

# Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis, Missouri

Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis Retirement Plan

**Actuarial Valuation Report** 

Plan Year

January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

July 2017

July 2017

Mr. Andrew Clark

Executive Director

PSRS of the City of St. Louis
3641 Olive Street, Suite 300

St. Louis, MO 63108-3601

Dear Members of the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis Board:

### **Actuarial Certification**

The annual actuarial valuation required for the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis has been prepared as of January 1, 2017 by Conduent. The purposes of the report are to:

- (1) determine the required annual contributions from the board of education, the retirement system, and the charter schools; and
- (2) present the valuation results of the System as of January 1, 2017.

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 169.450-16 Revised Statutes of Missouri (R.S. Mo.). The required contribution to the System from the board of education, the retirement system, and the charter schools is computed in accordance with Section 169.490 R.S. Mo. The amount of the required contribution is stated in Section 1.3 of this report. Information with respect to financial disclosures under GASB 67 and 68 may be found in a separate report.

During the Board meeting on June 19, 2017 the Board rescinded some earlier decisions to adopt a new amortization period, reset the FIL liability and the AVA to reflect the current MVA and restart the asset smoothing approach as of the 2017 valuation. These decisions were abated as the Missouri Legislature has passed new funding rules that may affect the plan in future years and the Board decided to evaluate the impact of those changes before adopting any final changes. The earlier decision to revise the assumptions and valuation interest rate were retained as shown herein.

In preparing this valuation, we have employed generally accepted actuarial methods and assumptions, in conjunction with employee data and financial information provided to us by the System, to determine a sound value for the System liability. The employee data has not been audited, but it has been reviewed and found to be consistent, both internally and with prior years' data. The validity of the valuation results is dependent upon the accuracy of the data and financial information provided.

In our opinion, the actuarial assumptions used are reasonable, taking into account the experience of the System and reasonable long-term expectations, and represent our best estimate of the anticipated long-term experience under the System. The actuary performs an analysis of System experience periodically and recommends changes if, in the opinion of the actuary, assumption changes are needed to more accurately reflect expected future experience. The Experience Study for the period January 1, 2011 to

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December 31, 2015 was prepared by Conduent and approved by the Board for use beginning with the January 1, 2017 actuarial valuation and will remain in effect for valuation purposes until such time as the Board adopts revised assumptions. The next Experience Study will be based on the period from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2020 and upon approval by the Board will be the basis of valuations performed from January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2026. A summary of all assumptions and methods is presented in Section 3.8 of this report.

Where presented, references to "funded ratio" and "unfunded accrued liability" typically are measured on an actuarial value of assets basis. It should be noted that the same measurements using market value of assets would result in different funded ratios and unfunded accrued liabilities. Moreover, the funded ratio presented is appropriate for evaluating the need and level of future contributions but makes no assessment regarding the funded status of the plan if the plan were to settle (i.e. purchase annuities) for a portion or all of its liabilities.

Future contribution requirements may differ from those determined in the valuation because of:

- (1) differences between actual experience and anticipated experience based on the assumptions;
- (2) changes in actuarial assumptions or methods;
- (3) changes in statutory provisions;
- (4) differences between actuarially required contributions and actual contributions.

The undersigned meets the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinions contained herein, and is available to answer questions regarding this report.

I believe that the assumptions and methods used for funding purposes are individually and in aggregate, reasonable and in combination represent a best estimate of anticipated experience under the plan. I believe that this report conforms with the requirements of the Missouri statutes, and where applicable, other federal and accounting laws, regulations and rules, as well as actuarial principles and practices in accordance with all Actuarial Standards of Practice (ASOPs).

Sincerely,

Troy Jaros, FSA, EA, MAAA, FCA

Senior Consultant, Retirement Actuary

Conduent HR Services

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# **Report Highlights**

This report has been prepared by Conduent to:

- Present the results of a valuation of the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis as of January 1, 2017; and
- Determine the required annual contribution for 2018.

This report is divided into three sections. Section 1 contains the results of the valuation. It includes the experience of the System during the 2016 plan year, the actuarially required costs, and funded levels.

Section 2 contains asset information. It includes market value of assets, the calculation of actuarial value of assets, the contingency reserve, and asset returns.

Section 3 describes the basis of the valuation. It summarizes the System provisions, provides information relating to the System members, and describes the funding methods and actuarial assumptions used in determining liabilities and costs. Also included is historical information about the System.

### **Experience Gains and Losses**

Under the actuarial funding method used to determine the contribution, actuarial gains (or losses) result in a decrease (or increase) in the normal cost rate. Actuarial gains (or losses) result from differences between the actual experience of the System and the expected experience based upon the actuarial assumptions. Annual gains (or losses) should be expected because short-term deviations from expected long-term average experience are common.

For the 2016 plan Year, total (net) actuarial losses due to plan experience were \$8.1 million. Approximately \$20.5 million is a loss attributable to the System's actuarial rate of return on assets which was 5.5%, or 2.5% lower than the assumed rate of return of 8.0% for plan year 2016. By comparison, the rate of return on the market value of assets during plan year 2016 was 5.3%. The difference in these returns is primarily due to less-than-assumed investment performance during plan year 2016. At January 1, 2017, the actuarial value of assets of \$901.1 million is above market value of assets (excluding the expense and contingency reserve) by approximately \$81.8 million.

An actuarial gain of approximately \$12.4 million attributable to demographic experience is included in the above total (net) actuarial loss of \$8.1 million.

### **Assumption Changes**

For the 2017 valuation, the mortality assumption was changed. In addition, withdrawal and retirement decrements and assumed future salary increases were revised based on actual plan experience for the 5 years ending December 31, 2015. Finally, the assumed asset return was changed to 7.50% for the 2017 valuation. A detailed description of the changes appears in section 3.8. In total, the assumption changes increased actuarial liability by approximately \$72.7 million.

#### Normal cost rate

The normal cost is determined annually and equals the product of the normal cost rate times covered payroll. For plan year 2017, the annual normal cost contribution is \$26,350,187, as compared to \$23,127,132 for plan year 2016, an increase primarily due to the change in assumptions. The annual normal cost rate increased from 8.82% to 9.76% due to the change in assumptions. Covered payroll increased slightly from \$252.1 million to \$260.2 million.

## **Accrued liability amortization**

The actuarial accrued liability contribution is determined as the amount necessary to amortize the remaining Unfunded Frozen Actuarial Accrued Liability (UFAAL) over a period of 30 years from January 1, 2006, when the Board of Trustees acted to redetermine the UFAAL. This portion of the contribution only changes to reflect changes in benefits, changes in actuarial assumptions and methods, and variations in the remaining UFAAL due to deviations between actual and expected contributions. Employer contributions for 2016 were \$2.3 million more than the annual required contribution, which reduced the UFAAL more than expected. However, the changes in actuarial assumptions from the previous valuation increased the UFAAL by \$72.7 million. As a result, the net amortization payment increased from \$16,530,824 to \$23,343,402. This increase includes the impact of the change in interest rate to 7.5% effective with the 2017 valuation. The amortization payment component of the contribution rate increased from 6.6% to 9.0% of covered payroll.

### Required contribution and timing

In 2001, the Board of Education agreed to institute a one-year lag for payments of the annual required contributions due from SLPS for future years. Therefore, this actuarial valuation is used to determine the annual required contribution (ARC) payment from SLPS for plan year 2017, due to the Plan no later than December 31, 2018. The dollar amount of the ARC due from SLPS no later than December 31, 2018, increased to \$37,376,323 for plan year 2017 from \$30,459,434 for plan year 2016.

As a percentage of covered payroll in plan year 2017, the contribution rate for plan year 2017 increased to 19.10% from 15.73% for plan year 2016. Charter Schools pay both employer and employee contributions as they occur shortly after each payroll period; therefore, this actuarial valuation is used to determine the contribution rate of 19.10% that Charter Schools should pay beginning with payroll periods ending on or after January 1, 2018.

