



Northwest Suburban Unit 90 Minutes

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 10:00 am - at Arlington Heights Senior Center

Meeting was called to order by President Diane Pfister at 10:05 am

Attendance: John Braglia, Janice Calvey, Richard Chierico, Louise Finton, Karl Gabbey, Rainy Kaplan, Bob Kaplan, Gerie Kay, Jane McCauley, Diane Pfister, Reinhard Taylor, Linda Wagner, Linda Wallin, Janette Wanner, and Carolyn White

1. Secretary's Report (*Gerie Kay*) The minutes from February 4, 2026 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report (*Reinhard Taylor*) The Treasurer's report from February was approved. We are continuing to work out details of the process using Zelle to send and receive money instead of checks or cash.

3. President's Report (*Diane Pfister*) We received a check of \$400 for being a Unit of Distinction.. We received a note from former President Mark Boumstein: "It was an honor and a privilege to have served as your past president. Thank you for your thoughtful gift card. Best wishes, Mark"

4. Vice-President's Report (*Janice Calvey*) No report

5. Events Coordinator (*Linda Wagner*)

March 21, 2026 **Medieval Times** . We have 15 paid to attend.

June 19, 2026 **Spring Luncheon** Inverness Entertainment Steel Drums

July 12, 2026 Boomers Game \$30

September 24, 2026 Legislative Luncheon

October 11, 2026 Buddy Holly Show Drury Lane

December 3, 2026 Holiday Luncheon

6. Committee Reports

Membership: (*Janette Wanner*) Total Membership 541 (470 are also State IRTA members) 501 use email and 40 use USPS mail.

Membership Recruitment: (*John Braglia*) John is continuing to speak with all District 211 and District 214 high schools to recruit and engage members.

Foundation/Scholarships: *(Louise Finton)* Lynn S. Trainer of school district 214 died April 17, 2023. and Mary Ann Kopp on September 30. Her husband Bill, who was also a teacher died June 16, 2024.

A Unit 90 cookbook for a fundraiser was suggested.

Member Benefits: *(Rich Chierico, Janice Calvey)* Rich will donate \$500 to encourage teachers to get to have a free lunch when they attend our Spring Luncheon.

A new letter from Aetna clarified that doctors will accept medicare PPO .

Communications/Website: *(Reinhard Taylor).* No report

Volunteer Services: *(Carolyn White)*

*Kids Above All (baby bundles) 10am-12pm on May 27, 2026
and July 15 backpacks*

Newsletter: *(Jane McCauley abs.)* Our next Newsletter is May 6. Deadline for submissions is April 30.

Legislative: *(Karl-Heinz Gabbey)* **HB 4673:** Reintroduction of Tier 2 benefit enhancements

Renewal: Retirees as substitute teachers 120 days or 600 hours extension through 2028

SB 3413: – Requires CMS to employ one or more persons to take phone calls regarding health insurance questions by annuitants.

TRS Update: *(Bob Lyons, Rainy Kaplan)* **Assets under Management:** \$83.095 billion (January 31, 2026) and **Funding Level:** 47.7% (as of June 30, 2025)

Member Services: 135,436 annuitants receive monthly benefits of \$721 million (as of December 2025).

The Board of Trustees will hold their annual retreat on April 23 and 24 in Springfield. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be June 11-12 at the NIU campus in Naperville. The Governor has appointed a new member – Kader Sakkaria. The Board of Trustees is now fully staffed for the first time in a long while.

Facebook Coordinator: *(Linda Wallin)* Send announcements and pictures to Linda for posting. lwallin@dwna.net.

Constitution/ Bylaws: (Bob Kaplan) Need for clarifications in section 2 of Article X regarding contested elections and Executive Board qualifications to vote if necessary and makeup of “nominations committee” necessary timeline.

Other Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Meeting Schedule for 2026: First Wednesday of each month (except July and December).
Newsletters in February, May, August and November

Next Meeting on April 4, 2026 at the Arlington Heights Senior Center