



September 2019

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E-mail: myfcrspa@gmail.com

President's Message *by Tom Slater*

We are blessed to have so many retired school personnel who are willing to help with our organization. I would like to especially thank Marsha Wise and Carrie Pierson for making sure that our newsletter continues to be published, Marsha for taking charge of this issue of the newsletter and Carrie for assuming ongoing responsibility. All of our Executive Committee work very hard to keep the organization functioning and I want to especially thank Debbie Thackston for substituting for me at the state president's meeting while I was on vacation; Sharon Rectanus for getting the minutes out; Shirley McDonald for making sure the bills get paid and our finances are audited; Sally Smith for representing us at the state level; Lois Humphrey for sending out the e-mails; and Judith Brandenburg for setting up a tea for our retirees at Homewood.

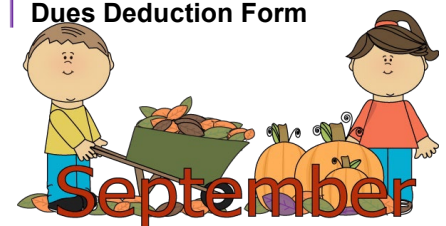
I have just received word from our Past President, Linda King, that she is moving to Delaware and will be resigning as Past President and AARP liaison effective August 15, 2019. Many thanks to Linda for her many years of service to our organization. I am sure she will enjoy living closer to her grandchildren.

Please sign up for the next luncheon – October 8 at Noon at the Lewistown Fire Hall. As previously announced, our speaker will be Dr. Freeman Hrabowski who will be speaking about the role of higher education in American society and the importance of telling our own stories.

He is a dynamic and inspirational speaker. He has been the President of the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) since 1992 and has been credited with transforming a commuter college into an institution known for its research and innovation, especially regarding African American students. Freeman has written three books, was selected by President Obama to Chair the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans and was selected by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2012. The great grandson of a slave, he graduated from college at age 19, has a M.A. degree in mathematics and received a PhD in higher education administration and statistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has been named Marylander of the Year and has received the Theodore Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence, the Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award, the Harold McGraw Prize in Education, the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence (in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring), the Columbia University Teachers College Medal for Distinguished Service and the Heinz Award. You do not want to miss this presentation.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Health/Insurance	2
Remembrance & Sunshine	2
Dues are Due	2
FCRSPA October Lunch	3
Membership Musings	4
Member News	5
Community Services	6
Great Frederick Fair Volunteer Opportunity	7
No-Sew Blankets	7
Happy Hours	8
Scholarship Recipients	9
Website	10
Mark Your Calendar	11
July Picnic Pictures	12
October Lunch Reservation	13
MRSPA Membership Application	15
MRSPA Membership Authorization Annual Dues Deduction Form	17



Health/Insurance Update

Submitted by Joe Polce

Open Enrollment

The **Open Enrollment Information Session** for retirees will be held on Friday, September 27, 2019 at the Staff Development Center in Walkersville from 9am-1pm. Members should have received a mailing with the new insurance premium rates and the Open Enrollment Information Session details. There will be various activities to enjoy along with our insurance providers to answer questions or concerns. Open enrollment is the time to make changes to insurance coverage. Attendance at this event is optional if no changes are needed.

FY 20 Premiums

The health insurance premiums for all members were increased by 2% effective July 1, 2019. A complete list of retiree premiums can be accessed at fcps.org. Click on Human Resources, then retiree insurance. The dental insurance premium did not increase.

COLA Adjustment for July

Eligible retirees will receive a cost-of-living adjustment in July of 2.443%.

*The Membership Committee will be hosting a recruiting table at
The Open Enrollment Information Session.
Please encourage your non-member retiree friends to stop by and see us.
We'd love to chat with you as well!*

Remembrance and Sunshine Committee

Please notify us if you know of any members who are ill, have passed away or who have had an immediate family member pass away. We will send thinking of you, get well, and sympathy cards.

Brenda Martz
brmartz@comcast.net

Faye Buckingham
buck0107@comcast.net

\$\$\$ DUES ARE DUE \$\$\$

If you ***have not paid*** your 2019-2020 dues by **November 1, 2019**, this newsletter will be **your last issue of the FCRSPA Newsletter**. All other FCRSPA communications will cease, as well as all MRSPA communications if you are a unified member.

We hope you'll decide to stay with us!



