

# Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association

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Duluth, Minnesota



Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2005

**DULUTH TEACHERS' RETIREMENT  
FUND ASSOCIATION**

**COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

**YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005**

**Report Prepared by:  
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Ron Warner**

**Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association  
625 East Central Entrance  
Duluth, Minnesota 55811  
(218) 722-2894**

*Cover art provided by Dale C. Hagen, DTRFA Retiree*

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# Certificate of Achievement

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## Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Presented to

Duluth Teachers'  
Retirement Fund Association,  
Minnesota

For its Comprehensive Annual  
Financial Report  
for the Fiscal Year Ended  
June 30, 2004

A Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to government units and public employee retirement systems whose comprehensive annual financial reports (CAFRs) achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.



*Nancy L. Zjelle*

President

*Jeffrey R. Emer*

Executive Director

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# Letter of Transmittal

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## ***Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association***

625 East Central Entrance · Duluth, Minnesota 55811  
Phone (218) 722-2894 · Fax (218) 722-8208 · [www.dtrfa.org](http://www.dtrfa.org)

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**J. Michael Stoffel, Executive Director**

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December 2, 2005

Board of Trustees and Members of the Association  
Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association  
625 East Central Entrance  
Duluth, MN 55811

Dear Trustees and Members of the Association:

I am pleased to present this ***Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*** of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association (DTRFA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005. This report is intended to provide you with financial, investment, actuarial, and statistical information regarding the pension programs administered by the DTRFA. Responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of this report rests solely with the management and staff of the Association.

The report consists of five sections:

- The **Introductory Section** contains general information about the retirement system;
- The **Financial Section** includes the independent auditor's report, management's discussion and analysis, the financial statements and related notes, and supplementary schedules;
- The **Investment Section** contains summary information about the DTRFA investment policies, portfolio holdings, and rate of return;
- The **Actuarial Section** contains the independent actuary's certification letter, a summary of assumptions, results of the annual actuarial valuation, and summaries of plan provisions;
- The **Statistical Section** includes data pertaining to revenues, expenses and benefit payments of the Association, and also contains historical information of the Association.

### **History and Overview**

The DTRFA was established in 1910 to provide retirement coverage to eligible employees of the Duluth Public Schools. Eligible employees include the licensed, certified staff of Duluth Public Schools, certain staff at Lake Superior College hired prior to July 1, 1995 who elected to continue membership in the DTRFA, and DTRFA staff. Since 1964, the DTRFA has also administered a tax

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## Letter of Transmittal - Continued

sheltered 403(b) program for Association members. The Association is governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees, which sets policy and oversees operations consistent with applicable laws. The Executive Director is the administrative officer for the Association. There are several additional levels of oversight of the operations of the pension plan: the Office of the State Auditor conducts the annual financial and compliance audit and performs annual investment return analysis; Eikill & Schilling, a local accounting firm, performs quarterly audit procedures; Jeffrey Slocum & Associates, the investment consultant for the Association, reports to the Board after each calendar quarter regarding investment performance and compliance with investment law and policy; the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement conducts additional analysis and comparisons.

### **Financial Information and Controls**

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with Statement Number 25, Statement Number 40, and other generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The Office of the State Auditor has audited the financial statements. Their opinion is shown on page 9. An operating budget for administrative expenses is approved by the Board of Trustees each fiscal year. A system of internal controls is maintained and reviewed by the State Auditor and is designed to ensure reasonable assurance for the safekeeping of assets and the reliability of financial records. The State Auditor, during the conduct of the audit, reported no material weakness in internal control.

A summary of financial highlights, an overview of the financial statements, and an analysis of net assets and related additions and deductions is presented in the management's discussion and analysis beginning on page 10.

### **Investment Activities**

The DTRFA employs a well diversified approach for the investment of fund assets. The Association's investment outlook is long-term, allowing the portfolio to take advantage of the favorable risk-return characteristics of equities by placing more emphasis on this asset class. For the 12 months ended June 30, 2005, the DTRFA achieved a time-weighted rate of return, after all fees, of 8.7% for the "Basic Retirement Fund". Over the five-year period ended June 30, 2005, the DTRFA achieved a rate of return of 2.1%. For the tax shelter plan, investment returns for the year were 8.3% in the equity account, 8.9% in the bond account, and 1.7% in the money market account.

### **Funding and Financing Status**

An important measure of the health of a pension fund is the funding ratio. This ratio is the measure of total actuarial value of assets compared to total actuarial accrued liability. The higher the funding ratio, the greater the level of investment income potential. Additionally, a higher ratio gives members a greater degree of assurance that their pensions are secure. According to the actuarial valuation report for the year ended June 30, 2005, the DTRFA had a funding ratio of 86% compared to a ratio of 92% at June 30, 2004. Although the funding ratio has declined from the previous fiscal year, the current ratio of 86% is very strong relative to other teacher pension funds in the nation. More detailed information and analysis of the funding and financing of the retirement plan is included in the management's discussion and analysis and in the Actuarial Section of this report.

### **National Recognition**

Finally, I am proud to announce that in 2005, the DTRFA received recognition from a national organization. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the DTRFA for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. This was the ninth

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## Letter of Transmittal – Continued

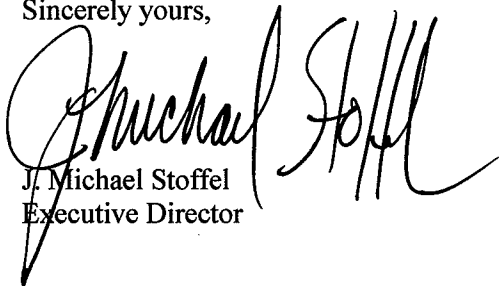
consecutive year the DTRFA has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, we must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

### **Acknowledgments**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to express my gratitude to the staff of the DTRFA, our advisors and consultants, and the many people who have worked so diligently to assure the successful operation and financial soundness of the Association. We will continue to work for our members, retirees and beneficiaries in an effort to provide adequate benefits on a fiscally sound basis.

Sincerely yours,



J. Michael Stoffel  
Executive Director

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# Board of Trustees

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## President

**Jon Vomachka**

Elected, Active Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2005

## Vice President

**Michael Zwak**

Elected, Active Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2006

## Treasurer

**Paul Rigstad**

Elected, Retired Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2007

**Laura Condon**

School Board  
Representative

**Tom Pearson**

Elected, Active Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2007

**Kerry Louks**

Elected, Active Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2006

**Mavis Whiteman**

Elected, Retired Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2006

**Richard Pearson**

Superintendent's Designee

**Dean Herold**

Elected, Active Trustee  
Term Expires Nov., 2005



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# Administrative Organization

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## Administrative Staff

J. Michael Stoffel  
*Executive Director*

Susan Ellefson  
*Retirement Technician/Secretary*

Marie Chapinski  
*Retirement Technician*

Ron Warner  
*Retirement Technician/Accountant*

Suzanne Anderson  
*Information Officer*

## Professional Services

Johnson, Killen & Seiler, P.A.  
*Legal Services*  
Duluth, Minnesota

Hewitt Associates  
*Actuarial Services*  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Eikill & Schilling  
*Accounting/Auditing*  
Duluth, Minnesota

Segal Company  
*Actuarial Services*  
Englewood, Colorado

Office of the State Auditor  
*Auditing Services*  
Duluth, Minnesota

## Investment Advisors

Metropolitan West Asset Management  
Los Angeles, California

Disciplined Growth Investors  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Western Asset Management Co.  
Pasadena, California

Wellington Management Co.  
Boston, Massachusetts

Julius Baer  
New York, NY

## Investment Consultant

Jeffrey Slocum & Associates  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# Independent Auditor's Report



PATRICIA ANDERSON  
STATE AUDITOR

## STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

SUITE 500  
525 PARK STREET  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55103-2139

(651) 296-2551 (Voice)  
(651) 296-4755 (Fax)  
state.auditor@state.mn.us (E-Mail)  
1-800-627-3529 (Relay Service)

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Trustees  
Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the plan net assets of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association as of June 30, 2005, and the changes in plan net assets for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and accompanying financial information listed as required supplementary information in the table of contents are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying financial information listed as other supplementary information in the table of contents is presented for additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section and statistical tables have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

  
PATRICIA ANDERSON  
STATE AUDITOR

  
GREG HIERLINGER, CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

End of Fieldwork: September 29, 2005



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# Management's Discussion & Analysis

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The following overview is a discussion and analysis of the financial activities of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association (DTRFA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005. Its purpose is to provide explanations and insights into the information presented in the financial statements, notes to the financial statements, and required supplementary information.

## Financial Highlights

- Net assets in the defined benefit plan, which represent funds available to pay current and future pension benefits, increased by \$8.6 million during the fiscal year to \$267 million. This 3.3% increase in net assets was primarily due to investment performance. Net assets in the defined contribution plan increased by \$2.7 million, a 7.5% increase.
- Total additions in the defined benefit plan were \$27 million which was 40% lower than the amount in the previous fiscal year. The decrease was primarily due to investment experience. In fiscal year 2004 the investment return was 17.9%; in fiscal year 2005 the return was 8.7%. Although the decrease compared to the prior year is dramatic, the return for the year exceeded the 8.5% actuarially assumed rate of return. Similarly, due primarily to investment returns, total additions in the defined contribution plan decreased by \$3.7 million, a decrease of 33%.
- The defined benefit plan recorded an 8.7% rate of return for the year, net of fees. The DTRFA annualized net returns over two, three, seven, and ten years of 13.2%, 9.9%, 6.6%, and 9.2% respectively, are all in the top third of public pension funds in the nation. For the defined contribution plan, returns for the last fiscal year were 8.9% in the Bond Fund, 8.3% in the Equity Fund, and 1.7% in the Money Market Fund.
- The actuarial funding ratio, a comparison of the actuarial value of assets to the actuarial accrued liability, was 86% at June 30, 2005.

Although the funding ratio declined from the 92% level of the previous year, the fund remains very strong and has a funding ratio among the highest of all public pension funds in the country.

## Overview of the Financial Statements

The discussion and analysis below is intended to assist the reader in better understanding the purpose and meaning of each of the key components of the financial statements, which are comprised of the following:

1. The *Statement of Plan Net Assets* presents information about assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets held in trust for pension benefits*. The level of net assets reflects the resources available to pay benefits to members when due. Over time, increases and decreases in net assets measure whether the financial position of the DTRFA is improving or deteriorating.
2. The *Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets* presents the results of fund operations during the year and discloses the additions and deductions from plan net assets. It supports the net change that has occurred to the prior year's net asset value on the statement of plan net assets.
3. The *Notes to the Financial Statements* provide additional information that is essential to gain a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements. The notes provide important and detail information about the DTRFA, the various pension trust funds, and the statements themselves.
4. The *Required Supplementary Information* consists of data on the funded status of the plan, the status of contributions from the employers and the State of Minnesota, and information pertaining to actuarial methods and assumptions. Also included as *Other Supplementary Information* are schedules of investment and administrative expenses, and information about cash receipts and disbursements.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Financial Analysis

The following table shows condensed information from the Statement of Plan Net Assets:

	Plan Net Assets			
	2005	2004	Change	Percent
Cash & Investments	\$330,655,657	\$317,977,044	\$12,678,613	4.0%
Receivables	4,081,850	4,123,667	(41,817)	(1.0)%
Securities Lending Collateral	45,552,851	62,975,163	(17,422,312)	(27.7)%
Fixed Assets	378,077	392,925	(14,848)	(3.8)%
Total Assets	380,668,435	385,468,799	(4,800,364)	(1.3)%
Liabilities	(75,038,989)	(91,051,905)	16,012,916	(17.6)%
<b>Plan Net Assets</b>	<b>\$305,629,446</b>	<b>\$294,416,894</b>	<b>\$11,212,552</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

The value of plan net assets increased by over \$11 million during fiscal year 2005. Investment returns in the domestic and international equity markets were strong during the year, and as a result, additions to plan net assets increased. The decrease in liabilities at year end is due primarily to the decrease in securities lending activity compared to the previous year end.