# **Summary and Comparison of Principal Valuation Results**

## **Annual Required Contribution**

	Board of Education	Retirement System	Charter Schools	Total
2017				
Normal cost contribution	\$ 19,818,916	\$ 53,325	\$ 6,477,946	\$ 26,350,187
Actuarial accrued liability contribution	17,557,407	47,240	5,738,755	\$ 23,343,402
Annual required contribution (ARC)	37,376,323	100,565	12,216,701	\$ 49,693,589
Covered payroll	195,723,057	526,616	63,973,393	\$ 260,223,066
ARC as % of covered payroll	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%
2016				
Normal cost contribution	\$ 17,762,876	\$ 43,530	\$ 5,320,726	\$ 23,127,132
Actuarial accrued liability contribution	12,696,558	31,114	3,803,152	\$ 16,530,824
Annual required contribution	30,459,434	74,644	9,123,878	\$ 39,657,956
Covered payroll	193,647,262	474,551	58,005,475	\$ 252,127,288
ARC as % of covered payroll	15.73%	15.73%	15.73%	15.73%

	January 1, 2017	January 1, 2016
System Assets		
Expense and contingency reserve	\$ 30,921,897	\$ 29,537,454
Market value, excluding expense & contingency reserve	819,258,525	839,141,595
Actuarial value	901,076,683	915,391,079
System liabilities		
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability	\$ 232,478,771	\$ 162,302,064
Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$1,223,329,683	\$1,165,766,472
PUC Funding Ratio		
Actuarial value funding ratio	73.7%	78.5%
Market value funding ratio	67.0%	72.0%

# **Analysis of the Valuation**

### (1) Investment Experience

Our actuarial calculations were based upon the assumption that the System's assets earn 8.00%. The approximate market value rate of return during 2016 was 5.31%. The approximate actuarial value rate of return was 5.51%.

### (2) Demographic Experience

The number of active members increased from 5,034 to 5,101 for the period. The average age and service of active members decreased slightly, and the average annual salary increased \$929. There were small changes in the inactive statistics. The membership statistics are found in Sections 3.3 through 3.7 of this report.

## (3) Salary Increases

The average annual salary increased 1.9% between January 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017. Total annual covered payroll increased 3.2% between January 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017.

### (4) Changes in Methods from the Prior Valuation

There have been no changes in methods since the prior valuation.

## (5) Changes in Assumptions from the Prior Valuation

The mortality assumption was revised on the basis of the experience study as well as to reflect recently published information with respect to mortality experience and anticipated mortality improvements in future years from the Society of Actuaries in 2015 and 2016. Withdrawal and retirement rates were revised to reflect actual plan experience for the 5 years ending December 31, 2015. The salary increase and assumed rate of return on assets were also updated to reflect anticipated future returns. Details of these assumption changes can be found in Section 3.8. The net effect of the assumption changes was to increase the 2017 amounts for the annual required employer contribution (ARC) by 3.30% of covered payroll.

### (6) Changes in Benefit Provisions from the Prior Valuation

There have been no changes in benefit provisions since the prior valuation.

### (7) Other Changes

There have been no other changes since the prior valuation.

#### (8) Summary

The overall effect of experience during the period, along with the changes in assumptions, resulted in a decrease in the funding ratio utilizing the actuarial value of assets from 78.5% to 73.7%. The total contribution rate increased from 15.73% to 19.10% of covered payroll.

# **Section 1 - Valuation Results**

This section sets forth the results of the actuarial valuation.

Section 1.1	Develops the actuarial accrued liability contribution
Section 1.2	Develops the normal cost contribution
Section 1.3	Develops the required annual contribution
Section 1.4	Actuarial balance sheet as of January 1, 2017
Section 1.5	Projected Unit Credit funding ratios
Section 1.6	Projected Unit Credit funded status
Section 1.7	Prioritized solvency test

# 1.1 Determination of the Unfunded Frozen Actuarial Accrued Liability

1.	Unfunded frozen actuarial accrued liability as of January 1, 2016	\$ 162,302,064
2.	Normal cost due January 1, 2016	22,237,627
3.	Interest on (1) and (2) at 8.00% to December 31, 2016	14,763,175
4.	Employer contributions for 2016	39,519,979
5.	Interest on (4) at 8.00% to December 31, 2016	0
6.	Supplement for changes in actuarial assumptions or benefits	72,695,884
7.	Unfunded frozen actuarial accrued liability as of January 1, 2017, $(1) + (2) + (3) - (4) - (5) + (6)$	232,478,771
8.	Actuarial accrued liability contribution for 2017 End of year amortization payment of (7) over 19 years	23,343,402

# 1.2 Determination of Normal Cost Contribution

1.	Actuaria	l present va	alue of	future	benefits
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	a.	Act	ive participants			
		i.	Retirement benefits	\$ 377,645,587		
		ii.	Vested withdrawal benefits	52,391,382		
		iii.	Refund of contributions	7,458,189		
		iv.	Survivor benefits	4,900,733		
		٧.	Disability benefits	11,653,311		
			Total		\$	454,049,202
	b.	Re	tired participants and beneficiaries			903,313,279
	c.	Ina	ctive participants			
		i.	Vested participants	23,318,439		
		ii.	Nonvested participants	7,285,103		
			Total		_	30,603,542
	d.	Tot	al actuarial present value of future benefits		1	,387,966,023
2.	Un	fund	ed frozen actuarial accrued liability as of January 1, 2017			232,478,771
3.	Act	tuari	al value of assets as of December 31, 2016			901,076,683
4.	Act	tuari	al present value of future participant contributions		_	86,206,082
5.			al present value of future employer normal costs, (2) – (3) – (4), not less than \$0			168,204,487
6.	Act	tuari	al present value of future covered payroll of current participants		1	,724,121,645
7.	Em	ploy	ver normal cost rate, (5) / (6)			9.76%
8.	Tot	tal co	overed payroll			260,223,066
9.	No	rmal	cost for 2017, (7) x (8)			25,397,771
10.			cost contribution due by December 31, 2017, + (0.075 x 0.5)]			26,350,187

# 1.3 Required Annual Contribution

	Board of Education	Retirement System	Charter Schools	Total	
Normal cost contribution	\$ 19,818,916	\$ 53,325	\$ 6,477,946	\$ 26,350,187	
Actuarial accrued liability contribution	17,557,407	47,240	5,738,755	\$ 23,343,402	
Annual required contribution (ARC)	37,376,323	100,565	12,216,701	\$ 49,693,589	
Covered payroll	195,723,057	526,616	63,973,393	\$ 260,223,066	
ARC as % of covered payroll	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	19.10%	

# 1.4 Actuarial Balance Sheet as of January 1, 2017

## **Actuarial assets**

Actuarial value of present assets		\$	901,076,683
Actuarial present value of future participant contributions			86,206,082
Actuarial present value of future employer contributions for:			
Normal costs			168,204,487
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability			232,478,771
Total present and future assets		\$ 1	,387,966,023
Actuarial liabilities			
Actuarial present value of benefits now payable		\$	903,313,279
Actuarial present value of benefits payable in the future:			
Active participants \$	454,049,202		
Terminated vested participants	23,318,439		
Terminated non-vested participants	7,285,103		
Total payable in the future			484,652,744
Total liabilities for benefits		\$	1,387,966,023
Surplus / (deficit)			0

## 1.5 Projected Unit Credit Funding Ratios

The funding objective of the System is to meet long-term benefit promises through contributions that remain approximately level from year to year as a percentage of covered payroll.

Funding ratios provide a measure of how much progress has been made towards achieving this objective. For this purpose, the System's liabilities are determined using the projected unit credit cost method. Under this method, liabilities are determined for each participant using only service already performed, but anticipating the impact of future salary growth on the benefits attributable to current active participants.

