is Simple

LSERS office is off Essen Lane between I-10 and I-12. The street address is 8660 United Plaza Blvd. in Baton Rouge.

From I-10, exit on Essen Lane. Turn right if coming from the south and left if coming from downtown or the north. Turn right on United Plaza Blvd. LSERS is the first building on the left.

From I-12 east, exit on Drusilla Lane and turn left. Turn right on Jefferson Highway and left on Essen Lane. Take the second entrance to United Plaza Blvd. on the left. LSERS is the first building on the left. From I-12 west, exit on Essen Lane. Take a right on Essen Lane, then the second entrance to United Plaza Blvd. on the left. LSERS is the first building on the left.



Jeffrey Faulk, Sr., Vice Chair

Retiree Representative, 337.893.3315

Betty Crain, Vice Chair Pro Tem

Retiree Representative, 985.735.5359

Philip B. Walther

1st Retirement District, 504.443.4005

Eugene Rester, Jr.

2nd Retirement District, 985.516.0369

Judith McKee

3rd Retirement District, 318.649.7696

Kathy Landry

4th Retirement District, 337.477.6161

Ex Officio Members:

Tom Schedler

Secretary of State, 225.922.2880

John Kennedy

State Treasurer, 225.342.0010

D.A. "Butch" Gautreaux

*Chairman, Senate Committee on Retirement
225.342.0656*

J. Kevin Pearson

*Chairman, House Committee on Retirement
225.342.2445*

Linda Mathiew

*President, LA School Bus Operators
Association,
337.652.4340*

Charles P. Bujol

LSERS Executive Director

Carolyn Forbes

LSERS Assistant Director

Jennifer Champagne

Administrative Assistant

LSERS Member Change of Address

Be sure to notify LSERS if your address has changed recently. Please complete this change of address card and mail it to LSERS, P.O. Box 44516, Baton Rouge, LA 70804. Please print all information except for your signature.

Name _____ Home phone: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Membership status (check one) Active _____ Retired _____

Signature _____ Soc. Sec. # _____
(required)

Calculate estimate of retirement benefits on the website now, at
www.lasers.net

This public document was published at a total cost of \$12,367.42. There were 25,395 copies of this document published in this first printing at a cost of \$12,367.42. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints, is \$12,367.42. This document was published by the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, P.O. Box 44516, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804-4516, to provide members of LSERS with information concerning changes and policies of the system. This information is not a substitute for, nor provides any rights or benefits, except as contained in the LSA Revised Statutes governing LSERS. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of The Louisiana Revised Statutes. This newsletter was printed in accordance with R.S. 43:31B.

Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System
P.O. Box 44516
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4516

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8660 United Plaza Blvd. - First Floor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-7004

Telephone 225.925.6484, Toll-free 1.800.256.3718
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
Visit LSERS' website at: www.lasers.net

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