The following two tables show condensed information from the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets:

	Additions to Plan Net Assets			
	2005	2004	Change	Percent
Member & Employer Contributions	\$10,533,369	\$12,750,698	\$(2,217,329)	(17.4)%
Total Investment Income	24,393,667	43,805,382	(19,411,715)	(44.3)%
Other	10,821	168,069	(157,248)	(93.6)%
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>\$34,937,857</b>	<b>\$56,724,149</b>	<b>\$(21,786,292)</b>	<b>(38.4)%</b>

Employee and employer contribution rates in the defined benefit plan remained the same as the previous year. The decline in contributions compared to the previous year was due to fewer voluntary contributions and transfer into the defined contribution plan. Investment income was slightly above the actuarially assumed return during the year but the 8.7% return for fiscal year 2005 was less than the 17.9% return of the previous year.

	Deductions from Plan Net Assets			
	2005	2004	Change	Percent
Benefit Payments	\$18,290,640	\$17,347,576	\$943,064	5.4%
Withdrawals & Transfers	4,852,678	7,930,912	(3,078,234)	(38.8)%
Contribution Refunds	77,750	58,760	18,990	32.3%
Administrative Expense	504,237	513,902	(9,665)	(1.9)%
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<b>\$23,725,305</b>	<b>\$25,851,150</b>	<b>\$(2,125,845)</b>	<b>(8.2)%</b>
<b>Increase in Plan Net Assets</b>	<b>\$11,212,552</b>	<b>\$30,872,999</b>	<b>\$(19,660,447)</b>	<b>(63.7)%</b>

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## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

The primary factor for lower total deductions is fewer voluntary withdrawals and transfers out of the defined contribution plan payments. Benefit payments were higher because the total number of retirees grew during the year and benefit payments to all eligible retirees were increased by a 2.0% cost of living adjustment on January 1, 2005. Administrative expenses were 2% lower than the previous year.

### **Actuarial Funded Status, Financial Position, and Economic Factors**

The funding objective of the DTRFA defined benefit plan is to meet long-term benefit promises through prudent investment of fund assets, and contributions which remain approximately level as a percent of member payroll over decades of time. Historical information relating to progress in meeting this objective is presented on pages 22-23. The DTRFA continues to maintain a long-term investment approach consistent with the long-term nature of plan obligations.

As of June 30, 2005, the funded ratio of the defined benefit plan was 86%, a decrease from the 92% level a year earlier. The funded ratio is derived by comparing the "actuarial value" of the plan to the total liabilities of the plan. State law requires that a five-year smoothing method be used to determine actuarial value of the fund. Most public pension funds use a smoothing technique to value their assets for actuarial purposes. This is done in order to avoid significant swings in the actuarial value of assets from one year to the next. During fiscal year 2005, this smoothing technique resulted in the recognition of \$16.9 million in deferred investment losses from fiscal years 2001 through 2003. That represents 6.5% of total assets at the beginning of the year. Eventually the actuarial losses from investment experience for the years 2001 through 2003 will be realized through the actuarial smoothing method. During fiscal 2005, the fund also experienced some

small actuarial gains due to demographic factors but the gains are 0.8% of total liabilities in the fund, therefore had little impact on funding.

The actuarial valuation report for the fiscal year also notes that current contribution rates are not sufficient for the plan to achieve full, 100% funding by the year 2032, the date required for the plan to be fully funded. The total current contribution rate of 11.29% (5.5% employee and 5.79% employer) is 2.87% lower than the actuarially required contribution rate of 14.16%. As explained in the previous paragraph, negative investment returns in previous years continue to work through the five-year smoothing calculations and also have an impact on the determination of contribution sufficiency. Although this development regarding the actuarial condition of the plan is not welcomed, it should not be considered a significant problem. The contribution deficiency at this point is small and manageable. Investment and other actuarial gains in future years could improve the actuarial funding ratio and eliminate the contribution deficiency.

In summary, although the fund experienced a decrease in the funding ratio compared with the previous year, the DTRFA remains financially among the strongest teacher retirement plans in the nation.

### **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide the Board of Trustees, members, retirees, employers, and other users with a general overview of the financial activities of the DTRFA and to demonstrate the Association's accountability for the funds under its control. Questions concerning any information provided in this report, or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association, 625 East Central Entrance, Duluth, MN 55811.

# Statement of Plan Net Assets

June 30, 2005

	Pension Trust Funds				Total
	Defined Benefit Plan	Defined Contribution Plan			
	Basic Fund	Bond Fund	Equity Fund	Money Mkt Fund	
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash	\$63,795	\$38,933	\$70,245	\$20,211	\$193,184
Short-term investments	38,823,253		2,291,781	4,677,321	45,792,355
Total cash and short-term investments	38,887,048	38,933	2,362,026	4,697,532	45,985,539
Receivables					
Member contributions	430,536				430,536
Employer contributions	453,237				453,237
Interest and dividends	957,105		42,193		999,298
Stock and bond sales	2,182,555				2,182,555
Other	16,224				16,224
Total receivables	4,039,657		42,193		4,081,850
Investments, at fair value					
U.S. Government obligations	50,027,565		1,031,363		51,058,928
Corporate and other bonds	107,214,580	10,776,044	7,915,139		125,905,763
Common stock	92,414,518		11,993,300		104,407,818
Preferred stock	916,908				916,908
Real estate mortgage loans	963,946				963,946
Investment in real estate	1,416,755				1,416,755
Total investments	252,954,272	10,776,044	20,939,802		284,670,118
Invested securities lending collateral	43,730,695		1,822,156		45,552,851
Properties, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation of \$282,364	363,827	4,560	7,125	2,565	378,077
Total assets	339,975,499	10,819,537	25,173,302	4,700,097	380,668,435
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts payable	230,544				230,544
Securities lending liabilities	43,730,695		1,822,156		45,552,851
Stock and bond purchases	28,630,704		519,718		29,150,422
Deferred contributions		23,420	72,983	8,769	105,172
Total liabilities	72,591,943	23,420	2,414,857	8,769	75,038,989
<b>Net assets held in trust for pension benefits (a schedule of funding progress is presented on page 20)</b>	<b>\$267,383,556</b>	<b>\$10,796,117</b>	<b>\$22,758,445</b>	<b>\$4,691,328</b>	<b>\$305,629,446</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Statement of Changes in Plan Net Assets

For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

	Pension Trust Funds				Total
	Defined Benefit Plan	Defined Contribution Plan			
	Basic Fund	Bond Fund	Equity Fund	Money Mkt Fund	
<b>Additions</b>					
Contributions					
Employer	\$2,845,684				\$2,845,684
Plan members' deposits & transfers	2,924,264	\$1,113,240	\$2,096,927	\$1,553,254	7,687,685
Total contributions	5,769,948	1,113,240	2,096,927	1,553,254	10,533,369
Investment activities income					
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	14,888,660	393,376	1,406,499		16,688,535
Interest	5,659,648	87	436,729	84,192	6,180,656
Dividends	1,921,020	519,764	111,904		2,552,688
Rental income (net)	161,919				161,919
Total investment activities income (loss)	22,631,247	913,227	1,955,132	84,192	25,583,798
Less investment expense	(1,169,704)	(7,065)	(135,592)	(817)	(1,313,178)
Net investment activities income (loss)	21,461,543	906,162	1,819,540	83,375	24,270,620
Securities lending					
Securities lending income	164,407		11,345		175,752
Less securities lending expense	(49,305)		(3,400)		(52,705)
Net income from securities lending	115,102		7,945		123,047
Total net investment income (loss)	21,576,645	906,162	1,827,485	83,375	24,393,667
Other income	10,345		476		10,821
Total Additions	27,356,938	2,019,402	3,924,888	1,636,629	34,937,857
<b>Deductions</b>					
Benefits to participants					
Retirement	16,907,619				16,907,619
Disability	224,027				224,027
Survivor	1,158,994				1,158,994
Contribution refunds	77,750				77,750
Plan members' withdrawals & transfers		1,171,212	2,389,979	1,291,487	4,852,678
Total benefits, refunds & withdrawals	18,368,390	1,171,212	2,389,979	1,291,487	23,221,068
Administrative expenses	436,507	23,045	32,349	12,336	504,237
Total Deductions	18,804,897	1,194,257	2,422,328	1,303,823	23,725,305
Net increase (decrease)	8,552,041	825,145	1,502,560	332,806	11,212,552
Net assets held in trust for pension benefits					
- Beginning of year	258,831,515	9,970,972	21,255,885	4,358,522	294,416,894
- End of year	\$267,383,556	\$10,796,117	\$22,758,445	\$4,691,328	\$305,629,446

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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# Notes to the Financial Statements

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## NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Organization

The Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association (Association) was created in 1910 to provide retirement and other specified benefits for its members pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapters 354A and 356. The Association membership consists of eligible employees of Independent School District 709, eligible employees of Lake Superior College (formerly employed by Independent School District 709), and the employees of the Association. The Association is governed by a nine-member board of trustees.

### Financial Reporting Entity

The Association's financial statements include the Basic Fund, a defined benefit plan, and the three funds in the defined contribution plan – the Bond Fund, Equity Fund, and Money Market Fund. These plans are presented as pension trust funds in the financial statements. The Association's financial statements include all plans for which it is financially accountable. The Association is not included as a component unit of another financial reporting entity.

### Basis of Accounting

The Association's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Additions are recorded in the accounting period when they are earned and become measurable and deductions are recorded when the liability is incurred. Member and employer contributions are recorded as revenues when due, pursuant to formal commitments, as well as statutory or contractual requirements. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

### Deposits

Minnesota Statutes, Section 356A.06, Subd. 8a authorizes the Association to deposit its cash and to invest in money market accounts and certificates of deposit in financial institutions designated by the Association's Board of Trustees. Minnesota statutes require that all of the Association's deposits be covered by insurance, surety bond, or collateral.

### Investments

Minnesota Statutes, Sections 354A.08, 356A.06, Subd. 7 and the Association's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws designate authorized investment types and amounts. The Articles of Incorporation have adopted Minnesota Statute Chapter 501B, which specifies that investments are governed primarily by an investment authority known as the "prudent person rule." The prudent person rule establishes a standard for all fiduciaries, which includes anyone that has authority with respect to the Association.

Investments are reported at fair value. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates fair value. Securities traded on an exchange are valued at the last reported sales price at current exchange rates. Mortgages are valued on the basis of future principal and interest payments, and are discounted at prevailing interest rates for similar instruments. Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value.

Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments includes net unrealized and realized gains and losses.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

There are no investments in, loans to, or leases with parties related to the Association.