Section 1.6 provides a comparison of this liability measure to the value of assets to produce a snapshot measure of the System's funding ratio.

Another way to check the funding progress of the System is through a prioritized solvency test. Section 1.7 illustrates the history of the System's funding progress under this test.

In a prioritized solvency test, the plan's present assets (cash and investments) are sequentially allocated and compared three priorities of liabilities as follows:

- Liability 1: Active participant contributions, accumulated with interest;
- Liability 2: The liabilities for future benefits to current inactive participants and beneficiaries; and
- Liability 3: The liabilities for future benefits to current active participants for prior service.

Ideally, progress in funding of these liability groups will normally be exhibited with Liability 1 attaining 100% coverage first, then Liability 2, and finally Liability 3. Note that 100% funding of Liability 3 does not mean that the System has completed its funding of benefits since additional benefits typically are expected to be earned in the future.

## 1.6 Projected Unit Credit Funded Status

As of January 1, 2017 the Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Accrued Liability was:

1.	Retired members and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits and terminated members not yet receiving benefits	\$	933,916,821
	a. Current active participants		
	i. Accumulated member contributions, including interest		122,746,557
	ii. Employer-financed benefits	_	166,666,305
	Total Projected Unit Credit Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$	1,223,329,683
As of	January 1, 2017 the Projected Unit Credit AAL was funded as follows:		
2.	Net assets available for benefits at actuarial value	\$	901,076,683
3.	Unfunded Projected Unit Credit AAL		322,253,000
4.	Actuarial value funding ratio, (2) / (1)		73.7%
5.	Net assets available for benefits at market value	\$	819,258,525
6.	Unfunded Projected Unit Credit AAL		404,071,158
7.	Market value funding ratio, (5) / (1)		67.0%

# 1.7 Prioritized Solvency Test

Valuation date January 1	Active participants' accumulated contributions	Retirees, beneficiaries and inactive participants	Active participants (employer- financed)	Valuation assets		ent covere	
	(1)	(2)	(3)		(1)	(2)	(3)
1999	130,705,014	276,290,128	303,953,494	694,250,672	100%	100%	95%
2000	129,398,364	353,852,977	288,213,016	770,090,498	100%	100%	100%
2001	127,086,325	414,052,293	269,590,438	828,097,298	100%	100%	100%
2002	116,506,785	476,104,516	372,221,726	861,128,076	100%	100%	72%
2003	115,570,837	492,633,382	361,818,972	873,260,102	100%	100%	73%
2004	106,021,476	528,287,121	364,459,284	901,996,455	100%	100%	73%
2005	89,710,662	518,880,414	368,306,240	935,328,638	100%	100%	89%
2006	90,001,111	661,353,685	319,920,373	983,828,243	100%	100%	73%
2007	96,223,413	712,467,372	305,409,824	1,003,428,983	100%	100%	64%
2008	98,112,123	781,006,957	249,244,208	1,014,923,381	100%	100%	54%
2009	104,576,264	801,995,237	187,035,147	963,851,408	100%	100%	31%
2010	110,054,510	805,831,292	195,185,151	950,709,944	100%	100%	18%
2011	103,178,297	842,643,351	169,510,764	944,356,735	100%	100%	0%
2012	116,268,566	850,498,527	189,084,439	925,389,359	100%	95%	0%
2013	120,355,959	849,412,565	190,553,739	914,494,335	100%	93%	0%
2014	114,092,991	896,477,122	164,014,835	922,922,386	100%	90%	0%
2015	116,755,946	892,626,625	156,682,397	926,905,797	100%	91%	0%
2016	120,507,482	887,757,927	157,501,063	915,391,079	100%	90%	0%
2017	122,746,557	933,916,821	166,666,305	901,076,683	100%	83%	0%

# **Section 2 - Valuation of the System's Assets**

This section of the report shows the development of the actuarial value of the assets of the System and provides information regarding the expense and contingency reserve, investment results and the various assets of the System.

The amount of assets used in the actuarial valuation is known as the "actuarial value of assets." The method is discussed in the summary of methods and assumptions, section 3.8. The development of the actuarial value of assets is shown in section 2.1. An important element in the development of the actuarial value of assets is the expense and contingency reserve. The amount of the reserve is determined pursuant to a policy adopted by the Board of Trustees. The history of the reserve is presented in section 2.2.

As shown in section 2.3, the fund had a rate of return of 5.51% on an actuarial value basis, which is 2.49% below the assumed rate of return of 8.00% for plan year 2016. In accordance with Rule X, an amount would typically be released from the investment contingency portion of the reserve, because the actuarial rate of return was more than 1.00% below the assumed rate of return. However, the contingency reserve was exhausted at January 1, 2009, so no additional amounts are available.

The rate of return on an actuarial value basis is intended to be a more stable rate of return and fluctuate less than rates of return on a market value basis. Thus, the rate of return on an actuarial basis is not always a fair measure of the annual investment performance of the fund. Another indicator of actual performance during the year is the rate of return on a market value basis which was a return of 5.31%, also presented in section 2.3.

Effective with the Actuarial Valuation Report for Plan Year January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017, the annual assumed rate of return on Plan assets is 7.50%.

# 2.1 Development of the Actuarial Value of Assets

1.	Actuarial value of assets as of January 1, 2016	\$	915,391,079
2.	Participant contributions		12,652,029
3.	Employer contributions		39,519,979
4.	Benefit payments and expenses		115,162,723
5.	Investment increment at 8.00%, 8% x $\{(1) + .5 \times [(2) - (4)]\}$		69,130,859
6.	Expected actuarial value on January 1, 2017, (1) + (2) + (3) – (4) + (5)		921,531,223
7.	Market value of assets on January 1, 2017		850,180,422
8.	Expense and contingency reserve on January 1, 2017, prior to adjustment		30,921,897
9.	Adjustment to the investment contingency reserve		0
10.	Excess of market value over expected actuarial value, $(7) - (6) - (8) - (9)$		(102,272,698)
11.	Market value adjustment, 20% x (10)	_	(20,454,540)
12.	Actuarial value of assets as of January 1, 2017, (6) + (11)		901,076,683

## 2.2 The Expense and Contingency Reserve

Effective January 1, 1996, the Board of Trustees revised Rule X, which governs the determination of the amount of the expense and contingency reserve. The expense portion of the reserve is the sum of:

- 1. The estimated annual operating expenses for the ensuing year:
- 2. An amount equal to the liability for non-insurance supplements;
- 3. An amount equal to the liability for insurance supplements for those participants participating in the program on January 1; and
- 4. The estimated amount of insurance supplements to be paid for participants expected to retire and participate in the program during the ensuing year.

The investment contingency portion of the reserve is intended to help cover significant shortfalls in the actuarial rate of return. When a shortfall of more than 1% occurs, a portion of the reserve is released equal to one half of the amount of the shortfall up to 2% plus any remaining shortfall. When the rate of return exceeds the assumed rate of return by more than 1%, the reserve is increased subject to a maximum reserve of 5% of the market value of the Retirement Fund. The addition equals one half of the amount of the excess up to 2% plus any remaining excess.

The actuarial return on assets was not within 1% of 8% during plan year 2016; however, since the entire contingency reserve was released in 2009, no adjustment can be made to the actuarial value of assets.