October Luncheon



Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Noon

(Doors open at 11:30)

**Lewistown Fire Hall
11101 Hessong Bridge Road
Frederick, MD 21701**

Cost: \$16.50 (Members and guests)

Menu

fried chicken
cole slaw
scalloped potatoes

baked ham
green beans
rolls

dessert
iced tea, coffee

Speaker:

***Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, III
President, UMBC***

***The role of higher education in American society and
the importance of telling our own stories***

**Reservation form for the October Luncheon is on
page 13 of this newsletter.**

All reservations must be received by September 21, 2019!



Membership Musings



The membership committee continues to work to support MRSPA's focus to recruit, to retain and to regain members. The good news is that we have gained **15** new members. More good news is that we are not aware of any members lost to the Memoriam Roster since the last newsletter. If you know someone who is no longer a member, please reach out and ask them to come back as well as invite those who have newly retired to join. MRSPA and FCRSPA work hard to protect your retirement benefits and provide numerous other benefits. Stay tuned for exciting events which our new Events Coordinator, Sally Smith, will be arranging.

Cash paying members should have received their bills for renewal. If you did not receive yours, please contact MRSPA or let us know, and we will contact MRSPA on your behalf.

The membership committee continues to contact FCPS retirees as they set off on their retirement journeys. We need to put (and keep) FCRSPA/MRSPA in the retirement vocabulary.

As of **August 1, 2019**, we have **749** Unified members PLUS **39** Local Only members for a Grand Total of **788** members.

The \$10 Gift Card Incentive is BACK! Any member who signs up a NEW member via DUES DEDUCTION will receive a \$10 Gift Card from MRSPA. Make sure your name is on the application form before it is sent to the MRSPA office. The application is printed later in the newsletter.

Also, if you are a cash paying member and convert to dues deduction, you will receive a \$10 discount on your 2019-2020 membership dues. Just think! No more bills and notices! The Switch and Save form is printed later in the newsletter.

Help us to grow our membership!

Marsha Wise, Membership Co-chair: myfcrspa@gmail.com

Debbie Thackston, Membership Co-chair:



If you are a Facebook member, you can find our page by searching **Frederick County Retired School Personnel Association**. All requests will be vetted against our membership roster.



??New Contact Information??

Address Change?

Phone Number Change?

Email Address Change?

Please remember to contact us if your contact information changes so that we can update our records and forward to MRSPA.

Email: myfcrspa@gmail.com

Irene Bailey, Debbie Thackston, and Marsha Wise provided photographs from our various events.



Emeritus Membership?

Do We Have Your Birth Date?

If you turn **90** on or before **June 30, 2020**, you will be eligible for **Emeritus** membership beginning on July 1, 2020.

Congratulations! **No more dues!**

We must have your birth date in order to award your **Emeritus designation**.

Please contact

Debbie Thackston

OR Email:

myfcrspa@gmail.com

Because the change goes through the Retirement System, no refunds can be made after the fact.



New Members Adrienne Murphy and Patsy Eavey joined us for the July Picnic.

New Members!!

Constance	Ahalt
Raymond	Barnes, Jr.
Marsha	Cohen
Cheryl	Havenstein
Carol	Linton
Beverly	Long
Mary	Malone
Adrienne	Murphy
Greta	Nettleton
Diane	Penn
Debra	Phebus
Marcia	Smith
Shelley	Sunkel
Deborah	Wachter- Hame
Robin	Zabel

Address Changes

Ann	Andrex
Pat	Custer

In other member news ~ After 54 years, Gail Slezak “retired” for a second time from FCPS. Frederick and Tuscarora High Schools honored Gail for her post-retirement service of 24 years substituting at those schools. She spent her first 30 years with FCPS as a vocal music teacher at Catoclin High School.

FHS presented her with flowers and a Thank You letter on Wednesday, June 19. On Thursday, June 20, THS presented to her a ceramic plate with an image of the Board of Education building engraved with her name and years of service to FCPS, 1965-2019.

Congratulations to Gail for her years of dedication to FCPS.

Community Services

Community Services Committee,
Irene Bailey, Claudia Harrington, Beryl Long

The **Community Services Committee** distributes school supplies to county schools for needy students. A large tub of supplies was collected at the Jefferson Ruritan at the July 9 picnic.



There were no cash donations. Supplies will be delivered (probably in

October) when the surplus of community back-to-school donations has started to dwindle.