### Receivables

Receivables are recognized in the period in which amounts are due pursuant to formal commitments as well as contractual requirements. At June 30, 2005, receivables consisted of contributions owed by members and employers, interest and dividends from investments, amounts due from the sales of stocks and bonds where the trade was initiated prior to June 30, 2005, but settled at a later date, and variation margins from futures contracts.

### Liabilities

Liabilities for benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. At June 30, 2005, liabilities consisted principally of investment management fees, obligations to return securities lending collateral, member deposits in the defined contribution plan which will be credited to the members' accounts after the computation of the monthly unit value, and obligations for the purchase of investments where the trade was initiated prior to June 30, 2005, but settled at a later date.



# Notes - Continued

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

### Risk Management

The Association is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. To cover its potential liabilities, the Association purchases commercial insurance. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year, and there were no insurance claims or settlements in the past three fiscal years.

### Properties

Land, land improvements, building, and furniture and fixtures are stated at cost. Depreciation is computed over the estimated useful lives of the properties using the straight-line method.

A summary of properties at June 30, 2005, is as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net</u>
Assets not Depreciated:				
Land		\$35,540		\$35,540
Depreciable Assets:				
Land				
Improvements	7-15 yrs.	50,326	\$22,456	27,870
Buildings	15-30 yrs.	397,388	106,701	290,687
Furniture and fixtures	5-7 yrs.	<u>177,187</u>	<u>153,207</u>	<u>23,980</u>
Totals		<u>\$660,441</u>	<u>\$282,364</u>	<u>\$378,077</u>

## NOTE 2. DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT RISK DISCLOSURES

### Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Association's deposits may not be returned. The deposits are held in one institution with a balance of up to \$100,000 insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). As required by Minnesota statutes, the Association's deposits in excess of the FDIC limit are covered by collateral.

At June 30, 2005 the Association had cash deposits totaling \$193,184, all of which was covered by insurance and collateral.

### Investments

The following table shows the investments of the Association by type at June 30, 2005:

#### Short-term investments

Commercial paper	\$5,912,155
Commingled investment funds	13,642,786
Repurchase agreements	15,600,000
Government agency discounted notes	10,637,414

#### Investments held by the Association or its agent

Commingled international stock fund	31,841,417
Commingled domestic equity fund	5,073,796
Domestic equities	44,660,934
Domestic preferred stock	916,908
Asset backed securities	34,543,646
Commercial mortgage backed	2,497,096
Corporate bonds	43,865,336
Government bonds	2,296,010
Government bonds – stripped	129,983
Government agency bonds	28,412,132
Mortgage backed securities	28,113,048
Commingled bond fund	15,680,460
Real estate	1,416,755
Mortgage loans	963,946

#### Invested collateral on securities loaned

Commercial paper	1,186,400
Commingled investment funds	26,941,352
Repurchase agreements	639,389
Corporate bonds	16,785,710

#### Investments held by broker-dealers under securities lending program

Corporate bonds	1,206,177
Government bonds	12,824,972
Government bonds – stripped	842,902
Government agency bonds	6,552,929
Domestic equities	<u>22,831,671</u>

Total investments \$376,015,324

#### Amounts from Statement of Plan Net Assets:

Short-term investments	\$45,792,355
Investments	284,670,118
Invested securities lending collateral	<u>45,552,851</u>

Total investments \$376,015,324

# Notes - Continued

## 2. Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures (cont.)

### Credit Risk – Debt Securities

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations to the Association. The Association limits credit risk by requiring debt securities investment managers to meet the following requirements:

- Total portfolio quality must be maintained at a minimum overall rating of “A”.
- No securities may be held that have a rating below “BBB” without Board of Trustees approval.
- “BBB” rated securities may not exceed 15% of an investment manager’s portfolio.
- Asset-backed or collateralized mortgage obligations will be evaluated based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Flow Uncertainty Index (FLUX) rating where that test is available. No portfolio holding may have a FLUX rating greater than 15. This FLUX limitation does not apply to U.S. Treasury securities or to corporate securities if the rating is unavailable.
- The average quality rating of commercial paper and money market securities in the portfolio will be at least “A1/P1”.

As shown in the table below, the value of below investment grade debt securities is \$9,967,804 or 5.3% of the debt portfolio.

Quality Rating	
AAA	\$50,654,275
AA+	1,337,798
AA	16,865,862
AA-	2,231,652
A+	6,688,769
A	12,664,690
A-	3,399,527
BBB+	3,189,503
BBB	5,446,376
BBB-	4,516,757
BB+	5,197,445
BB	4,255,470
B	514,889
Not rated	<u>8,942,750</u>
Total credit risk debt securities	125,905,763
U.S. Government and agency securities	<u>61,696,342</u>
Total debt securities	<u>\$187,602,105</u>

### Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of a failure of the counterparty, the Association will not be able to recover the value of the investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At June 30, 2005 the Association had no custodial credit risk because all investment securities were registered in the name of the Association and were held in the possession of the Association’s custodial bank, Wells Fargo N.A.

### Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be attributed to the magnitude of the Association’s investment in a single holding. The Association limits this risk by maintaining diversified portfolios using the following guidelines:

- No more than 6% of any portfolio may be invested in any one corporate issuer.
- Mortgage obligations and non-agency mortgage backed pass-through securities are limited to 25% of the total market value of the portfolio.
- Rule 144a securities are limited to 20% of the portfolio.
- Foreign bonds are limited to 20% of the portfolio.
- There is no limit on U.S. Treasury and U.S. government agency mortgage-collateralized securities.
- No equity investment may exceed 5% of the total outstanding shares of any company.

At June 30, 2005 there were no single issuer investments that exceeded the above guidelines.

### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Association limits this risk using the following guidelines:

- The market value weighted average expected maturity of the bond portfolio shall not exceed 15 years.
- The volatility of returns for the fixed income component should be controlled so that the annualized standard deviation of quarterly returns does not exceed 130% of the same measure for the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index.
- The average effective modified duration of each bond portfolio must be between 75% and 125% of the effective duration of the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index.

# Notes - Continued

## 2. Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures (cont.)

- Asset-backed or collateralized mortgage obligations will be classified as having a "high risk" if they have an average life greater than 10 years and duration greater than 5.6 years. Asset-backed or collateralized mortgage backed securities meeting the definition of high risk will be limited to no more than 10%, at market value, of the manager's portfolio.

Duration is a measure of a debt investment's exposure to fair value changes arising from changes in interest rates. Effective duration uses the present value of cash flows, weighted for those cash flows as a percentage of the investment's full price.

At June 30, 2005 the index range required by the Association for bond managers is 3.15 years to 5.25 years based on a Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index of 4.2 years at June 30, 2005.

The Association's bond portfolios were within the required range. The Basic Fund bond portfolio had a duration of 3.77 and the Bond Fund portfolio had a duration of 4.09 at June 30, 2005. The overall duration for all fixed income investments is shown below. The overall weighted average duration is lower than the range specified above because the Association's S&P 500 enhanced index portfolios contain securities that have an average duration of less than one year.

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Effective Weighted Duration (Years)</u>
Asset backed securities	\$34,543,646	0.24
Commercial mortgage backed	2,497,096	3.46
Corporate bonds	45,071,513	2.64
Government bonds	15,120,982	6.46
Government bonds - stripped	972,885	17.99
Government agency bonds	34,965,061	1.71
Government agency discounted notes	10,637,414	0.12
Mortgage backed securities	28,113,048	.39
Commingled bond fund	<u>15,680,460</u>	<u>3.46</u>
Total debt securities	<u>\$187,602,105</u>	<u>2.01</u>

## Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that changes in currency exchange rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment.

State law limits certain investments to a total portfolio limit of no more than 35% of the market value of the portfolio. International equities, international bonds and other investments are included in this category.

The Association's investment policies require international equity managers to invest at least 80% of the portfolio in large capitalization stocks and no more than 20% of the portfolio in small capitalization stocks. The policies also require bond managers to invest no more than 20% of the portfolio in issues of the foreign bond sector (defined as securities whose payments are based on foreign interest rates.)

The Association's exposure to foreign currency risk is presented in the following table (in U.S. Dollars):

<u>Currency</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Equity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Australian Dollar	\$73,698	\$1,133,295	\$1,206,993
Bulgarian Lev		7,023	7,023
Canadian Dollar	583,158	362,880	946,038
Swiss Franc		1,868,240	1,868,240
Czech Koruna		486,536	486,536
Danish Krone		327,446	327,446
European Union Euro	3,250,171	11,222,139	14,472,310
British Pound	1,076,009	3,611,023	4,687,032
Hong Kong Dollar		161,787	161,787
Hungarian Forint		698,411	698,411
Indonesian Rupiah		70,332	70,332
Japanese Yen	5,885	4,099,966	4,105,851
Lithuanian Litas		9,434	9,434
Mexican Peso		171,441	171,441
Norwegian Krone		869,686	869,686
New Zealand Dollar		61,292	61,292
Phillipine Peso		10,763	10,763
Polish Zloty	18,637	1,255,473	1,274,110
Romanian Leu		177,704	177,704
South African Rand		110,161	110,161
Turkish Lira		942,291	942,291
Swedish Krona	<u>50,509</u>	<u>1,514,637</u>	<u>1,565,146</u>
Total securities subject to foreign currency risk	<u>\$5,058,067</u>	<u>\$29,171,960</u>	<u>\$34,230,027</u>

# Notes - Continued

## 2. Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosures (cont.)

### Securities Lending

Minnesota Statutes and the investment policies of the Association permit securities lending transactions – loans of securities to broker-dealers and other approved entities for collateral with a simultaneous agreement to return the collateral for the same securities in the future. Securities on loan include U.S. Government securities, corporate and other bonds, and common stocks. The Association's investment custodian acts as its agent in lending securities for cash collateral at 102% of the value of the securities loaned plus accrued income. The contract with the custodian requires them to indemnify the Association if the borrowers fail to return the securities. Securities on loan are recorded as investments on the Statement of Plan Net Assets and the corresponding liability is recorded for the market value of the collateral received. At year-end, the Association had no credit risk exposure to borrowers because the amounts the Association owes the borrowers exceeds the amounts the borrowers owe the Association. The securities on loan at year-end had a market value of \$44,851,651 and the market value of the collateral received for the securities on loan was \$45,552,851.

All securities loans can be terminated on demand by either the Association or the borrower. Loan terms are open-ended and are negotiated on a daily basis. Collateral received is invested in various types of short-term securities and short-term investment pools. Short-term investment pools have a daily weighted-average maturity of six to twenty days. In addition to open-ended loans, loans with a stated term to maturity may be made, in which case the maturity of securities loaned is matched with the term to maturity of the investment of the cash collateral.

### Derivative Investments

The Association utilizes futures contracts as part of an S&P 500 enhanced indexing strategy. That strategy is designed to provide excess returns relative to the index utilizing a combination of S&P 500 futures contracts that provide near perfect tracking to the S&P 500, along with a short-term, low duration fixed income portfolio. The actual dollars invested in the enhanced cash portfolio approximately equal the notional value of the S&P 500 futures contracts held (i.e. no leverage is employed.)

