Report of the NSEA Retirement Committee Submitted by Dr. De Tonack

The NSEA Retirement Committee met on January 22, 2022. Jason Hayes, NSEA Director of Public Policy and Legislative Research, reviewed the 2021 NPERS Actuarial Report noting the actual FY2021 investment rate of return was 30%, well above the 7.3% assumed rate of return. The plan's funded ratio is now 97.41%, up from 91.65% in 2020. It is projected to be above 100% next year. A ratio above 100% suggests that contribution rates could be lowered or benefits expanded. No additional state contribution is required this year, nor is one projected for the foreseeable future (15-year forecast).

The OSERS Actuarial Study is not released at the time of this report but is to be released in March or April.

The administrative transition from OSERS to NPERS is scheduled for 2024.

The Committee voted to support legislative bills 144, 700, 1043 (later combined with 700), and 825. Testimony in support of LB825 eliminating state taxation on Social Security Benefits within a 5-year rather than 10-year window was presented by several NSEA Retired members at the appropriate hearing.

Committee members suggested another Retirement Committee meeting before January 2023 to discuss various issues and to seek the involvement of an individual(s) who may want to become the additional member on NPERS once the administrative transition from OSERS has occurred.