

2021 – 2022 Mini-Grant Winners



Area I West - Washington County

ABLE -Academy of Blended Learning Education,
Ann Marie Downey, MRSPA Community Service Committee,
Patricia Leazier, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
Cathy Grantham and Karen Teach, WCREPA Co-Presidents,
The World Through a Microscope



Area I East – Carroll County

Westminster High School,
Bonnie McElroy, CCRSPA Co-President,
Sally Smith, MRSPA Area I East Director,
Claudia Konkus, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
Naudine Pheobus, CCRSPA Co-President,
Learning Through Giving



Area II North – Harford County

Havre de Grace High School,
Linda Chamberlin, HCRSPA President,
Bill Ekey, HCRSPA Treasurer,
Deanna Burch, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
Brad Spence, Assistant Principal,
Growing in Our Greenhouse

The MRSPA Community Service Committee received 49 mini grant applications from 15 school systems across Maryland in 2021. The applications expressed the varied needs of today's teachers.

A winner was selected from each of the six MRSPA areas. Winners received \$300 each to implement their projects.

The Committee was able to present some awards in person this year with the help of MRSPA leaders, while one award was presented by the school principal at their request. The creativity and extra effort of the teachers in trying to meet the needs of their students are admirable!



Area III North – Caroline County

Caroline Career and Technology Center,
Dr. Debbie Chance, MRSPA Vice President,
Kristi Hall, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
Eric Cook, Teacher Specialist, CCTC,
Barbara Short, CRSP President,
Color Me Appreciated



Area III South – Worcester County

Stephen Decatur High School,
Tom Sites, Principal,
Margo Ayers, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
Lou Taylor, Superintendent,
Sound Meditation

Area II South – Charles County

Malcom Elementary School,
Wanda R. Twigg MRSPA Executive Director,
Emily Leedy, Teacher/Mini Grant Winner,
George Denny, Jr., MRSPA President,
Signed, Sealed, Delivered



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by George D. Denny, Jr.

“April is the kindest month. April gets you out of your head and out working in the garden.” - Marty Rubin



This time last year, we all were anticipating the end of Covid restrictions and the beginning of the “new normal.” Then we were

introduced to the fifteenth letter of the Greek alphabet-- (O) as in Omicron.

Now, spring again is upon us, the flowers are blooming, and cabin fever has been replaced by spring fever.

Every time I have had the opportunity to visit in-person with members of the various locals, I have been impressed with the enthusiasm and eagerness of those members as they talk with others they have not seen in some cases for more than a year.

The Maryland General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn at midnight on Monday, April 11, 2022. Throughout the session the MRSPA Legislative Committee and Virginia Crespo, our Legislative Aid, have been meeting biweekly to discuss the status of bills that have any impact on retirees specifically, and senior citizens in general. The committee has supported or opposed a number of those bills and has conveyed those actions to the various delegations.

MRSPA staff and committees continue to work laboriously on preparations for the May 11 Annual Business Meeting. We are hoping that this year's event will be in-person at Martin's Camelot near Upper Marlboro. The meeting promises to be an exciting one, where delegates from all over the state undoubtedly will dress in

MRSPA News

is published five times each year by the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association.

Editor

Dr. Russell G. Wright

Officers

President.....George D. Denny, Jr.

President-elect.....Carla Duls

Vice President.....Dr. Debbie Chance

Secretary.....Janet Williams

Treasurer.....Dr. Stephen Raucher

MRSPA Business Office
8379 Piney Orchard Parkway
Suite A

Odenton, MD 21113-1508

Phone: 410-551-1517

Toll Free: 877-625-6782

Website: www.mrspa.org

Email: marspa@mrspa.org

their finest to see a host of familiar but long-missed faces. Delegates will be electing a slate of officers and awards will be presented.

As you begin to venture out into the world, please keep in mind that all retirees must stick together to retain our pensions and our other benefits. As cash-strapped local governments explore ways to balance their budgets, we want to be sure that their efforts do not take away from our hard-earned benefits. If you only do one thing to help all of us, please make that one thing be to recruit new members into the locals and MRSPA.