Upon entering into a futures contract, each party is required to deposit with the broker an amount, referred to as an initial margin, equal to a fixed dollar amount per futures contract, as determined by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. In lieu of a cash initial margin, the broker holds U.S. Government securities with a value of approximately 6% of the face value of the futures contracts on behalf of the Association as collateral. Subsequent cash flows,

referred to as variation margins, are received or paid each day by each party equal to the daily fluctuations in the fair value of the contracts. The contract value is based on quoted market prices, which will equal the value of the S&P 500 Index at the expiration of the contract. At June 30, 2005, the Basic Fund held a long position in 275 S&P 500 futures contracts and the Equity Fund held a long position in 38 S&P 500 futures contracts. Although these contracts are scheduled to mature on a given date, the strategy "rolls" the contracts to maintain exposure to the S&P 500 Index. The total face value of the contracts at June 30, 2005 was \$82,190,625 for the Basic Fund and \$10,639,950 for the Equity Fund.

S&P 500 futures contracts are traded on a large well-capitalized exchange that has limited counterparty risk. This is because the futures exchange and the exchange's clearing corporation act as the counterparty for each trade. If an investor defaults on his obligation to the futures exchange, several layers of protection exist for the other investors, including: the initial margin deposit; the capital of the clearing broker (or clearing member) who opened the defaulted position; and the clearing corporation which maintains surplus funds, additional capital in the form of security deposits from the clearing members, and guaranteed bank lines. Finally, if all of these protections are insufficient, a very unlikely prospect, the primary capital of all 80 clearing members totaling almost \$31 billion is pledged to support the exchange.

### NOTE 3. DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN

There are three participating employers in the plan. The plan is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

#### General

The Association administers a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan covering all licensed teachers and administrators of Independent School District 709, certain employees of Lake Superior College (former employees of Independent School District 709), and the employees of the Association. At June 30, 2005, membership consisted of:

Retirees and beneficiaries receiving benefits	1,153
Terminated plan members entitled to, but not yet receiving benefits	951
Active plan members	1,164
Total	3,268

# Notes - Continued

## 3. Defined Benefit Plan (cont.)

### Pension Benefits

Association members may be eligible for benefits under three different plans depending on year of hire. Members in all three plans are covered by Social Security.

Old Plan – Covers Association members hired prior to July 1, 1981. Normal retirement benefits are earned at age 60, or if age plus service totals 90. Retirement benefits vest after 10 years or at age 60. The annual normal retirement benefit is equal to 1.45% of the member's high five-year average salary multiplied by the number of years of credited service. Early retirement benefits are available at age 55 with 10 or more years of credited service with a .25% per month early retirement deduction under age 60. Old plan members may elect Tier I or Tier II plans if they produce a higher annual retirement benefit.

Tier I Plan – Covers Association members hired or rehired after June 30, 1981, and before July 1, 1989. Normal retirement benefits are earned at age 65 or with 30 plus years of service over age 62, or if age plus service totals 90. Retirement benefits vest after 3 years of service or at age 65. The annual retirement benefit is equal to 1.20% for each of the first ten years of service credit and 1.70% for each subsequent year of service credit multiplied by the high five successive years average salary. Early retirement benefits are available at age 55 with three or more years of credited service or at any age with 30 or more years of credited service with a .25% per month early retirement deduction under the normal retirement age. Tier I Plan members may elect the Tier II Plan if it produces a higher annual retirement benefit.

Tier II Plan – Covers Association members hired or rehired after June 30, 1989. Normal retirement benefits currently are earned at age 65 and are tied to the Social Security normal retirement age but cannot exceed age 66. Retirement benefits vest after 3 years or age 65. The annual normal retirement benefit is equal to 1.70% for all years of credited service multiplied by the high five successive years average salary. Early retirement benefits are available at age 55 with three or more years of credited service with an actuarial equivalence early retirement reduction under full retirement age.

Under all plans, members may elect to receive their pension benefits in the form of a single-life annuity, a joint and survivor annuity, or a life and term certain annuity, and have the option of electing Social Security actuarial income leveling. Terminating members may receive a refund of their contributions with interest computed at 6% or may elect an augmented deferred retirement benefit if retirement benefits have vested.

### Death and Disability Benefits

If active members die prior to the receipt of their first retirement allowance payment, death benefits are payable under each of the three plans.

Active members who have not reached normal retirement age and have at least three years of credited service may receive a disability benefit upon becoming permanently disabled.

### Cost of Living Adjustment

A guaranteed 2% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) is payable to eligible benefit recipients each January 1. An additional percentage increase is added to the guaranteed 2% COLA to the extent that five-year annualized investment returns exceed the plan's 8.5% actuarially assumed rate of interest, and to the extent that contribution rates are determined to be actuarially sufficient.

### Funding

Benefit and contribution provisions are established by state law and may be amended only by the State of Minnesota Legislature.

Minnesota Statutes, Section 354A.12 set the rates for employee and employer contributions that, expressed as a percentage of annual covered payroll, are sufficient to cover administrative expense and to fully fund the pension plan by the year 2032. The requirement to reach full funding by the year 2032 is set in Minnesota Statutes, Section 356.215, Subd. 11. That statute also requires that assets in excess of the actuarial accrued liability be amortized as a level percentage of covered payroll over a rolling 30-year period. As part of the annual actuarial valuation, the actuary determines the sufficiency of the statutory contribution rates toward meeting the required full funding deadline. The actuary compares the actual contribution rate to a "required" contribution rate. The required contribution rate consists of: (a) normal costs based on entry age normal cost methods, (b) a supplemental contribution for amortizing any unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) by the required date for full funding, and (c) an allowance for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are financed by employee and employer contributions.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005, members were required to contribute 5.5% of their salaries to the Association. Employer contributions were 5.79% of the members' salaries.

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# Notes - Continued

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## NOTE 4. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN

The Bond Fund, Equity Fund, and Money Market Fund were established to account for a voluntary tax sheltered program which meets the requirements of section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. Each fund has different investment objectives. Voluntary contributions may be made by eligible employees of Independent School District 709, subject to plan and Internal Revenue Code limitations. There are no employer contributions to these funds. Income tax on employee contributions and on associated earnings are deferred until amounts are withdrawn. Benefits are paid as lump-sum, or as periodic benefit payments, at the option of the participant based on the value of participant's account balance at the time of withdrawal. At June 30, 2005, there were 371 participants in the Bond Fund, 543 participants in the Equity Fund, and 209 participants in the Money Market Fund.

A summary of the unit values in the tax sheltered program at June 30, 2005, is as follows:

	<u>Bond Fund</u>	<u>Equity Fund</u>	<u>Money Mkt. Fund</u>
Net assets	\$10,796,117	\$22,758,445	\$4,691,328
Units outstanding	1,125,793	3,100,747	1,978,150
Net asset value per unit	\$9.5898	\$7.3397	\$2.3716

# Required Supplementary Information

## Schedule of Funding Progress

(Dollars in Thousands)

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age (b)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)	Covered Payroll (c)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b-a)/c)
7/1/00	\$251,007	\$241,899	\$(9,108)	103.8%	\$52,270	(17.4)%
7/1/01	273,618	254,255	(19,363)	107.6	51,996	(37.2)
7/1/02	280,515	279,428	(1,087)	100.4	51,054	(2.1)
7/1/03	278,467	291,109	12,642	95.7	50,656	25.0
7/1/04	276,949	301,704	24,755	91.8	48,821	50.7
7/1/05	268,481	310,924	42,443	86.4	49,148	86.4

(unaudited)

## Schedule of Contributions From Employers and the State of Minnesota

(Dollars in Thousands)

Year Ended June 30	Annual Required Contributions	Actual Employer Contributions	Employer Percentage Contributed	Additional State Contributions	State Percentage Contributed
2000	\$ 1,636	\$ 3,026	185.0%	\$486	29.7%
2001	1,284	3,011	234.5	486	37.9
2002	549	2,956	538.4	486	88.5
2003	1,691	2,933	173.5	-	-
2004	2,510	2,827	112.6	-	-
2005	3,028	2,846	94.0	-	-

Note: Annual required contribution is actuarially determined based on projected payroll. The employer is required by statute to contribute 5.79% of payroll to the fund. In fiscal years 2000 through 2002, the state of Minnesota was required to contribute \$486,000 annually. The employer and the state made all the contributions required by statute.

(unaudited)

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# Other Required Supplementary Information

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## ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS

The actuarial accrued liability is determined as part of an annual actuarial valuation. Significant methods and assumptions are as follows:

- The most recent actuarial valuation date is July 1, 2005.
- Actuarial cost is determined using the Entry Age Normal Actuarial Cost Method.
- The amortization method assumes a level percentage of an increasing payroll using a payroll growth assumption of 5.0%.
- The amortization period is closed. The date to amortize an unfunded actuarial accrued liability is June 30, 2032. Assets in excess of the actuarial accrued liability will reduce current contribution requirements as a level percent of pay over a rolling 30-year period.
- The investment rate of return is 8.5%. The annual 2% post-retirement adjustment is accounted for by using a 6.5% post-retirement rate of return.
- Actuarial value of assets is determined using the market value of assets adjusted by spreading over a five-year period the difference between the actual return on investments and the 8.5% assumed rate of return.
- A rate of inflation of 5.0%.
- Salary increases are based on a ten-year select and ultimate table. During the 10-year select period, 0.3% x (10-T) is added to the ultimate rate. T is completed years of service. Ultimate rates range from 6.9% at age 20 to 5.0% at age 50 and over.
- Mortality rates using the *1983 Group Annuity Mortality Table*, male rates set back 2 years for post-retirement; male rates set back 10 years and female rates set back 7 years for pre-retirement.

## SIGNIFICANT PLAN PROVISION AND ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTION CHANGES

2000 - Actuarial Assumption Changes:

- Method to determine actuarial value of assets changed to recognize 20% of the actual investment gain or loss over or under the actuarial assumed rate of 8.5% in each of the current and preceding four years. The new method will be fully implemented after a transition period from July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2002.
- Assets in excess of the actuarial accrued liability will reduce current contribution requirements as a level percent of pay over a rolling 30-year period.

2002 - Plan Provision Change: Duluth charter school teachers no longer covered by the plan, effective July 1, 2002.

- Actuarial Assumption Changes:

- Salary assumptions changed to a ten-year select and ultimate table. During the select period, 0.3% x (10-T) is added to the ultimate rate, where T is completed years of service. Ultimate table ranges from 6.9% at age 20 down to 5.0% at age 50 and over.
- Direct state funding discontinued. Last payment received was October 1, 2001.
- Mortality table changed to *1983 Group Annuity Mortality*, male rates set back 2 years.
- Separation decrement based on select and ultimate table.
- Disability decrement are graded based on lower rates than previous rates.
- Form of annuity selected, male: 35% elect 50% joint & survivor option; 55% elect 100% joint & survivor option.
- Form of annuity selected female: 25% elect 50% joint & survivor option; 25% elect 100% joint & survivor option.
- New 10% load on liabilities for active and former members to allow for Minnesota combined service annuities.

