

### **Retirement Information**

Please contact WCS Retirement Manager, Carrie Vitucci at (615)472-4055 or <a href="mailto:carrie.vitucci@wcs.edu">carrie.vitucci@wcs.edu</a> if you have questions regarding Williamson County School and TCRS retirement.

Please contact Retirement Benefits, Laurie Gulan at (615) 591-8506 or <a href="mailto:laurieg1@wcs.edu">laurieg1@wcs.edu</a> if you have questions regarding retiree benefits or transitioning to Medicare.

Please contact TCRS at 1-800-922-7772 if you have questions regarding your service time with TCRS.

### **Retirement Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### What is the Retirement Plan?

• There are two retirement plans through RetireReadyTN: The <u>Legacy Plan</u> and the <u>Hybrid Plan</u>.

#### How do I know what plan I am under?

- Legacy Plan covers teachers who started prior to July 1, 2014, plus full-time noncertified (Classified) staff. The Hybrid Plan covers teachers who started on or after July 1, 2014.
- Remember it is possible that someone can be covered by both plans depending on what positions they've held, for example: non-certified staff moving to certified staff.

#### How do I see my retirement and when do I start contributing?

• You can log on to TCRS to see your contributions, monthly statements, and annual statements.

- Instructions on how to create an account are linked <u>here</u>.
- If you are a new hire to WCS, it could take up to 60 days to see your account. ALL new hires who are eligible to contribute will receive a letter from TCRS explaining how to log in and update their information on the account including their beneficiary.
- It is good practice to ALWAYS make sure your beneficiary information is up to date.
- All eligible members begin contributing right away. Please follow the links above for the Legacy Plan and Hybrid Plan to understand the contributions and their percentages.

#### What are the steps to begin my retirement process?

- Please read through the <u>Retirement Procedures</u>.
- Application to retire is completed online at myters.tn.gov within 90 days of retirement date. (You can opt to retire from WCS but wait to draw your TCRS pension later.)
- Contact Laurie Gulan in benefits if you meet the eligibility requirements for continuing medical benefits at retirement:
  - 1. Employee must have hired date prior to July 1, 2009.
  - 2. Employee and/or dependents coverage must have been in effect a minimum of one (1) year prior to retirement.
  - 3. Employee must have 10 continuous years of full-time service with Williamson County Government or Board of Education and be age 55 on date of retirement (or) the Employee must have 30 continuous years of full-time service with Williamson County Government or the Board of Education and be allowed continuation of coverage at retirement regardless of age.

#### What happens to my sick time and/or vacation time when I retire?

- Your sick time will be transferred to TCRS toward service credit. (20 sick days are equal to 1 month of service credit)
- You will receive payment for up to 24 vacation days accrued. Anything over 24 days will be transferred to sick time and applied to service credit.

#### Can I purchase retirement years?

• Request an application with TCRS to purchase years where contributions were not paid while working with any TN entity.

#### How do I know my correct retirement date?

- The date of your retirement is the *day after* the last paid date of employment.
- The required WCS retirement form should state your last day of employment. When completing the TCRS application, your retirement date is the day after your last day of employment. Example: last day of employment is May 26, your retirement date will be May 27.

#### Can I work after retirement for Williamson County Schools?

- Retiree can work part-time up to 120 days or 840 hours and still maintain TCRS benefits. There is a 60-day waiting period after date of retirement. Under special circumstances, retirees may return with the 60-day waiting period waived if approved (determined by HR.)
- A TCRS Temporary Employment Report must be completed by retiree and the Retirement Manager. Form is required each calendar year while retiree is employed.

# When should I expect my last paycheck from WCS and first TCRS Pension deposit?

- Final paychecks can be expected two weeks after your last day of work.
- It can take TCRS 60-90 days to calculate your retirement and the reason for the 90 days out from retirement to complete your retirement application.

# When am I vested and can the funds from my TCRS account be withdrawn should I leave Williamson County Schools before I am vested with TCRS?

- Employee becomes vested after five years (60 months) of service credit is met with TCRS.
- You can cash out contributions should you no longer participate with a TCRS employer. You will need to call TCRS to start the process and to understand all your options. Should you return to a TCRS employer, you will be reenrolled as a new member of the TCRS system.