Meanwhile, I challenge you to stop and smell the roses and leave you with this one mnemonic:

“April stands for A = A New Month, P = Push Yourself, R = Rejuvenate, I = Inspire Others, L = Laugh Lots.” - Anonymous

Thanks, and best wishes,
George D. Denny, Jr., President

MRSPA Officer Candidates



**Nominee for Secretary
2022 - 2023
Janet K. Williams**

Janet K. Williams, a member of the Association of Baltimore City Public School Retirees, Inc., is the nominee for MRSPA Secretary. In her local association, Janet served two terms as ABCPSR's president.

For MRSPA, Janet has chaired the Scholarship Committee and served as MRSPA Area II North Director for six years. She is currently on the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee and is a member of the Travel Committee.

Janet is currently the secretary for MRSPA and is running again for a third one-year term. She enjoys serving MRSPA on committees and on the Board of Directors. Janet looks forward to continuing that service in 2023 and beyond.



**Nominee for Vice President
2022 - 2024
Nancy Gordon**

Nancy Gordon joined MRSPA and FCRSPA in 2007 when she retired from Frederick County Public Schools. She has served as President-Elect and President of FCRSPA and is currently chair of the MRSPA Scholarship Committee.

At the state level, Nancy has served as chair of the Member Benefits Committee, has been a member of the Executive Board, Finance and Nominating Committees, served as Area I East Director. She also served as MRSPA Secretary for three years and prior to that as MRSPA Vice President.

Nancy was re-elected recently to a fourth term as the lay secretary of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Since her retirement, Nancy has been part of the Education Department of Mount St. Mary's University, supervising student interns in various schools in Frederick County.

Vision Statement

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association inspires the dedication, commitment, skills and abilities of its members in service to fellow retirees and the entire community in an ever-changing world.

Mission Statement

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association is a nonprofit organization comprised of retired school system personnel. It serves as an advocate for retirees and provides expanding services to members, empowering them to enrich the quality of their lives. The Organization is dedicated to excellence in education and life-long learning. It promotes community service by its members through a myriad of volunteer activities.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

We, the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, are evolving to reflect the goals and aspirations of a contemporary organization. Through our shared values, we create an environment where all members are included, respected, and appreciated.

2022 – 2023 MRSPA Proposed Budget

MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023 - Page 1 INCOME

LINE #	ACCOUNT NAME	ACTUAL 2020 - 2021	BUDGET 2021-2022	RECEIVED TO January 2022	REQUESTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023
1	REVENUE					
2	MEMBERSHIP DUES					
3	Membership Dues-State	\$ 542,316	\$ 554,850	\$ 526,933	\$ 545,625	\$ 545,625
4	TRAVEL COMMISSIONS	-	3,500	200	2,000	2,000
5	INTEREST ON SAVINGS/CD	132	150	17	50	50
6	GAIN/LOSS ON INVESTMENT FUNDS	131,068	570	12,552	10,000	10,000
7	REIMBURSEMENT/MISCELLANEOUS	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
8	Annual Meeting	3,600	-	-	-	-
9	Retirement Folder Ads	-	-	-	-	-
10	Grant / NRTA	5,000	-	-	-	-
11	Miscellaneous - Other Income	8,355	2,000	816	2,000	2,000
12	Non Dues Revenue	440	4,000	1,922	4,000	4,000
13	TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 690,912	\$ 566,070	\$ 542,440	\$ 564,675	\$ 564,675
14	INCOMING TRANSFERS					
15	Membership Dues - Local Associations	\$ 150,193	\$ 150,000	\$ 155,710	\$ 152,500	\$ 152,500
16	Transfer from Investment Account	-	-	-	-	-
17	MRSPA Fund	270.00	-	-	-	-
18	Retiree HealthCare - Lincoln Financial Transfer	2,749.00	2,755.00	1,374.60	2,749.00	2,749.00
19	Retiree HealthCare - Retiree Contribution	1,233.12	1,181.00	696.96	1,394.00	1,394.00
20	TOTAL INCOMING TRANSFERS	\$ 154,445	\$ 153,936	\$ 157,782	\$ 156,643	\$ 156,643
21	TOTAL BAL FORWARD+REVENUE+TRANSFERS	\$ 845,357	\$ 720,006	\$ 700,222	\$ 721,318	\$ 721,318

MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023 - Page 2 Expenditures

LINE #	ACCOUNT NAME	ACTUAL 2020-2021	BUDGET 2021-2022	EXPENDED TO January 2022	REQUESTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023
1	OFFICERS					
2	President	\$ 903	\$ 4,600	\$ 459	\$ 4,600	\$ 4,600
3	Immediate Past President	100	-	-	500	500
4	President-elect	-	1,500	-	-	-
5	Vice-President	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
6	Secretary	-	200	-	200	200
7	Treasurer	143	800	33	800	800
8	Board of Directors	1,587	4,200	464	4,200	4,200
9	Executive Committee	79	1,300	-	1,200	1,200
10	AREA DIRECTORS					
11	Area I - West	-	500	-	508	508
12	Area I - East	-	180	-	180	180
13	Area II - North	23	200	-	200	200
14	Area II - South	-	350	-	350	350
15	Area III - North	-	150	-	150	150
16	Area III - South	-	200	-	200	200
17	TOTAL OFFICERS	\$ 2,834	\$ 15,180	\$ 955	\$ 14,088	\$ 14,088
18	STANDING COMMITTEES					
19	Bylaws	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400
20	Consumer Education	31	1,500	545	1,250	1,250
21	Legislative	10,829	15,000	570	15,000	15,000
22	Membership	45,076	35,000	42,562	35,000	35,000
23	Travel	28	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
24	Community Service	113	2,750	282	2,750	2,750
25	Finance	83	200	2	200	200
26	Member Benefits	3	1,000	2,117	1,000	1,000
27	Public Relations	1,181	5,000	42	5,000	5,000
28	Scholarship	68	1,500	162	1,500	1,500
29	Nominating	3	200	-	200	200
30	TOTAL STANDING COMMITTEES	\$ 57,415	\$ 63,650	\$ 46,282	\$ 63,300	\$ 63,300
31	AD HOC COMMITTEES					
32						
33	TOTAL AD HOC COMMITTEES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
34	TOTAL COMMITTEES	\$ 57,415	\$ 63,650	\$ 46,282	\$ 63,300	\$ 63,300

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

Proposed Budget 2022-2023 - Page 3

Expenditures

LINE #	ACCOUNT NAME	ACTUAL 2020-2021	BUDGET 2021-2022	EXPENDED TO January 2022	REQUESTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023
1	MRSPA NEWSLETTER					
2	Publications	\$ 23,067	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,054	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
3	TOTAL MRSPA NEWSLETTER	\$ 23,067	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,054	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
4	ANNUAL ACTIVITIES					
5	Annual Business Meeting	\$ 5,504	\$ 24,750	\$ 11	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
6	Organization Handbook		750.00	-	750.00	750.00
7	Leadership Training	108.74	6,500.00	20.14	6,000.00	6,000.00
8	Endowment Fund	382.35	-	-	-	-
9	Local Association Presidents' Workshop	419.65	5,000.00	111.41	4,800.00	4,800.00
10	TOTAL ANNUAL ACTIVITIES	\$ 6,414	\$ 37,000	\$ 142	\$ 36,550	\$ 36,550
11	ADMINISTRATIVE					
12	Salaries and Wages	\$ 197,620	\$ 206,508	\$ 86,999	\$ 208,169	\$ 208,169
13	Bookkeeping - Services	7,074	10,800	5,546	13,920	13,920
	Bookkeeping - Software Fees	-	-	-	1,080	1,080
	Bookkeeping - Bill.com	-	-	-	2,510	2,510
14	Expense Account	1,224	6,500	1,066	5,000	5,000
15	Staff Development	929	1,000		1,000	1,000
16	Legal and Valuation Services	5,959	11,000		6,000	6,000
17	Auditor	12,925	13,550	14,675	15,000	15,000
18	Taxes (Corporate Income & Property)	480	300	-	300	300
19	General Supplies	641	1,500		1,500	1,500
20	Office Supplies	6,708	6,000	2,260	6,000	6,000
21	Printing	1,316	5,000	197	2,500	2,500
22	Postage	379	150	283	400	400
23	Insurance	8,865	6,500	2,551	9,000	9,000
24	Telephone/Communication	3,162	3,252	1,317	3,252	3,252
25	Office Rent	63,558	69,208	33,760	69,559	69,559
26	Office Equipment - New	5,132	2,000	2,403	2,000	2,000
27	Equipment Rental	4,573	4,288	2,100	4,300	4,300
28	Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	390	2,300	390	2,300	2,300
29	Maintenance - Software and Virus Protection	3,567	3,795	2,438	3,795	3,795
30	Web Development	-	400	340	400	400
31	Staff Retiree Health Trust	-	-	-	-	-
32	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 324,503	\$ 354,051	\$ 156,325	\$ 357,985	\$ 357,985

