



## New York State Teachers' Retirement System

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## News Release

### Harrington, Robinson Join NYSTRS Board

**ALBANY, N.Y. (Feb. 4, 2011)** — Dr. Phyllis S. Harrington, superintendent of schools at the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District, and Dr. L. Oliver Robinson, superintendent of the Shenendehowa Central School District, are the newest members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) Board. Both appointments were made by New York State Commissioner of Education David M. Steiner.

NYSTRS' 10-member Retirement Board sets policy and oversees System operations for the \$86 billion System. Trustees serve without compensation and represent various constituents, including active and retired teachers, school administrators and school boards. Members of the Board are responsible as fiduciaries to protect the long-term value of the System's investment portfolio and provide benefit security for its more than 427,000 active and retired members.

#### **Dr. Harrington**

Dr. Harrington began her career in education as a teacher. She also previously served as elementary school principal and director of special education. Dr. Harrington served six years as the assistant superintendent at Oyster Bay-East Norwich prior to being named superintendent in 2004.

She earned her Doctorate of Education from Hofstra University, and her M.S. and B.A. from Adelphi University. Her professional affiliations include the American Association of School Administrators, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Superintendents Roundtable and New York State Council of School Superintendents.

Her community involvement includes the Rotary Club, Boys & Girls Club of Oyster Bay and the Youth & Family Counseling Agency of Oyster Bay.

Dr. Harrington fills the NYSTRS Board position previously held by Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, who retired from public education at the end of the 2009-10 school year.

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**Dr. Robinson**

Prior to joining the Shenendehowa Central School District in 2005, Dr. Robinson was the superintendent of schools for the Rotterdam-Mohonasen Central School District. He also served in New York public schools as an assistant superintendent for business and a school business administrator.

Dr. Robinson is a graduate of Brown University. He earned his Ph.D. and M.S. from the State University of New York at Albany. In addition to his role at Shenendehowa, Dr. Robinson is an adjunct faculty member and lecturer at several Capital District colleges and universities.

His professional affiliations include the New York State Council of School Superintendents, American Association of School Administrators, and Southern Saratoga Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the New York State Education Department Commissioner's Advisory Council.

On the NYSTRS Board, Dr. Robinson fills the vacancy created when Dr. James N. Baldwin left his school administrator position at Questar III to accept the position of chief of staff for State Education Commissioner David M. Steiner.

The New York State Teachers' Retirement System provides retirement, disability and death benefits to eligible New York State public school teachers and administrators. NYSTRS is the second largest public retirement system in the state and one of the 10 largest systems in the nation. The System pays \$5.3 billion annually in benefits.

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