(Unaudited)



# Schedule of Investment & Administrative Expenses

For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

	Pension Trust Funds				Total
	Defined	Defined Contribution Plan			
	Benefit Plan	Bond	Equity	Money Mkt	
	Basic Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	
<b>Investment Expenses</b>					
Salaries	\$27,000				\$27,000
Payroll taxes	1,786				1,786
Group insurance	3,372				3,372
Investment management	1,030,773		\$110,416		1,141,189
Investment advisor	52,188	\$2,065	4,387	\$817	59,457
Custodial bank fees	54,585	5,000	20,789		80,374
<b>Total investment expenses</b>	<b>\$1,169,704</b>	<b>\$7,065</b>	<b>\$135,592</b>	<b>\$817</b>	<b>\$1,313,178</b>
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>					
<b>Personnel</b>					
Salaries	\$187,518	\$14,438	\$22,559	\$8,122	\$232,637
Payroll taxes	14,098	1,135	1,773	638	17,644
Group insurance	23,314	1,792	2,800	1,008	28,914
<b>Total personnel expenses</b>	<b>224,930</b>	<b>17,365</b>	<b>27,132</b>	<b>9,768</b>	<b>279,195</b>
<b>General expenses</b>					
Bank charges	810	1,644		65	2,519
Data processing	4,589				4,589
Depreciation	25,343	240	375	135	26,093
Dues and periodicals	3,093				3,093
Insurance	4,187				4,187
Meetings, conventions & travel	36,944				36,944
Printing, postage & office supplies	16,711	341	492	208	17,752
Real estate taxes	8,430				8,430
Repairs and service contracts	5,940				5,940
Supplies - building	20,139				20,139
Utilities and telephone	11,505				11,505
Other	1,805		0		1,805
<b>Total general expense</b>	<b>139,496</b>	<b>2,225</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>142,996</b>
<b>Professional fees</b>					
Actuarial	39,845				39,845
Auditing and accounting	29,962	3,455	4,350	2,160	39,927
Consulting	0				0
Legal	2,274				2,274
<b>Total professional fees</b>	<b>72,081</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>4,350</b>	<b>2,160</b>	<b>82,046</b>
<b>Total administrative expenses</b>	<b>\$436,507</b>	<b>\$23,045</b>	<b>\$32,349</b>	<b>\$12,336</b>	<b>\$504,237</b>

# Summary Schedules

For the Year Ended June 30, 2005

## Summary Schedule of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

### Basic Fund

Cash and Equivalents at Beginning of Year - July 1, 2004	<u>\$47,887,105</u>
<b>Add Receipts:</b>	
Member Contributions	2,915,085
Employer Contributions	2,836,022
Investment Income/(Loss)	10,854,140
Investments Redeemed/Sold	576,473,576
Other	<u>31,543</u>
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<u>593,110,366</u>
<b>Less Disbursements:</b>	
Benefit Payments	18,268,951
Refunds	99,439
Administrative Expense	392,033
Investment Expense	1,168,536
Investments Purchased	582,180,219
Fixed Assets Purchased	<u>1,245</u>
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<u>602,110,423</u>
Cash and Equivalents at End of Year - June 30, 2005	<u><u>\$38,887,048</u></u>

## Schedule of Payments to Consultants

### Basic Fund

<u>Individual or Firm Name</u>	<u>Nature of Services</u>	<u>Fee Paid</u>
Eikill & Schilling Ltd.	Accounting/Auditing	\$15,114
Office of the State Auditor	Auditing Services	14,848
Hewitt Associates	Actuarial Services	22,273
Milliman USA	Actuarial Services	572
The Segal Company	Actuarial Services	17,000
Johnson, Killen, & Seiler, P.A.	Legal Services	<u>2,274</u>
Total		<u><u>\$72,081</u></u>

# Consultant's Certification Letter

**J E F F R E Y  
S L O C U M & A S S O C I A T E S**  
INC.

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Minneapolis, MN 55414-1032  
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December 9, 2005

Board of Trustees  
Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association  
625 East Central Entrance  
Duluth, MN 55811

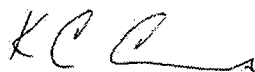
Board of Trustees:

The DTRFA Basic Retirement Fund portfolio earned a strong one-year return as both small capitalization stocks and international stocks fared well. For the year ending June 30, 2005, the Fund achieved an 8.7% rate of return from all assets, which ranked in the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile in the Independent Consultants Cooperative Public Pension Plan Universe. For the five-year period ending June 30, 2005, the Fund achieved a 2.1% annualized rate of return. The performance calculations include the total return of the Fund, net of fees, including realized and unrealized gains plus income. All returns are calculated in accordance with the standards set forth by the CFA Institute (formerly AIMR).

The DTRFA portfolio exceeded all of the investment objectives of the Fund over the last ten years. The portfolio exceeded the actuarial return assumption of 8.5% by 0.7 percentage points over the last ten years.

The DTRFA portfolio is well diversified, using various styles of equity and fixed income securities. The Fund portfolio has substantial positions in various equity capitalization ranges, in domestic and international markets, in a broad range of industry sectors and in active and passive management. Over the last three and five years ending June 30, 2005, the Fund returns have been produced with median levels of return volatility (risk).

Sincerely,



KC Connors, CFA  
Vice President

KC:lkh

---

# Outline of Investment Policies

Year Ended June 30, 2005

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## Policy Statement

DTRFA assets are invested under the provisions of a Statement of Investment Objectives and Policies. The following is an excerpt from Section II - Investment Policy Statement:

*Assets of the funds will be invested in the sole interest, and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to the plan participants and beneficiaries. Investments will be made within constraints of applicable Minnesota Statutes and the policy statements contained in this document. The fund assets must be invested with skill, care, and diligence that a prudent person acting in this capacity would use. Within this framework, the Association seeks to optimize total return on the Funds' portfolio through a policy of diversified investments to achieve maximum rates of return within a parameter of prudent risk. These objectives may be modified from time to time based on changes in plan provisions or the nature of the capital markets.*

## Policy Guidelines

Section III - Policy Guidelines of the Statement of Investment Objectives and Policies includes subsections which specifically outline the overall objectives of the DTRFA investment program, indicate the asset allocation targets and ranges for each of the various asset classes, and define the investment universe and parameters of allowable investments by the DTRFA investment managers. Included in the Policy Guidelines are the following subsections:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A. Investment Authority   | H. Asset Guidelines - Fixed Income               |
| B. Investment Objectives  | I. Asset Guidelines - Real Estate                |
| C. Time Horizon   | J. Securities Lending                            |
| D. Volatility   | K. Market Valuation                              |
| E. Asset Allocation   | L. Performance Measurement                       |
| F. Asset Guidelines - Mutual, Com-<br>mingled, Pooled Fund Vehicles | M. Automatic Review Process for Managers         |
| G. Asset Guidelines - Equities                                      | N. Investment Manager Selection and<br>Retention |

## Other Policies

Sections IV, V, and VI delineate the duties and responsibilities of DTRFA investment consultants and advisors. One section covers the investment managers, one section covers the custodian bank, and one covers the investment consultant.

In order to preclude actual or potential conflicts of interest, Section VII of the Statement covers personal investments of the Trustees and staff of the Association.

## Regular Review

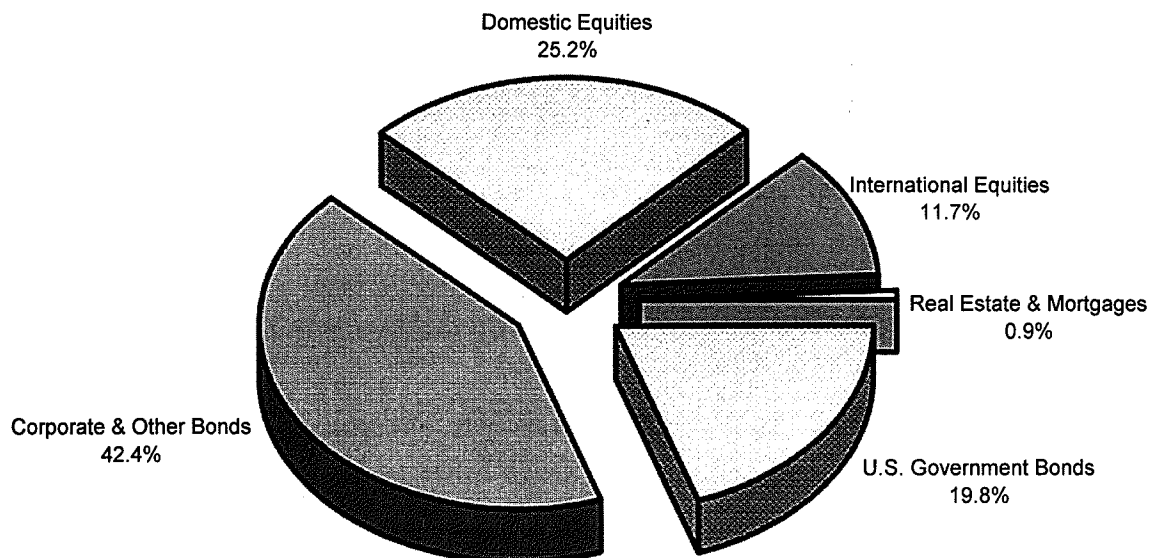
The Statement of Investment Policies is formally reviewed and updated by the Trustees annually. In addition, as part of their quarterly analysis, the investment consultant reports on compliance with the Statement of Investment Objectives and Policies by each of the investment managers.

# Investment Summary

## Schedule of Investments - June 30, 2005

	Percent of Market Value	Market Value	Cost	Market Value Over (Under) Cost
<b>Basic Fund</b>				
U.S. Government obligations	19.8%	\$50,027,565	\$49,077,390	\$950,175
Corporate & other bonds	42.4%	107,214,580	105,571,746	1,642,834
Domestic equities	24.8%	62,886,363	50,229,163	12,657,200
International equities	11.7%	29,528,155	26,688,751	2,839,404
Preferred stock	0.4%	916,908	2,702,119	(1,785,211)
Other mortgages	0.4%	963,946	963,946	0
Real estate	0.5%	1,416,755	1,416,755	0
<b>Total Basic Fund</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>252,954,272</b>	<b>236,649,870</b>	<b>16,304,402</b>
<b>Tax Shelter Bond Fund</b>				
Commingled Bond Fund	100.0%	10,776,044	9,975,371	800,673
<b>Tax Shelter Equity Fund</b>				
U.S. Government obligations	4.9%	1,031,363	1,035,213	(3,850)
Corporate and other bonds	37.8%	7,915,139	8,071,486	(156,347)
Domestic equities	46.2%	9,680,038	7,501,671	2,178,367
International equities	11.1%	2,313,262	2,090,729	222,533
<b>Total Equity Fund</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>20,939,802</b>	<b>18,699,099</b>	<b>2,240,703</b>
<b>Total All Funds</b>		<b>\$284,670,118</b>	<b>\$265,324,340</b>	<b>\$19,345,778</b>

**Asset Allocation - Basic Fund**



# List of Largest Assets Held

June 30, 2005

## Basic Retirement Fund - Ten Largest Equity Holdings (By Market Value)

Shares	Company	Market Value
192,525	Metris Cos, Inc.	\$2,783,912
48,800	Michaels Stores, Inc.	2,018,856
49,950	Cheesecake Factory, Inc.	1,734,764
45,450	Plantronics, Inc.	1,652,562
216,150	Viropharma, Inc.	1,502,243
137,175	Secure Computing Corporation	1,492,464
38,275	Trimble Nav Ltd.	1,491,577
136,425	Ashworth, Inc.	1,229,189
65,700	Sybase, Inc.	1,205,595
53,925	Select Comfort Corporation	1,155,613