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

Proposed Budget 2022-2023 - Page 4

Expenditures

LINE #	ACCOUNT NAME	ACTUAL 2020-2021	BUDGET 2021-2022	EXPENDED TO January 2022	REQUESTED BUDGET 2022-2023	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022-2023
1	OTHER					
2	Retiree Insurance	3,949	3,936	2,650	3,936	3,936
3	Reimbursement of Membership Dues	\$ 480	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500
4	TOTAL OTHER	\$ 4,429	\$ 4,436	\$ 2,650	\$ 4,436	\$ 4,436
5	UNCLASSIFIED					
6	Intuit Charges	\$ 102	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7	Misc Expense	1,539.00	-	-	-	-
8	PayPal / Stripe Transaction Fees	655.71	1,000.00	1,101.12	1,500.00	1,500.00
9	Bank Charges	1,194.52	3,000.00	1,090.00	1,300.00	1,300.00
10	Payroll Taxes (SS, Medicare, FUTA, SUTA)	16,178.08	16,135.00	6,696.68	17,069.92	17,069.92
11	Payroll Benefits (SEP IRA)	22,505.65	23,482.00	9,664.94	23,752.83	23,752.83
12	Payroll Benefits (Employee Insurance)	17,819.76	22,072.00	7,984.73	17,930.00	17,930.00
13	Contingency Fund				5,906.00	5,906.00
14	TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	\$ 59,994	\$ 65,689	\$ 26,537	\$ 67,459	\$ 67,459
15	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 478,656	\$ 570,006	\$ 244,946	\$ 568,818	\$ 568,818
16	TRANSFERS					
17	Transfer to Investment Account	-	-	-	-	-
18	Local Association Dues	150,252	150,000	155,730	152,500	152,500
19	Scholarship Fund	-	-	-	-	-
20	TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$ 150,252	\$ 150,000	\$ 155,730	\$ 152,500	\$ 152,500
21	TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS	\$ 628,908	\$ 720,006	\$ 400,676	\$ 721,318	\$ 721,318

2023 Proposed Budget Notes

Note 1 Revenue – Membership is based on 12,125 dues-paying members at \$45 each. There is no proposal to increase annual dues. (Budget page 1, line 3)

Note 2 Revenue – Gain/Loss on Investment Funds is a transfer of \$10,000 from the interest on the association's investments with Lincoln Financial. The amount may be changed during the fiscal year to reflect our needs and the actual interest earned. (Budget page 1, line 6)

Note 3 Salaries and Wages – Cost of living increase for employees is 5%. Also, one additional part-time employee will be hired to assist in office duties. (Budget page 3, line 12)

Note 4 Bookkeeping Services, Software Fees, and Bill.com - Increases in these lines reflect increased workload and software costs of our current bookkeeper. (Budget page 3, line 13)

2022 Annual Business Meeting to be Held in May

On May 11, 2022, the MRSPA Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will be held at Camelot by Martin's in Upper Marlboro (barring any changes related to the Covid - 19 pandemic). Over 200 delegates, guests, and business partners have been invited to attend. Approved vendors will be available to attendees before the meeting and before lunch. Covid protocols will be followed.

The meeting agenda will include the election of officers and a vote on the Proposed 2022-2023 Budget. Standing Committee and other reports will be shared. A video highlighting MRSPA's past and present will be shown, and the Memorial program will be held prior to the start of the ABM. A sit-down lunch will be served following the meeting.

Members who wish to serve as delegates to the ABM should contact your local association president immediately. All attendees are asked to be fully vaccinated and boosted to help keep everyone safe.