Below is a history of the expense and contingency reserve:

			Total expense
		Investment	and
	Expense	contingency	contingency
January 1	reserve	reserve	reserve
1997	\$25,403,190	\$ 5,220,821	\$30,624,011
1998	30,891,555	24,100,041	54,991,596
1999	22,142,759	45,972,067	68,114,826
2000	27,992,032	50,003,862	77,995,894
2001	29,837,776	50,003,743	79,841,519
2002	23,527,529	50,003,743	73,531,272
2003	24,952,255	37,759,976	62,712,231
2004	26,028,780	37,759,976	63,788,756
2005	27,170,188	45,115,876	72,286,064
2006	32,534,770	45,115,876	77,650,646
2007	29,864,946	50,732,410	80,597,356
2008	31,987,370	57,234,574	89,221,944
2009	30,555,388	0	30,555,388
2010	29,903,107	0	29,903,107
2011	29,480,465	0	29,480,465
2012	29,564,563	0	29,564,563
2013	29,181,897	0	29,181,897
2014	30,439,781	0	30,439,781
2015	29,868,370	0	29,868,370
2016	29,537,454	0	29,537,454
2017	30,921,897	0	30,921,897

### 2.3 Investment Performance

There are several different methods of approximating the rates of return on investments of the trust fund. Following is a brief comparison of the actuarial assumed rate of return as compared with rates of return on market and actuarial value bases:

#### a. Market Value Basis

The rate of return on a market value basis is the ratio of the appreciation (or depreciation) of assets less contributions plus disbursements to the market value at the beginning of the year plus the average of the receipts and disbursements made during the year. This may be approximated as follows:

i.	A = Market value of assets as of January 1, 2016	\$ 868,679,049
ii.	B = Market value of assets as of January 1, 2017	850,180,422
iii.	C = Contributions during the period	52,172,008
iv.	D = Disbursements during the period	115,162,723
٧.	Rate of return: $B - A + D - C$	
	$A + \frac{1}{2} (C - D)$	5.31%
vi.	Actuarial assumed rate of return for 2016	8.00%
vii.	Difference between actual and assumed rates of return, (v) - (vi)	-2.69%

### b. Actuarial Value Basis

The rate of return on an actuarial value basis is approximated using the same method:

i.	A = Actuarial value of assets as of January 1, 2016	\$ 915,391,079
ii.	B = Actuarial value of assets as of January 1, 2017	901,076,683
iii.	C = Contributions during the period	52,172,008
iv.	D = Disbursements during the period	115,162,723
٧.	Rate of return: $B - A + D - C$ $A + \frac{1}{2} (C - D)$	5.51%
vi.	Actuarial assumed rate of return for 2016	8.00%
vii.	Difference between actual and assumed rates of return, $(v) - (vi)$	-2.49%

## Section 3 - Basis of the Valuation

In this section, the basis of the valuation is presented and described. This information – the provisions of the System and the census of members – is the foundation of the valuation, since these are the present facts upon which benefit payments will depend.

A summary of the System's provisions is provided in Section 3.1, the legislative history of the System is provided in Section 3.2, and member census information is shown in Section 3.3 to Section 3.7.

The valuation is based upon the premise that the System will continue in existence, so that future events must also be considered. These future events are assumed to occur in accordance with the actuarial assumptions and concern such events as the earnings of the fund; the number of members who will retire, die or terminate their services; their ages at such termination and their expected benefits.

The actuarial assumptions and the actuarial cost method, or funding method, which have been adopted to guide the sponsor in funding the System in a reasonable and acceptable manner, are described in Section 3.8.

A guide to actuarial terminology used in this report is included as Section 3.9.

## 3.1 Summary of Plan Provisions

### **Participants**

All persons regularly employed by the board of education, charter schools, and employees of the board of trustees are in the System.

### Retirement age

#### Normal

Age 65 or any age if age plus the years of credited service equals or exceeds 85 (Rule of 85)

### Early

Age 60 with 5 years of service

#### Service retirement allowance

- a. 2% (1-1/4% if terminated prior to July 1, 1999) times years of credited service, subject to a maximum of 60%
- b. Times average final compensation (AFC)
- c. Subject to a maximum of 60% of AFC.
  - i. AFC is the highest average compensation for any three consecutive years of the last 10 years of service.
  - ii. Compensation is the regular wages plus what your employer pays towards your health and welfare benefits.
  - iii. Minimum monthly benefit is \$10.00 for each year of credited service, up to 15 years, retirement age 65 and over.
  - iv. Unused sick leave is added to a participant's credited service and age.

### Early retirement benefit

Service retirement allowance reduced five-ninths of one percent for each month of commencement prior to age 65 or the age at which the Rule of 85 would have been satisfied had the employee continued working until that age, if earlier.

## Disability benefit

Service retirement allowance using actual service, or 25% of AFC if larger, provided that in no case will the benefit exceed that payable if service had continued to age 65.

- a. Disability must be incurred while an employee as determined by the medical board and approved by the board of trustees.
- b. The participant must have a minimum of five years of credited service and not be eligible for normal retirement.

Continued disability is subject to routine verification.

#### Withdrawal benefit

Accumulated contributions of participant with interest credited to the participant's account.

## 3.1 Summary of Plan Provisions

#### Vested benefit

Full vesting on termination of employment after at least five years of service is provided if contributions are left with the System. The full accrued benefit is payable at age 65 or a reduced early retirement benefit prior to age 65.

### Retirement options

In lieu of the benefit paid only over the lifetime of the participant, a reduced benefit payable for life of participant with:

- Option 1 Same retirement allowance continued after death to the beneficiary.
- Option 2 One-half of the retirement allowance continued after death to the beneficiary.
- Option 3 Same retirement allowance continued after death to the beneficiary. If the beneficiary predeceases the participant, the retirement allowance is adjusted back to the unreduced allowance.
- Option 4 One-half of retirement allowance continued after death to the beneficiary. If the beneficiary predeceases the participant, the retirement allowance is adjusted back to the unreduced allowance.
- Option 5 Increased retirement allowance is provided up to age 62, such that benefit provided prior to age 62 is approximately equal to the sum of the reduced retirement allowance paid after age 62 and Social Security.
- Option 6 Options 1 and 5 combined.
- Option 7 Options 2 and 5 combined.

### Survivor benefits

If an active participant dies after completing 18 months of service, leaving a surviving spouse or other dependent beneficiaries, survivor benefits are payable. The widow or dependent beneficiary may elect to receive either a refund of accumulated contributions, or:

- a. A survivor who is the widow at least age 62 and married to a participant for at least one year receives \$60 a month.
- b. A widow with dependent, unmarried children under age 22 receives \$60 a month plus \$60 per dependent child, not to exceed \$180 per month. The benefit ceases when youngest child is age 22 and resumes again under (a) at age 62.
- c. If no benefits are payable under (a) or (b), minor children may receive a benefit of \$60 per child or \$180 divided among them if more than three children.
- d. If no benefits are payable under (a), (b) or (c), a dependent parent or parents may receive or share \$60 per month upon attaining age 62.

If an active participant dies after completing 5 years of service, the widow or dependent beneficiary may elect to receive either a refund of accumulated contributions or:

- a. If the survivor is the widow, a survivor benefit calculated as if the participant had been age 60 at death and elected Option 1, plus \$60 per dependent child not to exceed \$180 per month.
- b. If there is no widow, a survivor benefit calculated as if the participant had been age 60 at death and elected Option 1.

## 3.1 Summary of Plan Provisions

### Return of contributions upon death

If after the death of a participant, no further monthly are payable to a beneficiary under an optional form of payment, or under the survivor benefit provisions, the participant's beneficiary shall be paid the excess, if any, of the participant's accumulated contributions over all payments made to or on behalf of the deceased participant.

#### **DROP**

Effective July 1, 2001, active participants may elect to enter the deferred retirement option plan (DROP) for up to four years. Upon entering the DROP, the participant's retirement benefit is frozen and credited to the participant's DROP account. At the end of the DROP, or upon earlier termination of employment, the DROP account is paid in a lump sum or installments, at the participant's option. During the DROP, the participant continues as an active participant, but does not pay contributions. To enter the DROP the participant must be age 65 or meet the Rule of 85. The DROP program is no longer available, ending June 30, 2008.

