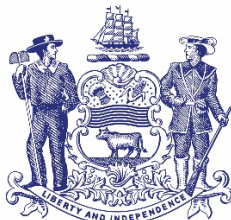


Karen Crouse, Co-Chair
Delaware State Education Association

Mark Ryde, Co-Chair
At-Large Member

International Assoc. of Local 1590 City of Wilmington Firefighters
Delaware Retired School Personnel Association
Delaware Association of School Administrators
Delaware School Nutrition Service Association
Two at-Large Members



**STATE OF DELAWARE
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PENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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**PENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 14, 2026**

Members Present:

Karen Crouse	DSEA
Mark Ryde	At Large
Marie Leppo	DSNA
Charlotte Lister	At Large
Meg Mason	DRSPA

Members Absent:

Kevin Carson	DASA
Joseph Malloy	WFD IAFF 1590
Robbie Harris	DSTA

Others Present:

Joanna Adams	Pension Administrator
Stephenie Tatman	Deputy Pension Administrator
Tammy LeCates	Executive Assistant
Bert Scoglietti	Deputy Controller General
Shannon Tiberi	Public
JaMichael McGuire	Public
Brenda Swierk	Public
Jason Bentley	Public

1. CALL TO ORDER:

K. Crouse called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment was given.

3. OPENING COMMENTS:

K. Crouse thanked everyone for joining the meeting. There were no additional opening comments.

4. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

No additions to the agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2025 MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes by C. Lister, seconded by M. Ryde. Motion carried.

6. Co-CHAIRMEN'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

JFC PRESENTATION

K. Crouse reported she was not able to attend the Joint Finance Committee presentation. Council agreed to stay the course of the three legislative goals: (1) sustain retiree healthcare; (2) increase the death benefit; and (3) seek a pension increase. K. Crouse will send a letter today in support of the Council's goals.

NEW LEGISLATION

J. Adams gave a brief overview of pending legislation:

- House Substitute 1 for House Bill 2 – Sponsored by Representative Carson, increases the death benefit from \$7,000 to \$8,000. This increases the liability to \$14.5 million or \$17.2 million, if amortized over 5 years. This bill was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee on January 8, 2026.
- House Bill 236 – Sponsored by Representative Wilson-Anton, allows a paid emergency medical technician working for a participating employer to be eligible for the County Municipal Police/Firefighter Pension Plan. This Act will exclude firefighters and EMTs hired after the effective date of this Act from participating in the County and Municipal Employees' Fund. Going forward, employees who work as paid firefighters, EMTs, or both will be eligible only for the Police/Firefighter Pension Plan. This bill was reported out of the Judiciary Committee and placed on the ready list on January 26, 2026.
- House Bill 257 – Sponsored by Representative Harris, provides for forfeiture of the state's contribution to a state, judicial, county, or municipal employee's pension if that employee is convicted of a sexual offense against a child and the offense was in connection with or aided by the employee's position. This bill has been assigned to the House Administration Committee.
- House Bill 303 – Sponsored by Representative Griffith, makes various changes related to Juvenile Probation and Parole Officers employed by the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families in the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services' Serious Juvenile Offender (SJO) Unit. This bill was reported out of the Judiciary Committee and placed on the ready list on March 25, 2026.

M. Ryde asked if House Bill 207 has received any traction. J. Adams responded not at this time.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

No new business discussed.

9. PENSION ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

J. Adams shared the Board of Pension Trustees ("BOPT") is currently focusing on governance. The former Governance Committee completed the tasks assigned. The BOPT paused the Governance Committee and is updating the manual

and policies, then the BOPT will reestablish a Governance Committee. The BOPT currently has an Audit Committee, Investment Committee and Governance Committee.

J. Adams provided a quick update regarding the ERP Modernization project replacing the legacy system, which was implemented in 1999, with a true pension administration system. Phase 1 is completed and Phase 2 is 75% completed. During this phase we are ensuring the system aligns with current business processes. Phase 3 will continue to run simultaneously through 2028. When Phase 2 ends, the end of June or beginning of July, then Phases 3 and 4 will run concurrently. The anticipated “go live” date is 2029.

C. Lister asked if the Governor’s recommended budget included anything in favor of pensioners. J. Adams responded a post-retirement increase has not been included at this time. JaMichael McGuire asked from whom the system was purchased. J. Adams shared the contract with TELUS Health was signed in September 2025.

10. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL:

MEMBERSHIP LEGISLATION

B. Tate shared the draft membership legislation allows the Pension Advisory Council to replenish representation on the Council by allowing the organizations to reinstate members. It also allows two at-large members to be appointed by the Advisory Council’s chairperson and first vice-chairperson. This draft legislation also updates organizations that have changed their names such as the Administrative Office of the Courts, Delaware School Nutrition Association, and Wilmington Firefighters Association Local 1590. B. Tate encouraged the Council to reach out to those organizations and confirm their support. At-Large members must be an active or retired member of a pension plan administered by the State and a former member of 1 or more of the organizations listed under paragraph (e)(1)a through (e)(1)m. Council was also advised to seek a sponsor for the legislation.

M. Ryde agreed to reach out to the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 81 (“AFSCME”). C. Lister agreed to reach out to the University of Delaware’s Human Resources to determine what categories are covered under the University of Delaware Staff Association. Everyone agreed to gather the information for discussion at the May meeting.

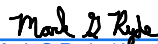
11. ADJOURNMENT:

C. Lister motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m., seconded by M. Ryde. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Crouse, Co-Chair
Pension Advisory Council



[Mark G Ryde \(Jun 15, 2026 22:05:08 EDT\)](#)

Mark Ryde, Co-Chair
Pension Advisory Council