The MRSPA Community Service Committee will sponsor a virtual and cash/check drive for the Maryland Food Bank. The link to the virtual drive, <https://mdfoodbank.fenly.org/drive/frankie-mcdonnells-virtual-food-drive/>, will be live from March 10 to May 31, 2022. ABM attendees may also bring cash, or a check made payable to the Maryland Food Bank with them to the event. The Committee hopes many members will support the Food Drive, even if not attending the ABM! Our goal is to raise \$3,500 for families in need across Maryland. A cash/virtual food drive means that attendees will not need to carry food stuffs of any kind for donation to the meeting.

Immediately following lunch, the program portion of the event will begin. MRSPA scholarship and mini grant winners are invited to attend to share brief remarks. The MRSPA *Fund* raffle winners will be drawn. A limited number of raffle tickets will be available for sale prior to the start of lunch. The cost of raffle tickets is \$10 for one or 3 for \$25. Checks for raffle tickets should be made payable to the Community Foundation of Frederick County.

We look forward to seeing our member delegates and guests in person and to a wonderful meeting this May!

Notice of Annual Dues Deduction

The annual deduction for membership dues (for 2022 - 2023) will occur on July 29, 2022. Members will see a note of this on the stub they receive from the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alicia Hardisky, Chair, Anne Arundel County

Brenda Barnes, Prince George's County

Dr. Debbie M. Chance, Talbot County

George D. Denny, Jr., Prince George's County

Carla Duls, Anne Arundel County

Charlie Gable, Jr., Anne Arundel County

Henrietta Lease, Garrett County

Dr. Stephen M. Raucher, Montgomery County

John Sisson, Prince George's, and Worcester Counties

Sally Smith, Frederick County

Betty Weller, Kent County



EDUCATIONAL
SYSTEMS FCU

Es



Proud to support the education community

Educational Systems Federal Credit Union offers special financing and services for the education community.

Join today

Visit esfcu.org, call 301.779.8500 or find a branch near you.



Federally
insured by
NCUA



For those
who dare
to keep
learning...



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY addresses the intellectual
curiosity of retired and semi-retired individuals at locations in
Baltimore, Columbia, and Montgomery County. Osher offers
online and in-person non-credit courses, stimulating discus-
sions, rewarding cultural experiences, and social opportunities.

Daytime courses include Literature, History, Film, Music,
Astronomy, Art, Theater, and International Relations.

...the journey continues here.

LEARN MORE 667/208-8693 301/294-7058 OSHER.JHU.EDU



JOHNS HOPKINS
KRIEGER SCHOOL
of ARTS & SCIENCES



NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 JOPPA, MD
 PERMIT NO. 100

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association
 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
 Odenton, MD 21113-1508

MRSPA CALENDAR

- April 11.....Sine Die
Annapolis, MD
- April 15 - 18.....Spring Break
MRSPA Office Closed
- April 19.....Legislative Committee Meeting
via Zoom
- May 11.....Annual Business Meeting
Upper Marlboro, MD
- June 15.....Executive Committee Meeting
TBD



**MRSPA TRIPS AND TRAVEL
 2021-2022**



America's Music Cities Featuring Nashville, Memphis, & New Orleans, May 20 – 27, 2022
 (Mayflower Tours) Contact Debbie Martinez at (810) 797-5710 or (630) 673-0773 or
Debbie@mayflowercruisesandtours.com.

Oberammergau and Passion Play, May 22 – 31, 2022 (Collette) Contact Leigh Ann Keller at Action
 Travel at (301) 843-0887 or admin@actiontraveltours.com.

Alaska Cruise/Tour, July 8 – 20, 2022 (Cruises Plus) Contact Judy Warsaw at (410) 494-1414 or
judycruisesplus@aol.com.

Mackinac Island, September/October 2022 (Collette) Contact Leigh Ann Keller at Action Travel at
 (301) 843-0887 or admin@actiontraveltours.com.

More trips are coming soon!

Check our website at www.mrspa.org, click *Travel* to locate more information on trip.

All MRSPA trips are open to MRSPA members, their family and friends. Please use **Code: GO-28192 anytime** you travel with Grand Circle Tours to access a special deal for you and MRSPA, even if it's not a MRSPA sponsored trip.