## Basic Retirement Fund - Ten Largest Bond Holdings (By Market Value)

Par	Description	Coupon	Maturity	Rating	Market Value
\$4,600,000	Gov't. National Mtg. Assn., TBA	6.000 %	7/1/2029		\$4,743,750
3,680,000	US Treasury Inflation Indexed Bond	2.375	1/15/2025	AAA	4,176,955
3,500,000	Federal National Mtg. Assn., TBA	6.000	7/1/2029		3,587,500
3,500,000	Federal National Mtg. Assn., TBA	5.500	7/1/2032		3,547,033
3,500,000	Gov't. National Mtg. Assn., TBA	5.000	7/1/2033		3,526,250
2,700,000	Federal National Mtg. Assn., TBA	5.000	7/1/2033		2,700,837
2,597,000	Federal National Mtg. Assn.	2.625	11/15/2006	AAA	2,558,850
1,920,000	US Treasury Bond	6.250	5/15/2030	AAA	2,500,877
1,700,000	Gov't. National Mtg. Assn., TBA	6.500	7/1/2029		1,775,438
1,921,000	General Motors Accept. Corporation	5.530	12/1/2014	BB	1,636,461

*A complete list of portfolio holdings is available upon request.*

# Investment Returns

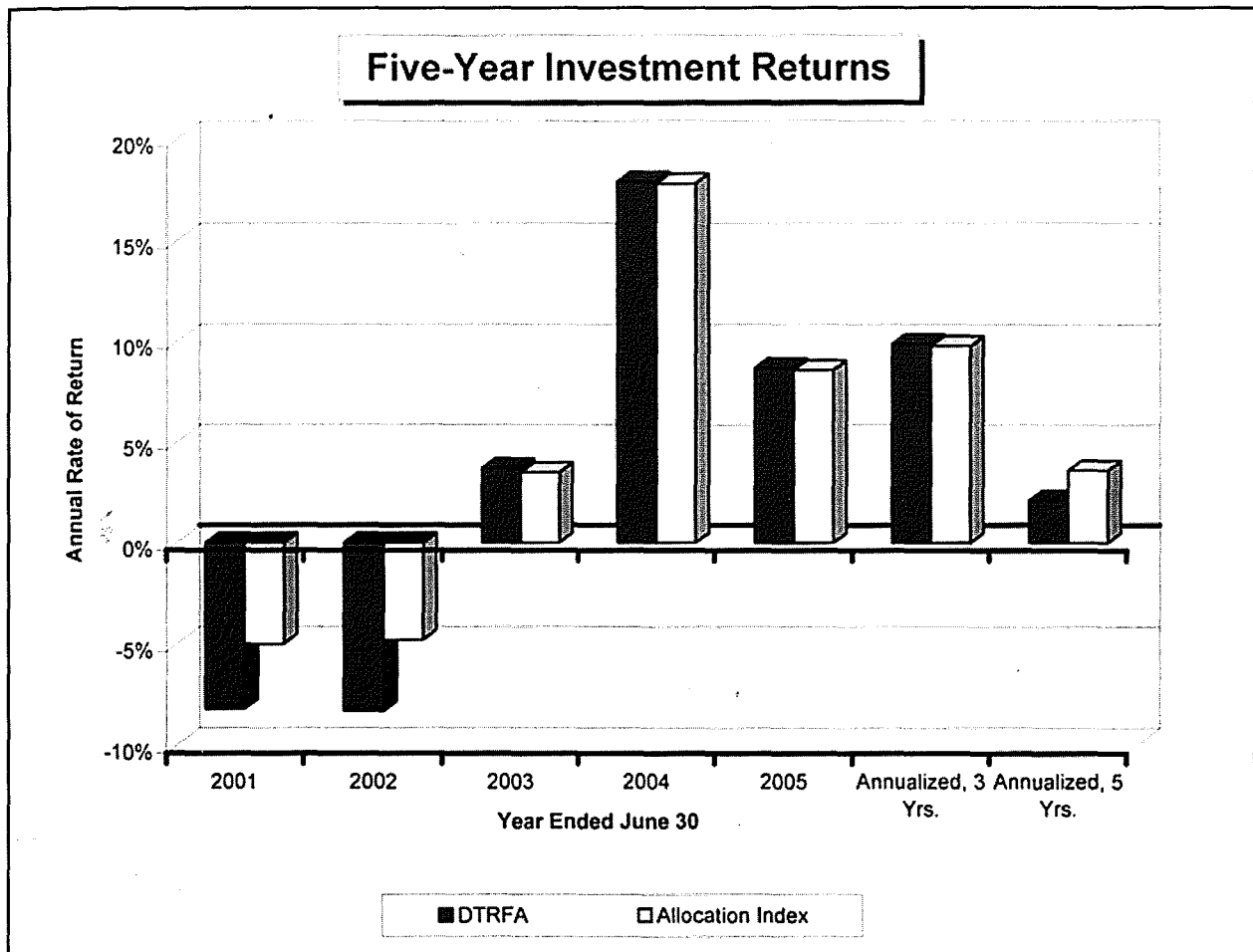
(Last Five Years)

A time-weighted performance measure includes the effect of income earned as well as realized and unrealized market value changes. In addition, the time-weighted total rate of return nets out the influence of contributions made to and distributions taken from the manager or fund. The time-weighted rates of return below are based on market rate returns, net of investment fees, calculated in accordance with the standards set forth by the CFA Institute (formerly AIMR).

## Annualized Returns for Periods Ended June 30, 2005 - Basic Fund

<u>Investment</u>	<u>1-year</u>	<u>3-year</u>	<u>5-year</u>
<b>Total Portfolio-DTRFA</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
Allocation index*	8.3%	9.7%	3.6%
<b>U.S. Equities-DTRFA</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
S&P 500	6.3%	8.3%	-2.4%
Russell 2000 Growth	4.3%	11.4%	-4.5%
Russell 2500 Value	17.4%	16.1%	15.8%
<b>International Equities-DTRFA</b>	<b>14.3%</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
MSCI EAFE	13.6%	12.1%	-0.5%
<b>Fixed Income-DTRFA</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>
Lehman Aggregate Bond Index	6.8%	5.8%	7.4%
<b>Real Estate-DTRFA</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>
NCREIF Property Index	18.1%	12.1%	10.6%
<b>Cash Equivalents-DTRFA</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
91-Day Treasury Bills	2.2%	1.6%	2.6%

*\*The allocation index is comprised of the S&P 500, the Russell 2000 Growth, the Russell 2500 Value, the MSCI Europe, Australasia, Far East Index, the Lehman Aggregate, the NCREIF Property Index, and treasury bills in proportion to the weights of the respective asset class in the total Basic Retirement Fund.*



## Schedule of Investment Fees

Year Ended June 30, 2005

<u>Investment Managers - Basic Fund</u>	<u>Assets Under Management</u>	<u>Fees Paid</u>	<u>Basis Points</u>
Western Asset Management	\$104,423,258	\$230,021	22.0
Wellington Management	27,326,835	210,243	76.9
Disciplined Growth Investors	37,179,120	209,451	56.3
Wells Fargo Bank	0	17,002	0
Metropolitan West	85,138,902	171,731	20.2
Julius Baer	29,528,156	192,324	65.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$283,596,272</b>	<b>\$1,030,773</b>	<b>36.3</b>

<u>Other Investment Service Fees - Basic Fund</u>	<u>Nature of Services</u>	<u>Fees Paid</u>	<u>Basis Points</u>
Jeffrey Slocum & Associates	Consulting	\$52,188	1.8
Wells Fargo	Custodian	54,585	1.9
<b>Total Investment Service Fees</b>		<b>\$106,773</b>	<b>3.8</b>



# Brokerage Commissions Paid

Year Ended June 30, 2005

<u>Brokerage Firm</u>	<u>Dollar Volume</u>	<u>Number of Shares Traded</u>	<u>Total Commissions</u>	<u>Commissions Per Share</u>
Morgan Stanley	\$6,835,901	261,300	\$3,828	\$0.01
* Lynch Jones & Ryan	4,073,892	205,700	9,671	0.05
Banc of America Securities	3,471,830	215,600	8,221	0.04
* Donaldson & Company	2,116,874	95,150	3,823	0.04
Goldman Sachs	1,786,541	64,400	1,589	0.02
Investment Technology Group	1,380,235	40,800	606	0.01
UBS Securities	1,361,846	41,670	1,704	0.04
La Branche Financial	1,336,805	74,400	2,232	0.03
Needham & Company	1,308,139	220,625	7,884	0.04
Merrill Lynch	1,300,960	50,400	1,661	0.03
CS First Boston	1,299,551	44,330	1,936	0.04
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.	1,169,785	31,300	1,201	0.04
Craig Hallum	1,100,470	134,850	6,349	0.05
CIBC World Markets, Inc.	866,521	26,900	1,104	0.04
Jefferies Execution Services, Inc.	859,980	28,700	718	0.03
Jefferies & Company	810,520	54,125	2,534	0.05
Lehman Brothers	790,018	131,600	4,163	0.03
SG Cowen	732,652	20,900	892	0.04
KV Execution Services	721,227	22,600	565	0.03
Capital Institutional Services	618,467	47,775	2,389	0.05
Raymond James	605,504	57,650	2,876	0.05
Instinet	587,877	46,100	461	0.01
Autranet	556,270	42,700	2,135	0.05
C.E. Unterberg	531,254	11,400	456	0.04
Prudential Securities	483,545	19,200	823	0.04
Smith Barney, Inc.	380,991	43,475	2,174	0.05
Morgan Keegan	364,241	12,650	621	0.05
Thomas Weisel Partners	353,028	11,300	472	0.04
Avondale Partners	351,944	18,100	905	0.05
RBC Capital Markets	347,120	16,200	648	0.04
Jones & Company	343,525	17,100	855	0.05
Knight Securities	329,438	38,825	1,941	0.05
Johnson, Rice & Company	302,023	4,800	192	0.04
JP Morgan Chase	299,141	21,500	906	0.04
Bear Stearns & Company	298,411	10,500	465	0.04
William Blair & Company	296,713	20,925	1,046	0.05
ScotiaMcLeod Corporation	286,870	9,300	383	0.04
Sanford C Bernstein & Company	271,286	7,469	305	0.04
Wachovia Securities	264,131	12,200	534	0.04
Others (includes 51 brokerage firms)	3,874,790	219,425	7,768	0.04
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$45,070,315</b>	<b>2,453,944</b>	<b>\$89,035</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>

\* Commission recapture broker. A portion of the total commissions paid are rebated to the Association.

# Actuary's Certification Letter



THE SEGAL COMPANY  
6300 S. Syracuse Way Suite 750 Englewood, CO 80111-7302  
T 303.714.9900 F 303.714.9990 www.segalco.com

DIRECT DIAL NUMBER  
303-714-9936

E-MAIL ADDRESS  
lthompson@segalco.com

December 2, 2005

Board of Trustees  
Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association  
625 East Central Entrance  
Duluth, Minnesota 55811

Members of the Board:

We have completed the annual valuation of the Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association (DTRFA) as of July 1, 2005. The purpose of this valuation is to determine the financial status of the Plan. To achieve this purpose, an actuarial valuation is made at the beginning of each fiscal year as required by Section 356.215 of Minnesota Statutes.

The financing objective of the Fund is to establish contribution rates that remain approximately level (as a percent of payroll) from generation to generation. The objective also includes full funding of 27 years from this valuation. The current funding level (the ratio of actuarial assets to the actuarial accrued liability) is 86.35%.