There are needy students at every level, preK-12. At this time of year many stores have copies of supply lists from most schools, if you'd like to purchase something other than the usual pencils, pens, erasers, crayons, markers, glue, rulers, scissors, loose-leaf paper, binders, folders, spiral or composition notebooks, etc. August is a good time to find some great bargains. Please bring your donations or cash, to the October 8 luncheon in Lewistown. If you are unable to attend, please ask a friend to carry items for you.

At the December Holiday Breakfast/Brunch (Dec. 10, mark your calendars) we'll again collect unwrapped toys to donate to the U.S. Marines' Toys for Tots campaign.

Community Services also helps in gathering travel size toiletries for the Bridges to Success program to distribute to Frederick County students. Hundreds of soaps, shampoos, lotions, toothbrushes and toothpastes, and feminine products were donated at the July picnic. Thanks to all who assist in providing the basic tools and human necessities to students in Frederick County.



Travel Size Toiletries

Have you come home from your summer travels with extra hotel size soaps, shampoos, lotions, etc.? Bring them to the October 8 luncheon in Lewistown and the Bridges to Success program will get them to disadvantaged Frederick County students. There is also a need for shaving products, feminine hygiene needs, deodorant, dental care, and washcloths.

A Community Project

Do you have an idea for a community project that the members of the Frederick County Retired School Personnel Association could tackle? Or, do you know of an existing project needing the help of the FCRSPA? Please contact Irene Bailey at braveirene@msn.com, Claudia Harrington at claudia280@comcast.net, or any officer or board of directors' member. We need some fresh ideas and we have many able volunteers.

Several ideas for a group community project have been suggested:

- teach cursive writing to elementary or middle school students and establish a pen pal letter-writing system, possibly with senior citizens
- supply breast cancer patients with post-surgical pillows
- Soles of Love, collecting shoes and boots for needy children
- "adopting" a needy family or families to provide gifts and food for Christmas

Do these suggestions spark your imagination?

Other possibilities?

As with any project, leadership and commitment are key ingredients.

Would you be willing to organize and lead?

Let us hear from you.

Community Services committee members (L-R), Claudia Harrington & Irene Bailey pose with Irene's guest, Megan Kirkpatrick, at the July picnic. Megan is a former FCPS teacher.



FAIR VOLUNTEERS 2019

September fast approaches with the Great Frederick Fair school visits scheduled for 4 days this year: Monday through Thursday, September 16th – 19th. FCRSPA volunteers get free parking, admission plus **FREE ICE CREAM** for **each day** volunteered...with special identification for the morning(s) of choice in one of at least ten learning stations from 9:20 to just after 1 p.m. A brief in-service is scheduled for Wednesday September 11 at 6 p.m. next to Machinery Row next to Highland Street. Enter Gate 5 and park on the Fairgrounds by the City Streets/Country Roads pavilion.

Please **contact John George** at georgej@hood.edu. **Students arrive by bus in small chaperoned groups- more than 5,000 have pre-registered**

-- and we treasure your help!



John George is preparing to round up volunteers for the Great Frederick Fair. Seems as if he's following in his ancestral cousin's footsteps ~ Jessie James!



Consider joining the fun this year!
Volunteers from years past look happy as they pose, guard the tractors, and work with students.



NO-SEW BLANKETS

June 18 No-sew Blanket Makers

Front left to right: Regina Schwann, Deb Carroll, Rise Lanier, Jodi Herche

Rear left to right: Jenny Powell, Dottie Wood, Barb Ferguson, Doretta Dorsch, Sally Smith

A big thank you to these for making 10 no-sew blankets for the *Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership*.

Our **next blanket making get together** will be on **September 12** in the Clustered Spires Cafe at the Career and Tech Center from noon to 3:00.

If you are able to join in the fun please contact Sally at

simplysally@comcast.net by **September 8** so that enough kits can be purchased.
Remember to bring sharp scissors.

Come join the fun!

FCRSPA

Not Back to School Happy Hour

Barley and Hops
GRILL & MICROBREWERY

Monday, September 9, 2019
4:00-7:00

Barley and Hops Grill and Microbrewery
5473 Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704
(in the Target shopping area)

All beers ~ \$3.00 off
House Wine ~ \$4.00
Rail drinks \$3.00.

Special happy hour priced food menu.
RSVP to Sally Smith ~ simplysally@comcast.net
No later than
September 1.