## **Contributions by participants**

Participants contribute 5% of compensation. Accumulated contributions are credited at the rate of interest established by the board of trustees. The current crediting rate is 5%.

## Contributions by employers

As needed to keep the System actuarially sound.

### **Expenses**

Administrative expenses paid out of investment income.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

On and after January 1, 1944, all persons employed by the board of education on a full-time permanent basis are participants of the System as a condition of employment. In 1961, provisions regarding benefits and employee contribution levels were revised for all future employees of the board of education. Participants of the System at that time were granted the right to remain under the "old plan" and have their membership governed by the provisions of the law in effect prior to 1961. These old plan participants have both benefits and contributions based on a \$3,000 maximum annual compensation. Old plan participants have been given the option to transfer into the revised plan at various times since 1961.

Effective October 13, 1969, legislation permitted the reinstatement of credited service lost during the years 1944 to 1947 inclusive when the married women teachers rule was in effect.

Effective August 31, 1972, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Purchase of past service credit by paying contributions for service claimed plus interest.
- Service as extended substitute teacher.
- Service of re-employed participants lost on prior terminations.
- Service out-state Missouri and outside the state of Missouri.
- Service lost by those who elected to stay out of the retirement plan either temporarily or to date.
- Old plan participants who wished to become new plan participants could do so by paying the differential in participant contributions under the new and old plans, plus interest.
- Dependent beneficiary on death of participant before retirement but after age 60 or age 55 with 30 years service may receive option 1 benefit as if participant had retired under such option.
- A participant with five or more years of service and prior to age 65 may be retired with a disability benefit if the medical board certifies that such participant is mentally or physically totally incapacitated for further performance of duty.
- Minimum retirement benefit at age 65 or after 10 years service is \$50.00 per month.

On February 10, 1975, the Missouri Supreme Court handed down a decision supporting HB 613 (Section 169.585 of state statutes), which granted increased benefits to retired teachers. The increases apply to those teachers who retired after June 30, 1957, and prior to January 1, 1971. Technically, those retirees are retained as "advisors and supervisor" and receive a "salary" of \$5 per month for each year of service, with a maximum of \$75. This salary plus the regular retirement benefit cannot exceed \$150 per month. To the extent that assets are depleted because of this law, future district contributions will increase. Because these benefits are paid as "salaries," coming out of investment income along with other expenses of operation, there will be less money available for crediting of interest to the various funds at the end of the year.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

Effective August 13, 1978 legislation resulted in the following changes:

- The service retirement allowance and projected service retirement allowance was changed to 1-1/4% of average final compensation per year of credited service. The participant's allowance plus his Social Security primary insurance amount could not exceed 80% of his average final compensation. Participants born before 1917 receive the larger of the allowances calculated under the new formula and the formula in effect immediately before it.
- Credited service no longer limited to a maximum of 35 years.
- Two new joint and survivor optional forms of payment were added which provide for the
  participant's pension to be adjusted back to his unreduced pension in the event his spouse
  predeceases him.
- Contributions from participants shall be 3% of compensation.
- End of period for purchasing prior service or outside service extended from December 31, 1973 to December 31, 1980. Deleted requirement of electing to purchase out-state or outside the state of Missouri service within one year of completing five years of credited service.
- Gives board of trustees the power to establish regulations, methods and factors that may be needed to calculate primary Social Security benefits.
- Dependent beneficiary on death of participant before retirement with five or more years of credited service may receive option 1 benefit as if the participant had retired under that option as of the date of his death.
- Allow retired educational secretaries to serve as part-time or temporary substitute educational secretary up to a maximum of 360 hours per school year without a reduction in the retired employee's retirement allowance or requiring the retired employees to contribute to the retirement system.

Effective September 28, 1979, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Accumulated and unused days of sick leave shall be included in computing a participant's age and credited service at retirement.
- Participants who have attained age 62 and who have 30 or more years of credited service may
  retire and receive a service retirement allowance without reduction for early retirement. The early
  retirement reduction for participants who retire with 30 or more years of credited service but who
  have not attained age 62 on their retirement date shall be determined on the basis of the number of
  months by which their age at retirement is less than age 62.
- Benefits to survivors of a participant who dies while an employee and after having at least 18 months of credited service are as follows:
  - (a) Surviving spouse age 62 or over: \$60 per month.
  - (b) Surviving spouse with unmarried dependent children under age 22: \$60 per month, plus \$30 per month for each eligible child, with a maximum of \$150 per month.
  - (c) Unmarried dependent children under age 22: \$60 per month for each eligible child, with a maximum of \$120 per month. This benefit is payable if the benefit in (b) is not payable.
  - (d) Dependent parent(s): \$60 per month, provided no benefits are payable under (a), (b) or (c) above.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

Effective September 28, 1981, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- The provision limiting service retirement and projected service retirement allowances to 80% of average final compensation less Social Security was removed for future retirees.
- The minimum monthly benefit payable to participants retiring on or after age 65 with 10 or more years of service was increased to \$75.
- Old plan participants were extended the option to transfer into the current System by paying the
  difference in participant contributions plus interest. Such election to be made on or before
  December 31, 1984. Retired participants who retired prior to January 1, 1955, may be consultants"
  at a "salary" equal to \$4 for each year of retirement prior to January 1, 1982. Total "salaries" as a
  "school consultant" and "special school advisor and supervisor" are limited to \$250 per month.
- The retirement system may contribute as part of its administrative expenses toward health, life and similar insurance for retirees.
- The actuarial cost method was changed from the "entry age cost method" to the "frozen entry age
  cost method." The period for amortizing "supplements" to the unfunded actuarial accrued liability
  was set at 50 years from the time the "supplement" is created.
- Several changes were made dealing with the administration and operation of the System.
- Investment powers were broadened.

Effective September 28, 1984, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Dependent beneficiary on death of employed, active participant before retirement with five or more
  years of service may receive option 1 benefit as if the participant had attained age 55 (if less than
  55 at his death) and had retired under option 1 as of the date of his death.
- In addition to the option 1 death benefit, a surviving spouse may receive \$30 per month for each unmarried dependent child, provided that the total benefit does not exceed the greater of \$150 or the option 1 benefit.
- Surviving spouse benefits do not cease on remarriage.
- Dependent children's benefits do not require that the child remain a full-time student.
- Participants retired on disability may elect to receive an actuarial equivalent benefit under options 1 through 4.
- Retired participants who retired on or after January 1, 1976, may be employed as school consultants and receive a salary and insurance benefits provided other retirants.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

Effective August 13, 1986, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- A participant with 30 years of credited service who is between the ages of 55 and 62, upon
  certification by the board of education, is eligible for a supplemental early retirement benefit payable
  to age 62. This provision remains in effect until December 31, 1991.
- Benefits to a surviving spouse for dependent children are increased from \$30 to \$60 per month, with a maximum of \$240 per month, including the \$60 for the surviving spouse.
- Supplemental pay to retired participants employed as "school consultants" is increased by \$2 per month for each year between the participant's date of retirement and December 31, 1986

Effective June 19, 1987, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Reinstated the option for "old plan" participants to elect "new plan" membership by paying the difference in contributions accumulated with interest.
- Increased the minimum benefit for participants retiring on or after age 65 to \$10 per month for each year of credited service, up to a maximum of 15 years.
- Several changes were made dealing with the accounting, administration, and operation of the System.

Effective August 13, 1988, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Made provisions for children's benefits uniform, providing \$60 per month per child, up to a maximum of \$180 per month, under both subsections 169.460(13) and (15) survivor benefits.
- Supplemental pay to retired participants of \$2 per month for each year of retirement up to December 31, 1988.

Effective June 14, 1989, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- The maximum on compensation was removed.
- Average final compensation is based on the highest three consecutive years, rather than the highest five consecutive years.
- Participants may retire with unreduced benefits at any age, if their age plus credited service equals or exceeds 85 (the "Rule of 85").

