



New York State Teachers' Retirement System

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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News Release

Southerton Appointed to NYSTRS Board

ALBANY, N.Y. (May 24, 2011) — Timothy M. Southerton of Sayville has been appointed to the 10-member New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) Board by New York State Commissioner of Education David M. Steiner. Mr. Southerton becomes one of the three teacher members on the Retirement Board, filling the seat of Michael R. Corn, who passed away in March.

NYSTRS' Retirement Board sets policy and oversees System operations for the \$89 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 430,000 active and retired members.

A long-time teacher delegate to the NYSTRS Annual Meeting of Delegates, Mr. Southerton is a teacher in the Sayville Union Free School District and president of the Sayville Teachers Association. He was honored with the 2010 Sayville Special Educator of the Year award.

Mr. Southerton is also a trustee of the Suffolk School Employees Health Plan and the Sayville Employees Trust Fund, and serves as a delegate for the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association. Mr. Southerton, a member of the NYSUT Board of Directors and several NYSUT committees, earned his Master's degrees from SUNY Stony Brook and Long Island University-C.W. Post College, and a Bachelor's from SUNY College at Cortland.

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 distributes more than \$5 billion annually in benefits, with 90% of the funds used to pay those benefits generated from investment income and member contributions.

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