The valuation uses the Entry Age Normal Cost method, with normal cost expressed as a level percentage of earnings. The required contribution under Chapter 356 consists of the normal cost, a supplemental contribution which will amortize the unfunded accrued liability as a level percent of pay amount by the year 2032, and an allowance for administrative expenses.

The results of the valuation indicate that the DTRFA is behind schedule to meet the required date for full funding. The contribution deficiency is 2.87% of payroll, which is a result of the statutory contribution of 11.29% of payroll being less than the actuarial required contribution of 14.16% of payroll.

The actuarial valuation was based upon applicable statutory provisions and Standards for Actuarial Work in effect on July 1, 2005. Primary actuarial assumptions include a pre-retirement interest rate of 8.50%, a post-retirement interest rate of 6.50% (the 8.50% interest less 2.00% COLA), and other assumptions regarding mortality, disability, retirement, salary increases, and withdrawal, which are consistent with the latest experience analysis. Actual plan costs will vary to the extent that actual plan experience varies from these assumptions.

Benefits, Compensation and HR Consulting ATLANTA BOSTON CHICAGO CLEVELAND DENVER HARTFORD HOUSTON LOS ANGELES MINNEAPOLIS  
NEW ORLEANS NEW YORK PHILADELPHIA PHOENIX SAN FRANCISCO SEATTLE TORONTO WASHINGTON, DC



Multinational Group of Actuaries and Consultants AMSTERDAM BARCELONA GENEVA HAMBURG JOHANNESBURG LONDON MELBOURNE  
MEXICO CITY OSLO PARIS

The valuation was performed by using the actuarial cost methods and actuarial assumptions that are described in a separate table of this report. The actuarial cost method and the assumptions related to asset valuation, investment return, earnings progression and active member payroll growth are specified by state statute. All other assumptions are based on actual experience with changes recommended by the actuary, adopted by the DTRFA Board, and approved by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement. All assumptions and methods used for funding purposes meet the parameters for the disclosures presented in the financial section of the DTRFA comprehensive annual financial report, set by GASB Statement No. 25.

These assumptions meet the parameters set by the Government Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 25, *Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans*.

Supporting schedules and trend data schedules shown in the Actuarial Section of this financial report were prepared by The Segal Company.

The Schedule of Funding Progress shown in the Financial Section of this financial report was prepared by The Segal Company. Segal determined the amount of Annual Required Contributions shown in the Schedule of Contributions From Employers and State of Minnesota in the Financial Section of this financial report.

The following table shows the date of full funding of the plan and the funding percentage for the 2005 valuation. As shown, the DTRFA has not achieved its full funding level. The funding percentage expresses current assets as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability determined on the Entry Age Normal Cost method.

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Required Funding Date</i>	<i>Current Funded Percentage</i>
DTRFA	2032	86.35%

Although we have reviewed the data for reasonableness and consistency, we have relied on the basic employee data and asset figures. This employee and asset information form the basis for our valuation and to the extent that actual data differs from that submitted for purposes of the valuation, results may vary from those shown in the report.

We certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief this actuarial valuation was performed in accordance with the requirements of Section 356.215, Minnesota Statutes, and the requirements of the Standards for Actuarial Work.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie L. Thompson, FSA, MAAA, EA  
Senior Vice President and Consulting Actuary

/kls

# Summary of Actuarial Assumption & Methods

- Investment Rate of Return\*..... 8.5%. Adopted 1989.
- Asset Valuation\*..... The market value of assets adjusted by spreading over a five-year period the difference of the actual return on investments and the 8.5% assumed rate of return. Adopted 2000.
- Post-retirement Mortality\*\*..... 1983 Group Annuity Mortality Table for males and females, male rates set back 2 years. Adopted 2002.
- Retirement Age\*\*..... Graded rates. See table below for sample rates. Adopted 1997.
- Rate of Withdrawal\*\*..... Select and ultimate rates. Select rates are: 1<sup>st</sup> year 40%; 2<sup>nd</sup> year 10%; 3<sup>rd</sup> year 6%. See table below for sample ultimate rates. Adopted 2002.
- Pay Increase and Inflation\*..... Ten-year select and ultimate table which incorporates a 5% base inflation assumption. During the ten-year select period 0.3% x (10-T), where T is completed years of service, is added to the ultimate rate. See table below for sample rates. Adopted 2002.
- Actuarial Cost Method\*..... Entry age normal. Actuarial gains and losses reduce and increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liability.
- Post-retirement Benefit Increase\*..... An annual 2% post-retirement adjustment is accounted for by using a 6.5% post-retirement investment rate of return. Adopted 1995.
- Payment on Unfunded Liability\*..... A level percent of payroll each year to the year 2032 assuming that payroll increases 5.0% per year. A surplus asset amount is amortized over a rolling 30-year period as a level percentage of payroll. Adopted 2000.
- Combined Service Annuity\*\*..... A 10% load on liabilities for active and former members. Adopted 2002
- Date of Last Experience Study..... June 2001, covering fiscal years 1995-2000. Assumptions used in the July 1, 2005 actuarial valuation are those recommended in the 2001 experience study.

\*specified by state law, Minnesota Statutes, Section 356.215

\*\*approved by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

Sample Annual Rates per 100 Employees:				
Age	Retirement Age		Withdrawal All Employees	Pay Increases All Employees
	Old Plan	New Plan		
20	0	0	3.50	6.90%
25	0	0	3.25	6.75%
30	0	0	3.00	6.50%
35	0	0	2.75	6.25%
40	0	0	2.50	6.00%
45	0	0	2.00	5.50%
50	0	0	1.50	5.00%
55	15	10	0.75	5.00%
60	15	10	0.00	5.00%
65	40	20	0.00	5.00%

# Schedule of Active Member Valuation Data

(Last Six Years)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Annual Payroll</u>	<u>Average Annual Pay</u>	<u>% Increase in Average Pay</u>
2000	1,441	\$50,557,000	\$35,085	4.5%
2001	1,420	50,411,000	35,501	1.2%
2002	1,276	48,054,000	37,660	6.1%
2003	1,373	51,893,000	37,795	0.4%
2004	1,178	48,820,898	41,444	9.7%
2005	1,164	49,148,256	42,224	1.9%

# Schedule of Retirants and Beneficiaries Added to and Removed From Rolls

(Last Six Years)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Added to Rolls</u>		<u>Removed from Rolls</u>		<u>Rolls - End of Year</u>		<u>% Increase in Annual Allowances</u>	<u>Average Annual Allowance</u>
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Annual Allowances</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Annual Allowances</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Annual Allowances</u>		
2000	90	\$2,519,000	33	\$633,465	996	\$12,359,721	13.1%	\$12,409
2001	88	2,458,668	26	547,671	1,058	14,341,500	16.0%	13,555
2002	56	1,817,094	29	800,165	1,085	15,968,396	11.3%	14,717
2003	41	1,191,364	19	574,944	1,107	16,767,603	5.0%	15,147
2004	56	1,203,279	26	303,856	1,137	18,240,239	8.8%	16,042
2005	64	1,373,262	48	603,930	1,153	18,936,633	3.8%	16,424

# Solvency Test

## (Last Six Years)

The DTRFA funding objective is to pay long term benefit promises through contributions that remain approximately level from year to year as a percent of member payroll. In this way, members and the employer in each year pay their fair share for retirement service earned in that year by DTRFA members. Occasionally, rates are increased, but only to add or improve benefit provisions. If the retirement system follows level contribution rate financing principles, the system will pay all promised benefits when due – *the ultimate test of financial soundness*.

A short term solvency test is one means of checking the funding progress of the DTRFA. In a short term solvency test, the fund's present assets are compared to:

- 1) Member contributions on deposit;
- 2) Liabilities for future benefits to present retirees;
- 3) Liabilities for service already rendered by active members.

In a system that has been following the discipline of level contribution rate financing, the liabilities for member contributions on deposit (liability 1) and the liabilities for future benefits to present retirees (liability 2) will be fully covered by present assets, except in rare circumstances.

In addition, the liabilities for service already rendered by members (liability 3) will be partially covered by the remainder of present assets. Generally, if the system has been using level contribution rate financing, the funded portion of liability 3 will increase over time. It is unusual for liability 3 to be fully funded.

The schedule below illustrates the progress of funding liability 3 and is indicative of the policy of the DTRFA to follow the discipline of level contribution rate funding.

Fiscal Year	Aggregate Accrued Liabilities For:			Actuarial Value of Assets	Portion of Accrued Liabilities Covered by Net Assets		
	(1)	(2)	(3)		(1)	(2)	(3)
	Member Contributions	Retirees & Beneficiaries	Active Members (Employer Financed)				
2000	\$25,209,000	\$147,159,000	\$69,531,000	\$251,007,000	100%	100%	100%
2001	26,043,000	160,282,000	67,930,000	273,618,000	100%	100%	100%
2002	27,620,000	175,941,000	75,867,000	280,515,000	100%	100%	100%
2003	29,173,000	180,361,000	69,894,000	278,467,000	100%	100%	98.6%
2004	30,448,460	186,423,821	84,832,164	276,949,052	100%	100%	70.8%
2005	31,108,392	192,523,390	87,292,147	268,480,821	100%	100%	51.4%

# Analysis of Financial Experience

Actual financial experience will not coincide exactly with assumed financial experience because the future cannot be predicted with certainty. The annual actuarial valuations reveal the differences between actual and assumed experience in the various risk areas. Differences between actual and assumed experience result in changes in liabilities, which are called actuarial gains (if the experience was financially favorable) and actuarial losses (if the experience was financially unfavorable). In the actuarial valuations, such gains and losses reduce and increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

Below are the gains and losses in accrued liabilities during the last four fiscal years resulting from differences between assumed experience and actual experience:

Types of Activity	Amount of Gain (or Loss) for the Year			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Pay Increases</b> Smaller pay increases than assumed result in an actuarial gain. Greater pay increases than assumed result in an actuarial loss.	\$3,998,000	(\$1,296,000)	immaterial	immaterial
<b>Investment Income</b> Greater investment income than assumed result in an actuarial gain. Less investment income than assumed results in an actuarial loss.	(6,139,000)	(14,193,000)	(\$12,639,583)	(\$18,419,965)
<b>Mortality After Retirement</b> Retirants living longer than assumed results in an actuarial loss. Retirants living not as long as assumed results in an actuarial gain.	1,207,000	1,290,000	immaterial	immaterial
<b>Other Items</b>	(3,459,000)	(666,000)	1,242,805	2,614,704
<b>Gain (or Loss) During Year</b>				
<b>From Financial Experience</b>	(4,393,000)	(14,865,000)	(11,396,778)	(15,805,261)
<b>(Increase)/Decrease in Actuarial Accrued Liability Due to Plan Amendments</b>	414,000	0	0	0
<b>(Increase)/Decrease in Actuarial Accrued Liability Due to Changes In Actuarial Assumptions</b>	(17,488,000)	0	0	0
<b>Composite Gain (or Loss) During Year</b>	<u>(\$21,467,000)</u>	<u>(\$14,865,000)</u>	<u>(\$11,396,778)</u>	<u>(\$15,805,261)</u>

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# Summary of Benefit Plans

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## Features Common to All Plans - Old Plan & New Plan, Tier I & Tier II

**Contributions:** Employees contribute 5.5% of covered salary. Employer contributes 5.79% of salary.

**Refunds:** Equal to employee contributions, plus 6% interest. Payable 30 days after ceasing to render teaching service.

