

# VOTE!!!!

Tom Moscovic -Legislative Chair

## Election2020 Voter Information

2020 Presidential Election ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3. POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:30 A.M. TO 7:30 P.M.

OHIO ALLOWS EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING AT THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL. Both begin on October 6th. The Lake County Board of Elections website at [lakeelections.com](http://lakeelections.com) has information on everything you need to know about voting in the upcoming election. You can also call them at **440-350-2700**. Sample ballots by precinct are available at the Board of Elections website.

We do not know yet how the COVID pandemic will affect this year's general election, but voters are encouraged to consider casting their votes by mail or during in-person early voting whenever possible.

ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL: Receiving your ballot in the mail is a two-step process:

1. Complete an application for an absentee ballot. The Ohio Secretary of State will mail this application to all registered voters the week of September 7. You can also download the application form anytime at [lakeelections.com](http://lakeelections.com), or call the Board of Elections to have one mailed to you.
2. Return the application to the Board of Elections, by mail or in the drop box outside of the building. This form cannot be submitted online or by e-mail. Your application will be processed by checking your current voter registration information. Ballots will be mailed when early voting starts Oct. 6. You can track your ballot on [lakeelections.com](http://lakeelections.com).

EARLY IN PERSON VOTING HOURS: All early voting takes place at the Board of Elections office in the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville.

**October 6-9: 8 AM-5 PM**

**October 25: 1 PM-5 PM**

**November 2: 8 AM-2 PM**

**October 12-16: 8 AM-5 PM**

**October 26-30: 8 AM-7 PM**

**October 19-23: 8 AM-6 PM**

**October 31: 8 AM-4 PM**

**October 24: 8 AM-4 PM**

**November 1: 1 PM-5 PM**

## Ohio counties can set up multiple ballot drop-off sites, Secretary of State Frank LaRose says (October 6<sup>th</sup>)

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Ohio counties will be allowed to set up multiple sites where voters can drop off completed absentee ballots when early voting begins Tuesday, Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose said Monday.

LaRose also said counties can set up an additional drop box for completed ballots, as long as the boxes are located at the county board of elections office.

LaRose's announcement comes shortly before a 12 p.m. deadline set by a federal judge overseeing a federal lawsuit over ballot drop boxes. U.S. District Judge Dan Polster had given LaRose until then to explain why he wouldn't permit Cuyahoga County elections officials to move forward with a plan to set up staffed ballot drop-off locations at six libraries throughout the county.

County elections officials had approved the plan as an attempt to sidestep a limit on drop boxes set by LaRose, a Republican who is Ohio's top elections official. LaRose, a Republican, ordered county elections officials on Aug. 11 to set up one ballot drop box, but no more. That prompted voting-rights

activists and the Ohio Democratic Party to sue in state and federal court, seeking to force LaRose to allow more than one box.

Early voting begins on October 6th, with the first wave of mailed ballots going out to more than 2 million voters who requested them. In-person, early voting at county boards of election also will begin Tuesday. There has been a volley of filings and court rulings in recent days over ballot drop boxes in Ohio, both in federal and state courts.

The Ohio Republican Party, the Republican National Committee and President Donald Trump's campaign meanwhile have taken LaRose's side, arguing that additional drop boxes would increase the risk of fraud.

A three-panel judge of Ohio appeals court judges on Friday ruled that under state law, it's up to LaRose to decide whether to allow counties to offer more one ballot drop box. But they also overturned a lower court's ruling that would have forced LaRose to allow them.

"Tomorrow, absentee ballots will begin being mailed out to over 2 million Ohioans who requested them and voting starts at 88 early voting locations across the state in what will be the most accessible election in state history," LaRose said in a written statement. "Despite predictable partisan politics that attempt to create phony crises, we have kept our eye on the ball and Ohio's election officials are ready to administer a safe, secure, and accurate election."

### **Fun Facts from STRS:**

We have 208 recipients age 100 or older. 181 of those are females and 28 males. This is up from 198 last year. 152 of those are service retirees, 50 are beneficiaries of service retirees, 5 are survivors of an active teacher and one is a disability recipient.

There are 143 recipients who are age 99. This is up from last year when we had 125

The oldest recipient is age 108 (born in 1912). This member is receiving a service retirement benefit that began in January 1978. She retired at age 65 after 31 years of service with an FAS of \$9,300 and a \$480 per month benefit that has increased to more than \$1,500 per month. She began teaching in 1931 at an annual contract of \$900. **STRS Ohio has two retirees age 108.**

**The longest paid recipient is a survivor who began receiving benefits in September 1954 at age 21 at \$50 per month which has increased to \$337 per month. She has been receiving a benefit for 66 years as of September 2020.**

The longest paid service retiree is 106 years old and has received a benefit for 51 years. She retired in July 1969 at age 56 with 35 years of service. Her original benefit was \$410 per month and is now \$2,259 per month.

We had two members retire this year with more than 50 years of service. The member with the most years of service credit had 52 years. This member began teaching in 1968 at \$11,000 per year and finished at just over \$150,000.

### **Active Members**

We have 22 active members with 50 or more years of service. This is up from 21 in 2019.

We have 195 members with 40 or more years of service. This is up from 173 in 2019.

The member with the most years of service is age 82 and has 60.8 years of service credit. This member began working in 1959 at \$4,120 per year and earned about \$77,000 this past year

The oldest full-time member is age 89 with 23 years of service. He began his teaching career at age 62 as a university professor.

We have 14 members in the Defined Contribution Plan with an account balance exceeding \$1 million.

The largest account balance on 6/30/20 was \$1.46 million.

At the August STRS Ohio Board of Directors meeting John Morrow reported that STRS Ohio's total investment return for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 was +3.14%, outperforming the benchmark return of 3.07%. This follows returns of +7.13% in fiscal 2019 and +9.57% in fiscal 2018. Despite the positive return on investments, total investment assets closed the year lower by about \$1.8 billion, ending the year at \$77.1 billion. The overall decrease is due to benefit payments of about \$7.5 billion in fiscal 2020 far exceeding member and employer contributions of about \$3.3 billion.

The investment markets exhibited much volatility during the second half of the fiscal year as world economies felt the impact of the coronavirus. STRS Ohio's total fund return for the fiscal year stood at -5.7% at the end of March, but made a strong recovery from April through June to finish the year in positive territory.

Final figures for fiscal year 2020 show that STRS Ohio's operating expenses were approximately \$3,030,400 less than the operating budget approved for the fiscal year. Administrative expenses totaled \$101.4 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

Retirement applications more than doubled this July from last July.