Effective May 31, 1990, legislation resulted in the following change:

Supplemental pay of \$2 per month for each year of retirement up to December 31, 1990.

Effective August 28, 1993, legislation resulted in the following change:

Supplemental pay of \$3 per month for each year of retirement up to December 31, 1993.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

Effective August 28, 1996, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Provision was added for the purchase of service for certain periods of layoff.
- The investment trustee position was eliminated and the position of school administrator trustee was added.
- Cost-of-living increases for participants who retired prior to August 28, 1996, with at least 15 years
  of credited service. The cost-of-living increases are up to 3% in one year, with a cumulative
  maximum of 10%.
- The board of education is authorized to increase retirement benefits and the participant contribution rate, subject to several conditions.

Effective August 28, 1997, legislation resulted in the following change:

 Cost-of-living increases extended to participants who retired prior to August 28, 1997, with at least 15 years of credited service. The cost-of-living increases are up to 3% in one year, with a cumulative maximum of 10%.

In accordance with the statutory authority granted the board of education in 1996, the board of education made the following changes:

- Participant contributions were increased to 4.5%, effective July 1, 1998; to 5.0%, effective July 1, 1999; and, if necessary to 5.5%, effective July 1, 2000.
- The service retirement allowance was changed to 2.00% of average final compensation per year of credited service, subject to a maximum of 60% of average final compensation, effective for participants who retired after June 29, 1999.
- A "catch-up" cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is provided for participants who retired prior to June 30, 1999, and survivors of participants who retired or died prior to June 30, 1999. The amount of the "catch-up" COLA is equal to 65% of the amount by which the participant's original benefit would have increased due to increases in the CPI, in excess of any supplements or COLA increases being received by the participant. The "catch-up" COLA is effective July 1, 2000.
- The board of education agreed to contribute 8.03% of covered payroll for 1998, 1999, and 2000, in order to fund the benefit increase and the "catch-up" COLA.

In accordance with the statutory authority granted the board of education in 1996, the board of education made the following changes:

- Effective January 1, 2001, all participants who retired prior to January 1, 2000, received a 3% costof-living increase.
- Effective July 1, 2001, a DROP was made available until June 30, 2005, at which time the program
  will be evaluated to determine whether or not it should be extended. Eligible participants may elect
  to enter the DROP for up to four years.
- In conjunction with the DROP, employers will contribute at 8.00% of covered payroll for 2001. The contribution rate for subsequent years will be based on the rate determined by the actuarial valuation for the January 1 of the year preceding the year the contribution is due.

## 3.2 Legislative History of the Retirement System

Effective August 28, 2002, legislation resulted in the following changes:

- Purchase of service rules were updated.
- The System may accept qualified transfers of funds for the purchase of service.
- Clarified provisions relating to charter school participation in the System.
- Option 5, the level income option is added.
- Replaced the specific actuarial cost method in the statutes with a provision that the method adopted by the board of trustees may be any method in accordance with generally accepted actuarial standards. The amortization period for the UAAL may not exceed 30 years.

Note: There have been no changes to the System's plan provisions since 2002.

# 3.3 Changes in System Participation

					Total In Pay	Deferred	Nonvested with	Total Terminated	
	Active	Retirees	Beneficiaries	Disabled	Status	Vested	Balance	Records	Total
Total as of January 1, 2016	5,034	4,026	307	254	4,587	479	1,792	2,271	11,892
New Entrants	877						68	68	945
Rehires/Transfers	125	(2)			(2)	(8)	(41)	(49)	74
Retirements	(93)	110			110	(17)		(17)	0
Disablements	(11)			11	11				0
Beneficiaries			21		21	4		4	25
Deaths	(13)	(129)	(25)	(14)	(168)	(3)		(3)	(184)
Deferred Vested	(85)					85		85	0
Nonvested Terminations - Account Balance	(332)						332	332	0
Refunds Paid in 2016	(401)					(18)	(124)	(142)	(543)
Data Adjustments		2					5	5	7
Total as of January 1, 2017	5,101	4,007	303	251	4,561	522	2,032	2,554	12,216

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## 3.4 Member Census Information

As of January 1	2016	2017
Active Members		
Number	5,034	5,101
Average Age	43.77	43.68
Average Service	7.93	7.82
Average Annual Base Pay	\$ 50,085	\$ 51,014
Vested Terminated Members		
Number	479	522
Average Account Balance	\$ 28,905	\$ 29,781
Non-vested Terminated Members		
Number	1,792	2,032
Average Account Balance	\$ 3,532	\$ 3,585
Benefit Recipients		
Number	4,587	4,561
Average Age	73.66	74.03
Average Monthly Benefit	\$ 1,913	\$ 1,926

## 3.5 Distributions of Active Members

Years of Service By Age Charter Schools

Years of Service											
Age	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40+	Total	
Under 25	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	106	
25 - 29	291	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	314	
30 - 34	185	61	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	253	
35 - 39	111	34	13	5	0	0	0	0	0	163	
40 - 44	83	33	11	6	0	0	0	0	0	133	
45 - 49	68	21	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	98	
50 - 54	61	20	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	87	
55 - 59	38	24	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	71	
60 - 64	30	13	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	48	
65 - 69	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	
70 & Up	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Total	980	235	52	16	1	2	0	0	0	1,286	

Years of Service By Age School District

Years of Service											
Age	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40+	Total	
Under 25	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	128	
25 - 29	377	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	397	
30 - 34	274	102	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	391	
35 - 39	248	95	74	22	0	0	0	0	0	439	
40 - 44	175	92	83	97	10	0	0	0	0	457	
45 - 49	152	88	67	94	39	2	0	0	0	442	
50 - 54	147	80	64	74	36	33	7	0	0	441	
55 - 59	126	81	60	86	56	67	44	6	0	526	
60 - 64	84	72	52	73	46	30	30	26	9	422	
65 - 69	21	20	14	25	15	10	16	5	8	134	
70 & Up	5	7	6	5	4	1	0	1	2	31	
Total	1,737	657	435	476	206	143	97	38	19	3,808	

## 3.5 Distributions of Active Members

Years of Service By Age Total

Years of Service											
Age	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40+	Total	
Under 25	234	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	234	
25 - 29	669	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	712	
30 - 34	459	163	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	644	
35 - 39	359	129	87	27	0	0	0	0	0	602	
40 - 44	258	125	94	103	10	0	0	0	0	590	
45 - 49	220	109	73	96	40	2	0	0	0	540	
50 - 54	208	100	70	74	36	34	7	0	0	529	
55 - 59	166	106	67	88	56	68	44	6	0	601	
60 - 64	114	85	57	74	46	30	30	26	9	471	
65 - 69	27	26	14	25	15	10	16	5	8	146	
70 & Up	6	7	6	5	4	1	0	1	2	32	
Total	2,720	893	490	492	207	145	97	38	19	5,101	

## 3.6 Distributions of Inactive Members

## **Deferred Vested and Nonvested**

Account Balance	Vested	Non-Vested	Total
0-1,000	29	583	612
1,000-5,000	12	904	916
5,000-10,000	17	396	413
10,000-25,000	198	146	344
25,000-50,000	183	3	186
50,000-75,000	66	0	66
75,000-100,000	11	0	11
100,000+	6	0	6
Total	522	2,032	2,554

## Retirees, Beneficiaries and Disabled

Option	Service benefit	Disability benefit	Survivor benefit	All
0	3,400	201	303	3,628
1	134	14	0	280
2	83	5	0	127
3	177	17	0	258
4	179	6	0	223
5	21	2	0	23
6	11	6	0	19
7	1	0	0	2
8	1	0	0	1
Total	4,007	251	303	4,561