**Deferred Benefits:** A vested, terminated member may leave contributions in the fund until eligible for retirement. The annuity formula at time of termination is used. Benefit is increased 3% per year between termination and age 55, and increased 5% per year after age 55 until benefit payments begin.

**Cost of Living Adjustment:** Eligible benefit recipients receive automatic 2% increase in benefits each January 1. An additional increase is allowed to the extent that 5-year annualized returns of the fund exceed the 8.5% assumed rate of return.

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## Old Plan – Members Hired Before July 1, 1981

### **Eligibility for Retirement Benefits:**

- Full Retirement Benefits: Eligible at age 60, or if age plus years of service totals at least 90.
- Early Retirement Benefits: Eligible at age 55 with ten or more years of service. An early retirement reduction is applied equal to ¼% per month under full retirement age.

**Note:** Old Plan members receive a retirement benefit from the Old Plan, or from New Plan Tier I, or from New Plan Tier II, whichever is highest.

**Annual Benefit Formula:** 1.45% times high 5 average salary, times total years of service.

**Vesting:** Retirement benefits vest after 10 years of service, or at age 60.

**Disability Benefits:** Eligible after 5 years of service. Must be totally and permanently disabled from teaching. Full benefits are paid regardless of age. Termination of employment is required.

### **Survivor Benefits:**

- Death Before Retirement - Refund of two times member contributions, plus 6% interest, to surviving beneficiaries. If member had at least ten years of service at time of death, a surviving spouse may instead, elect an annuity equal to 120% of the refund amount.
- Death While Eligible to Retire - If member had at least 10 years of service and was over age 55 at death, a surviving spouse may elect to receive a 100% joint and survivor annuity of equivalent actuarial value.
- Death After Retirement - The optional annuity elected at retirement is payable. Options include a 50% joint and survivor annuity, a 100% joint and survivor annuity, or a life and term certain annuity for 5, 10, 15 or 20 years.



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# Summary of Benefit Plans

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## Features Common to New Plan Tier I and New Plan Tier II

**Vesting:** Retirement benefits vest after 3 years of service, or at age 65.

**Disability Benefits:** Eligible after 3 years of service. Must be totally and permanently disabled from any substantial, gainful employment. Full benefits paid regardless of age. Termination of employment with the school district is not required.

### **Survivor Benefits:**

- **Death Before Retirement:** Refund of member contributions, plus 6% interest, to beneficiary. If member had at least 3 years of service, a surviving spouse may elect to receive a 100% joint and survivor annuity or term certain annuity of equivalent actuarial value. A reduction is applied to the benefit amount based on the years of service and age of the member at time of death. Term certain benefits are payable to dependent children if there is no spouse.
- **Death After Retirement:** The optional annuity elected at retirement is payable. Options include a 50% joint and survivor annuity, a 100% joint and survivor annuity, or a life and term certain annuity for 5, 10, 15 or 20 years.

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## New Plan Tier I – Members Hired July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1989

### **Eligibility for Retirement Benefits:**

- **Full Retirement Benefits** - Eligible at age 65, or age 62 with 30 years of service, or if age plus years of service totals at least 90.
- **Early Retirement Benefits** - Eligible at age 55 with 3 or more years of service, or any age with at least 30 years of service. An early retirement reduction is applied equal to ¼% per month between retirement and age 65.

**Note:** New Plan Tier I members receive a retirement benefit from New Plan Tier I, or from New Plan Tier II, whichever is highest.

**Annual Benefit Formula:** 1.20% for each of the first ten years of credited service, 1.70% for each year over ten, times high 5 average salary.

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## New Plan Tier II –Members Hired After June 30, 1988

### **Eligibility for Retirement Benefits**

- **Full Retirement Benefits:** Age at which full Social Security retirement benefits are payable, but no higher than age 66. (There is no Rule-of-90 in Tier II.)
- **Early Retirement Benefits:** Eligible at age 55 with 3 or more years of service. There is an actuarial reduction of 5-6% per year for each year between retirement and full retirement age.

**Annual Benefit Formula:** 1.70% times high 5 average salary, times total years of service credit.

# Revenues by Source

(Basic Fund - Last Six Years)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Member Deposits and Transfers</u>	<u>Employer Contributions</u>	<u>Net Investment Income</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
2000	\$3,152,295	\$3,512,454 *	\$61,765,603	\$46,866	\$68,477,218
2001	3,141,228	3,496,595 *	(23,844,829)	5,615	(17,201,391)
2002	3,275,405	3,441,816 *	(22,581,188)	52,300	(15,811,667)
2003	3,298,902	2,933,172	7,952,207	147,925	14,332,206
2004	2,991,801	2,826,730	39,477,257	143,074	45,438,862
2005	2,924,264	2,845,684	21,576,645	10,345	27,356,938

\* Includes \$486,000 in direct state funding.

# Expenses by Type

(Basic Fund - Last Six Years)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Benefits</u>	<u>Administrative</u>	<u>Refunds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2000	\$12,359,721	\$400,516	\$89,606	\$12,849,843
2001	14,341,500	419,807	172,706	14,934,013
2002	15,968,396	447,584	106,409	16,522,389
2003	16,767,603	444,810	241,016	17,453,429
2004	17,347,576	448,704	58,760	17,855,040
2005	18,290,640	436,507	77,750	18,804,897

# Benefit Expense by Type

(Last Six Years)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Retirement</u>	<u>Survivor</u>	<u>Disability</u>	<u>Refund</u>	<u>Total</u>
2000	\$11,576,749	\$618,539	\$164,433	\$89,606	\$12,449,327
2001	13,397,191	728,460	215,849	172,706	14,514,206
2002	14,916,015	864,206	188,175	106,409	16,074,805
2003	15,579,420	1,007,537	180,646	241,016	17,008,619
2004	16,052,665	1,100,850	194,061	58,760	17,406,336
2005	16,907,619	1,158,994	224,027	77,750	18,368,390

# Schedule of Retired Members by Amount & Type of Benefit

<u>Amount of Monthly Benefit</u>	<u>Number of:</u>			<u>Total Number</u>
	<u>Annuitants</u>	<u>Disabilitants</u>	<u>Survivors</u>	
\$1 - \$200	122	2	13	137
\$201 - \$400	77	1	5	83
\$401 - \$600	50	1	9	60
\$601 - \$800	60	0	6	66
\$801 - \$1,000	65	1	15	81
\$1,001 - \$1,200	84	2	11	97
\$1,201 - \$1,400	86	3	5	94
\$1,401 - \$1,600	69	1	9	79
\$1,601 - \$1,800	77	0	4	81
\$1,801 - \$2,000	82	2	4	88
Over \$2,000	<u>271</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>287</u>
<b>Totals</b>	1,043	16	94	1,153

# Schedule of Average Benefit Payments

(Last Five Years)

Retirement Effective Dates	Years of Service						
	0 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 25	25 - 30	30+
<b>Period 7/1/00 to 6/30/01:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$118	\$242	\$695	\$892	\$1,538	\$1,618	\$2,761
Number of Active Retirants	7	2	7	7	12	7	25
<b>Period 7/1/01 to 6/30/02:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$252	\$512	\$699	\$899	\$969	\$1,916	\$2,652
Number of Active Retirants	7	5	3	6	4	10	19
<b>Period 7/1/02 to 6/30/03:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$435	\$216	\$0	\$1,143	\$1,588	\$2,178	\$2,736
Number of Active Retirants	8	1	0	1	9	6	13
<b>Period 7/1/03 to 6/30/04:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$451	\$477	\$1,006	\$1,715	\$1,326	\$2,771	\$2,822
Number of Active Retirants	7	2	7	3	3	5	21
<b>Period 7/1/04 to 6/30/05:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$188	\$327	\$1,036	\$1,162	\$1,870	\$2,484	\$3,176
Number of Active Retirants	6	3	4	4	10	7	18
<b>Aggregate During Five Year Period 7/1/00 to 6/30/05:</b>							
Average Monthly Benefit	\$296	\$400	\$864	\$1,075	\$1,561	\$2,137	\$2,827
Number of Active Retirants	35	13	21	21	38	35	96

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# Chronology of Significant Events

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- 1909 - Legislature authorizes formation of Teachers' Retirement Fund Associations
- 1910 - Duluth Teachers' Retirement Fund Association incorporated
- 1911 - First investments were in municipal bonds
- 1919 - Fund is put on an actuarial reserve basis. Formula is  $1/70 \times \text{years of service} \times \text{high 10 year average salary}$ . Full retirement at age 55.
- 1921 - First home mortgage was made
- 1943 - First stock investment made
- 1948 - Normal retirement age raised to age 60 over next 5 years
- 1957 - Social Security was adopted for all Duluth educators
  - Formula is  $1/140 \times \text{high 10 years average salary} \times \text{years of service}$ . Additional contributions allowed.
- 1964 - Tax Shelter 403(b) program started and qualified by the IRS. Bond account is only option.
- 1965 - Last direct home mortgage issued directly by the Association
- 1966 - Post-retirement adjustment: 10%
- 1968 - Post-retirement adjustment: 9%
- 1969 - Post-retirement adjustment: 4%
- 1971 - Formula is  $1.15\% \times \text{high 5 average salary} \times \text{years of service}$ . Full retirement: age 60
  - Post-retirement adjustment: 5%
- 1973 - Tax shelter equity account created
- 1975 - Post-retirement adjustment: 9.5%
- 1976 - Post-retirement adjustment: 3%
- 1978 - Part time and hourly educators gained Social Security and pension coverage
- 1981 - Formula is  $1.25\% \times \text{high 5 average salary} \times \text{years of service}$ . Employee contribution rate 4.5%.
  - Post-retirement adjustment: 8.7%
  - Tier I formula instituted for members hired after 6/30/81
  - Tax shelter money market account created
- 1983 - Contributions to the fund are treated as tax deferred for Federal income tax
- 1985 - Contributions to the fund are treated as tax deferred for State income tax
  - Lump-sum cost of living adjustment (COLA) established. Unit value \$34
- 1989 - Tier II formula instituted for members hired after 6/30/89
- 1992 - Minimum investment earnings removed for COLA. Waiting period for COLA reduced from 3 to 1 year.
- 1993 - Three new investment managers hired. First allocation to passive equities and international equities.
  - Legislature offers enhanced pension benefits, paid health insurance as early retirement incentives
- 1995 - Lump-sum COLA discontinued. Final unit value: \$55
  - Benefit formulas increased by 0.13%; Lump-sum COLA replaced with 2% COLA plus excess earnings.
  - Employee contribution rate increased from 4.5% to 5.5%
  - Membership closed to Lake Superior College staff hired after June 30
- 1996 - January 1 COLA = 4.64%
- 1997 - Benefit formulas increased by 0.07%. Annual State aid payments of \$486,000 initiated.
  - DTRFA moves in to new office building on Central Entrance.
  - January 1 COLA = 5.64%
- 1998 - January COLA = 6.34%
- 1999 - January COLA = 7.01%
- 2000 - January COLA = 9.03%
- 2001 - Last state aid payment received October 2001
  - January COLA = 10.24%
- 2002 - Charter school teachers in Duluth no longer eligible for membership
  - January COLA = 5.25%
- 2003 - January COLA = 2.0%
- 2004 - January COLA = 2.0%
- 2005 - January COLA = 2.0%