



## Application for Appointment as TRA Active Member On TRA Board of Trustees

Deadline for application: 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 16, 2022

Appointment ends: June 30, 2027

Name <b>Wendy Drugge Wuensch</b>		TRA Number [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]		Phone Number [REDACTED]
City [REDACTED] State [REDACTED] Zip [REDACTED]		Cell Phone [REDACTED]
Date <b>12/16/2022</b>	Email Address [REDACTED]	

**Board members are fiduciaries pursuant to Minnesota law and are also subject to state economic interest disclosures. As fiduciaries, board members owe duties to TRA participants and beneficiaries, Minnesota taxpayers, and the State of Minnesota. Therefore, they must act solely in those groups' best interests in exclusion of all other interests, including personal interests, and must impartially manage the plan for the exclusive purpose of providing authorized benefits and paying plan expenses.**

### Biographical Sketch (resume)

#### Education (most recent first) (ex: University of Minnesota, M.A., Mathematics)

University of MN–Twin Cities; M. Ed.; Mathematics Education; May, 2010  
University of WI–Madison; B.S., Education (Mathematics); August, 1997

#### Professional affiliations (ex: Education Minnesota NextGen committee, 2014)

Burnsville Education Association, President, July, 2014 – present  
Burnsville Education Association, Executive Board, July, 2010 – present  
Burnsville Education Association, Executive Committee (President-Elect) July, 2014 – June 2015  
Burnsville Education Association, Executive Committee (Secretary) July, 2012 – June 2014

ISD 191 Benefits Committee, September, 2014 – present  
ISD 191 ProPay (QComp) Committee, September, 2014 – present

Education Minnesota Personnel Committee (Chair), October, 2022 – present  
Education Minnesota, Governing Board, July, 2018 – present  
Education Minnesota Election District Evaluation Committee, September, 2021- December, 2021  
Education Minnesota, New Teacher Support Project committee, November, 2019 – August, 2021  
Education Minnesota, Executive Committee, July, 2019 – present  
Education Minnesota, Council of Local Presidents, July, 2019 – present

TRA Board of Trustees, July, 2021 – present

**Teaching experience (most recent first) (ex: Anoka-Hennepin district, 1990-present)**

Mathematics Teacher and president of the Burnsville Education Association; Burnsville High School, ISD 191; August, 2002 - present

Mathematics Teacher; Wayzata Central Middle School, ISD 284; August, 1999 – June, 2002

Mathematics Teacher; Edgewood High School; Madison, WI; August, 1997 – June, 1999

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**Statement of Interest** *(attach additional sheets if needed)*

**Why do you want to serve on the TRA Board of Trustees?**

I have been a teacher for 26 years and a teacher in the Minnesota public schools for 24 years.

In my current role as the president of the Burnsville Education Association, I have been given opportunities to advocate for my members and help them better understand their contract and benefits. Working on behalf of my fellow teachers and union members is work I am very passionate about.

I want to continue to serve on the TRA Board so I can help ensure we have a pension system that is designed to provide for teachers who have already retired, those currently teaching, and those who will be hired in the future. Right now, with our MN state surplus and our makeup of the legislature, we have an opportunity to fight for and win legislation to ensure stable funding for our plan, and work towards improvements in our plan. At a time when we are facing unprecedented teacher shortages in our public schools, it's critical for us to have a solid pension plan to attract and retain teachers.

Lastly, there are many who would like to take away our defined benefit of TRA and replace it with a defined contribution plan. Therefore, it's critical that we maintain a TRA Board of Trustees who support continuing with a defined benefit plan.

I state that the information provided in this resume is true. I understand that my resume and questionnaire will be used in the election publication. I also understand that if elected, I am required to file a statement of economic interest disclosing certain financial relationships and sources of income with the MN Campaign Finance Board.

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The TRA Board meets around eight times a year to oversee the administration of the pension fund. Board meetings are open to the public and subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Some of the major board responsibilities include: establish rules, policies and procedures for administering the plan; approve an annual budget; retain an actuary to assess the financial status of the plan; determine member appeals; and appoint the Executive Director. The TRA Board has no investment responsibility. TRA assets are managed by the State Board of Investment. Board members do not receive a salary; however, they may be eligible for travel expense reimbursement and per diem according to State guidelines.

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### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR APPLICATION**

**DATA PRIVACY NOTICE:** The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act requires that you be informed of the purposes and intended use(s) of the information you are providing on this application. The application information you provide is public data. The requested information is needed to identify you and assist TRA staff in determining your eligibility for a position on the TRA Board of Trustees. You are not legally required to provide any information, but refusal to supply the requested information may affect TRA staff's ability to evaluate your application. If TRA staff determine that you meet the statutory eligibility requirements to be on the election ballot, any and all information you provide on your application or as an attachment, excluding your full residential address, telephone number, and email address, will be shared with: (a) the outside vendor with whom TRA contracts to publish the ballots, as well as (b) on TRA's public website summarizing the candidates for each vacancy, and (c) the election ballots, which will be sent to all active or retired TRA members. All information you provide on your application must be provided in response to a legitimate Data Practices Act request.

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Please provide photo by e-mailing school photo/head shot (jpg) to [publications@minnesotatra.org](mailto:publications@minnesotatra.org).

Mail completed application to:  
TRA Board Election  
Teachers Retirement Association  
60 Empire Dr., Suite 400  
St. Paul, MN 55103-4000

or email your application to:  
[publications@minnesotatra.org](mailto:publications@minnesotatra.org)