## **Annual Benefit**

Option	Service benefit	Disability benefit	Survivor benefit	All
0	\$ 84,843,091	\$ 2,886,500	\$ 3,460,913	\$ 91,190,504
1	2,528,749	182,667	0	2,711,416
2	1,894,588	117,333	0	2,011,921
3	3,633,361	238,317	0	3,871,678
4	4,648,030	131,227	0	4,779,257
5	545,404	15,317	0	560,721
6	227,130	50,744	0	277,875
7	30,849	0	0	30,849
8	3,709	0	0	3,709
Total	\$ 98,354,911	\$ 3,622,105	\$ 3,460,913	\$105,434,220

## 3.7 Schedule of Retirees and Beneficiaries Added/Removed From Rolls

Added to Payroll		Removed from <u>Payroll</u>		Payroll Year-End		% Increase	Average		
Plan Year	No.	Annual Allowances	<u>No.</u>	Al	Annual lowances	No.	Annual Allowances	in Annual Allowances	Annual Allowance
2009	N/A		N/A			N/A		N/A	N/A
2010	N/A		N/A			4,370		N/A	N/A
2011	373		156			4,587	\$ 98,927,501	N/A	\$ 21,567
2012	135	\$ 2,606,505	182	\$	2,793,752	4,540	\$ 98,768,933	-0.16%	\$ 21,755
2013	164	\$ 3,544,756	188	\$	2,699,920	4,516	\$ 99,629,314	0.87%	\$ 22,061
2014	313	\$ 7,711,256	140	\$	2,288,004	4,689	\$105,061,832	5.45%	\$ 22,406
2015	163	\$ 3,774,578	228	\$	3,783,237	4,624	\$105,066,268	0.00%	\$ 22,722
2016	151	\$ 3,279,162	188	\$	3,058,449	4,587	\$105,295,884	0.22%	\$ 22,955
2017	145	\$ 3,114,108	171	\$	2,978,925	4,561	\$105,434,220	0.13%	\$ 23,116

## 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

#### Interest

7.5% per annum, which includes a 2.75% allowance for inflation.

### Participant account interest crediting rate

5.0% per annum.

## **Expenses**

The rate of interest assumed is net of expenses.

## **Mortality – Healthy Lives**

Mortality tables issued by the SOA, the RP-2014 Combined Healthy Mortality Table (rolled back to 2006), projected fully generationally using projection scale MP-2015. The mortality assumption for Inactive participants receiving benefits is increased by an additional 10% to account for the higher mortality experienced by the Plan.

### **Disability Mortality**

RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table (rolled back to 2006) for disabled retired Members, projected fully generationally using projection scale MP-2015.

#### Withdrawal

Withdrawals are assumed to occur at rates based on actual experience of the retirement system. During the first five years of membership, withdrawals are assumed to occur at the following rates:

Year of	Non-charter	Charter school
Membership	school employees	employees
1 <sup>st</sup>	25.0%	35.0%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	20.0%	35.0%
$3^{rd}$	20.0%	35.0%
4 <sup>th</sup>	20.0%	25.0%
5 <sup>th</sup>	15.0%	15.0%

The rates used after the first five years of membership are shown in Table 1.

## Salary scale

Salaries are assumed to increase at the rate of 5.0% per year for the first 5 years of employment and 3.50% thereafter.

### **Disability**

Disabilities are assumed to occur at rates based on the actual experience of the retirement system. The rates used are shown in Table 3.

## 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

#### Retirement

Retirements occur at rates based on the actual experience of the retirement system. The agerelated rates used are shown in Table 2. Unless the age-related rate is greater, for those eligible to retire under the Rule of 85, it is assumed that 25% will retire when first eligible for unreduced benefits with at least 30 years of credited service.

## **Family Structure**

The probability of a participant being married and the probable number of children are based on a table constructed by the Social Security Administration, modified to reflect the experience of the retirement system. The rates used are shown in Table 4. For married participants, husbands are assumed to be 3 years older than their wives.

### **Usage of Cash-out Option**

Participants terminating in vested status are given the option of taking a refund of their accumulated participant contributions instead of a deferred retirement benefit. Active members who terminate in the future with a vested benefit are assumed to take a deferred vested annuity, unless a refund of contributions and interest is greater than the actuarial present value of their vested deferred benefit.

#### **Future Benefit Increases or Additional Benefits**

When funding is adequate, the Board may authorize cost of living adjustments (COLAs), as noted in the summary of plan provisions. This valuation assumes that no future COLAs will be awarded.

## Actuarial Method - Frozen Entry Age

The actuarial cost method used by the System is the "frozen entry age actuarial cost method." Under this method, on the initial actuarial valuation date for which the cost method is used, the annual cost accruals (individual normal costs for each participant) are determined as a level percentage of pay for each year from entry age until retirement or termination. The UFAAL was originally determined as of January 1, 1981. Entry age is determined at the date each participant would have entered the System. The sum of these individual normal costs for all active participants whose attained ages are under the assumed retirement age is the normal cost for the initial plan year. The excess of all normal costs falling due prior to the initial actuarial valuation date, accumulated with interest, over the plan assets establishes the initial Unfunded Frozen Actuarial Accrued Liability (UFAAL).

The UFAAL is only frozen in that it is not adjusted due to experience gains and losses. Instead, gains and losses are reflected through changes in the normal cost accrual rate. The UFAAL does change, increasing due to interest and additional normal costs, and decreasing due to contributions. Any changes to plan provisions or actuarial assumptions results in a change to the UFAAL. The amount of the change is determined by computing the impact in the actuarial accrued liability as of the valuation date coincident with or next following the change.

## 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Normal costs are calculated as the level percentage of pay required to fund the excess of the actuarial present value of future benefits over the sum of the actuarial value of current assets and the remaining UFAAL.

Effective January 1, 2006, UFAAL was reestablished to better reflect an appropriate relationship between the normal cost and the actuarial accrued liability.

The funding requirement for each plan year is the sum of the "normal cost contribution" (equal to the normal cost for that year), plus the "actuarial accrued liability contribution." The "actuarial accrued liability contribution" is the payment required to amortize the UFAAL over 30 years, from January 1, 2006, the date that it was reestablished.

#### Valuation of Assets

The actuarial value of assets is determined using the assumed yield method of valuing assets. Under the assumed yield asset valuation method, the prior year's actuarial value is increased at the assumed rate of return with appropriate adjustments for contributions and disbursements to produce an expected actuarial value of assets at the end of the year. The expected actuarial value is compared to the market value of assets less the expense and contingency reserve, and 20% of the difference is added to the expected actuarial value. The actuarial value of assets was "fresh-started" as of January 1, 2006 and set equal to the market value of assets as of that date.

### **Changes from the Prior Valuation**

The mortality table for non-disabled members was updated to the RP-2014 Combined Healthy Mortality Table (rolled back to 2006), projected fully generationally using projection scale MP-2015.

The mortality assumption for Inactive participants receiving benefits is increased by an additional 10% to account for the higher mortality experienced by the Plan. This uses a separate table for precommencement and post-commencement.

The mortality table for disabled members was updated to the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table (rolled back to 2006), projected fully generationally using projection scale MP-2015.

Based on a study of actual Plan experience for the 5 years ending December 31, 2015, the withdrawal assumption was revised as documented above and in Table 1.

Based on a study of actual Plan experience for the 5 years ending December 31, 2015, the retirement assumption was revised as documented in Table 2.

The Salary increase assumption was revised to 5.0% per year for the first 5 years of employment and 3.50% per year thereafter to better reflect anticipated salary increases.

## 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Based on a study of actual Plan experience for the 5 years ending December 31, 2015, the rate of return was revised to 7.5% to better reflect expected investment returns.

The impact of the above assumption changes on the Entry Age Normal Liability was an increase of \$72.7 million.

Table 1 Withdrawal Rates Annual Rates Per 1,000 Members

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
20	204.0	45	44.0
21	197.0	46	41.0
22	190.0	47	37.0
23	184.0	48	34.0
24	177.0	49	31.0
25	171.0	50	28.0
26	161.0	51	26.0
27	151.0	52	25.0
28	141.0	53	24.0
29	131.0	54	23.0
30	121.0	55	22.0
31	117.0	56	21.0
32	112.0	57	20.0
33	108.0	58	19.0
34	103.0	59	18.0
35	99.0	60	17.0
36	96.0	61	0.0
37	92.0	62	0.0
38	89.0	63	0.0
39	86.0	64	0.0
40	83.0		
41	75.0		
42	67.0		
43	59.0		
44	52.0		

# 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Table 2
Retirement Rates
Annual Rates Per 1,000 Members

Age	Rule of 85 Rate	Not Rule of 85 Rate
50-51	200.0	N/A
52-59	150.0	N/A
60	200.0	100.0
61	200.0	100.0
62	250.0	150.0
63	250.0	150.0
64	250.0	200.0
65	300.0	350.0
66	300.0	200.0
67	300.0	200.0
68	300.0	200.0
69	300.0	200.0
70 - 71	300.0	300.0
72	1,000.0	1,000.0

# 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Table 3
Disability Rates
Annual Rates Per 1,000 Members

	Rate			Rate		
Age	Males	Females	Age	Males	Females	
20	0.00	0.00	45	1.50	1.00	
21	0.00	0.00	46	1.60	1.10	
22	0.00	0.00	47	1.70	1.20	
23	0.00	0.00	48	1.80	1.30	
24	0.00	0.00	49	1.90	1.40	
25	0.00	0.00	50	2.00	1.50	
26	0.00	0.00	51	2.50	1.70	
27	0.00	0.00	52	3.00	1.90	
28	0.00	0.00	53	3.50	2.10	
29	0.00	0.00	54	4.00	2.30	
30	0.40	0.40	55	4.50	2.50	
31	0.40	0.40	56	4.70	2.60	
32	0.40	0.40	57	4.90	2.75	
33	0.40	0.40	58	5.10	2.85	
34	0.40	0.40	59	5.30	3.00	
35	0.40	0.40	60	5.50	3.25	
36	0.45	0.45	61	6.00	3.50	
37	0.50	0.50	62	6.50	3.50	
38	0.60	0.60	63	7.00	3.50	
39	0.70	0.70	64	7.50	3.50	
40	0.80	0.75	65	0.00	0.00	
41	0.95	0.80				
42	1.10	0.85				
43	1.25	0.90				
44	1.40	0.95				

# 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Table 4
Family Structure

Male	Age Female	Age of youngest child	Average number of children	Probability of being married	Probability of children if married
20	17	2	.90	.30	.50
21	18	2	.90	.35	.50
22	19	2	.98	.40	.50
23	20	2	.98	.46	.53
24	21	3	1.05	.53	.56
25	22	3	1.13	.60	.59
26	23	4	1.20	.67	.62
27	24	4	1.28	.74	.65
28	25	4	1.35	.76	.67
29	26	5	1.43	.78	.69
30	27	5	1.50	.80	.71
31	28	6	1.58	.82	.73
32	29	6	1.65	.84	.75
33	30	7	1.80	.85	.76
34	31	7	1.95	.86	.77
35	32	8	2.10	.87	.78
36	33	8	2.10	.87	.79
37	34	9	2.10	.87	.80
38	35	9	2.30	.87	.79
39	36	10	1.95	.87	.78
40	37	10	1.88	.87	.77
41	38	11	1.80	.87	.76
42	39	11	1.73	.87	.75
43	40	11	1.73	.87	.72
44	41	12	1.65	.87	.69
45	42	12	1.65	.86	.66
46	43	12	1.58	.86	.63
47	44	12	1.58	.86	.60
48	45	12	1.50	.85	.56
49	46	12	1.43	.85	.52
50	47	13	1.43	.85	.48
51	48	13	1.35	.85	.44
52	49	13	1.35	.85	.40
53	50	13	1.35	.85	.37
54	51	13	1.35	.84	.34

# 3.8 Summary of Methods and Assumptions

Table 4
Family Structure (continued)

Age		Age of	Average number	Probability of	Probability
Male	Female	youngest child	of children	being married	of children if married
55	52	13	1.28	.84	.31
56	53	13	1.28	.83	.28
57	54	13	1.28	.83	.25
58	55	13	1.28	.83	.23
59	56	13	1.20	.82	.21
60	57	13	1.20	.81	.19
61	58	13	1.20	.80	.17
62	59	13	1.20	.79	.15
63	60	13	1.20	.78	.13
64	61	13	1.20	.77	.11
65	62	13	1.13	.76	.09
66	63	13	1.13	.75	.07
67	64	13	1.13	.74	.05
68	65	13	1.13	.73	.04
69	66	13	1.05	.72	.03
70	67	13	1.05	.71	.02
71	68	13	1.05	.70	.01

### 3.9 Definition of Actuarial Terms

#### **Accrued benefit**

The benefit earned by a participant as of the date at which the determination is made payable in the form of an annual benefit commencing at normal retirement age. The accrued benefit is payable for the member's lifetime only, however if the total monthly payments at the member's death are less than contributions accumulated with interest, the remaining employee contribution balance will be paid to the member's beneficiary.

## Accumulated plan benefits

The accrued benefits and any other benefits, whether vested or not, that have been earned by the participants covered by the plan as of the date at which the determination is made. These other benefits include any death, early retirement or disability benefits provided under the plan.

### **Actuarial accrued liability**

Equal to the actuarial present value of future benefits less the present value of future annual normal costs.

### **Actuarial cost method**

The method for allocating the actuarial present value of a pension plan's benefits and expenses to various time periods. An actuarial cost method is also referred to as a funding method.

### **Actuarial gain/(loss)**

The difference between the plan's actual experience and that expected based upon a set of actuarial assumptions. A gain occurs when the experience of the plan is more favorable (in terms of cost) than the assumptions projected; a loss occurs when experience is less favorable. May also be referred to as experience gains/(losses).

### **Actuarial present value**

See present value.

#### **Actuarial valuation**

The determination, as of a valuation date, of the annual normal cost, actuarial accrued liability, actuarial value of assets and related actuarial present values for a pension plan.

#### Actuarial value of assets

The value of cash, investments and other property belonging to a pension plan determined by the actuary for the purpose of an actuarial valuation. Actuarial asset methods are generally designed to reduce fluctuations in asset value due to large variations in returns from year to year. Actuarial values are generally a smoothed market value that recognize gains and losses over time.

#### **Amortization**

The spreading of a present value or a cost over a period of years. A plan's unfunded actuarial accrued liability is amortized over a period of years.

### 3.9 Definition of Actuarial Terms

### Fiscal year

The year on which the plan sponsor maintains its financial records.

### **Funded**

Provided by plan assets. A liability is fully funded when assets exceed or equal the liability.

#### **Normal cost**

That portion of the actuarial present value of pension plan benefits and expenses which is allocated to a valuation year by the actuarial cost method.

## Normal retirement age

An age defined in the plan for purposes of establishing when a terminated participant is entitled to an accrued benefit.

#### Normal retirement benefit

The benefit payable when it commences at the normal retirement age.

### **Participant**

A person covered by a pension plan in accordance with its terms including active participants, retired participants and beneficiaries, vested terminations and vested transfers.

### Plan year

The year on which the plan maintains its financial records.

#### **Present value**

The value of an amount or series of amounts payable at various times, determined as of a given date by the application based on a particular set of actuarial assumptions. It is a single sum which reflects the time value of money and the probabilities of payment.

### Rate of return

The actual or expected investment income as a percentage of a plan's average assets.

#### **System**

Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis, Missouri.

## Unfunded actuarial accrued liability

The excess of the actuarial accrued liability over the actuarial value of assets.

#### Vested benefit

A benefit that is not forfeited if the participant terminates employment.