Fun at Endless Summer Happy Hour

Twenty-seven members and guests attended the June 20 **Endless Summer Happy Hour** at Capital Crave. From top left, clockwise: Geni Rhoten & new member Adrienne Murphy chat with Debbie Thackston; Sally Smith and new member Carol Linton get to know each other; Carroll Kehne, Dan Pfeiffer, Bill Price and President Tom Slater share stories; Sue Krieger brought her mother as her guest; Sue Abbott, Karyn Hanna, Brenda Banko, and Jan Nefflen, former Yellow Springs colleagues, enjoy their time together.

And a good time was had by all!



FCRSPA Scholarship Update

Five scholarships were awarded from the FCRSPA Fund and from the FCRSPA/Petre Fund. The two funds are managed by the Community Foundation of Frederick County with the criteria reviewed annually by the FCRSPA Board of Directors and Dr. Richard and Pat Petre. Several members of FCRSPA, Bonnie Strine and Shirley Stroup, are members of the Community Foundation Review Panel which selects the winning recipients.

FCRSPA encourages members to contribute in March to the scholarship funds as part of the Community Service Committee outreach. In addition, a number of members contribute annually and often dedicate the funds in honor or memory of an individual. This past year, FCRSPA contributed \$4415.00 to the fund(s), helping the fund(s) to grow. Thank you for your dedication to helping students complete their education.

The scholarship recipients are invited to the FCRSPA Picnic each year. Because of work schedules and vacations, just two (along with their mother) were able to attend this year. Bios from four of the recipients follow:

1. Alexia Chavez-Brown graduated from Oakdale High School on May 31st. At Oakdale, Alexia was a four-year member of the Dance Team, the Drama Department, and Student Government. She participated in various clubs and was a member of eight honors societies. Additionally, she obtained Phi Theta Kappa certification through the Oakdale Leadership Academy. During her final semester, she was a student intern at Hillcrest Elementary School for Kindergarten. This fall, Alexia will attend Bethany College to major in Elementary Education and minor in Spanish. She was recognized as a Presidential Scholar and was accepted into the Honors Program. She is so excited for this next chapter in her life and would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her.

In Alexia's words, "Thank you so much again, it was truly an honor to receive this award."

2. Natalia Chavez-Brown graduated from Oakdale High School on May 31st. In her time at high school, she was Vice President of SGA, an officer on the Dance Team, actress in Oakdale Theater productions, and active member of eight honors societies. She plans to attend Bethany College in the fall as a Presidential Scholar and Honors Student. She intends to major in Education and minor in Spanish. She has aspirations of becoming an ELL teacher after she graduates. She is passionate about serving the Spanish-speaking community in Hillcrest as she has fundraised to donate books and completed an internship in a dual language Kindergarten class this year. She has loved having the opportunity to be part of this classroom and can't wait to teach in her own classroom one day!

In Natalia's words, "Thank you so much!"



Twins Alexia and Natalia anticipate their next adventure as they venture off to Bethany College.

3. Jenna Ignasiak: Jenna is from Myersville, Maryland. She will be a sophomore at University of Maryland this coming fall and graduated from Middletown High School in 2018, where she spent a lot of time with the Learning for Life students, which is part of the special education program at MHS. This is where she discovered her passion for working with special education students! Her plans are to graduate from UMD in 2022 and pursue some career associated with special education.

4. Courtney Larrick: Courtney is honored to be a recipient of the 2019-2020 Frederick County School Personnel Association Scholarship Endowment Fund. Throughout high school she participated in many extracurricular activities such as Girls Cross Country, Junior Varsity Softball, Varsity Softball, Libertytown Rec Council Girls 18u Basketball, Student Government Association, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Coloring Club, Gay Straight Alliance, Future Educators of America, Key Club, and Class Council Club. She maintained a 4.0 unweighted GPA throughout high school and graduated with a 4.5 weighted GPA. She intends to keep her good grades when she attends Bridgewater College this fall as a Flory Honors student. She will major in Art and minor in Education. Her dream is to become an art educator. Once she graduates from Bridgewater College with her teaching license and Bachelor's Degree, she will find a job as an art teacher at a local school. She intends to go back to school one day and obtain her Master's Degree.

5. Emma Lindell, a graduate of Frederick High School, was the fifth scholarship recipient. Bio is unavailable.

*Nancy Gordon
Scholarship Chairperson*

Website

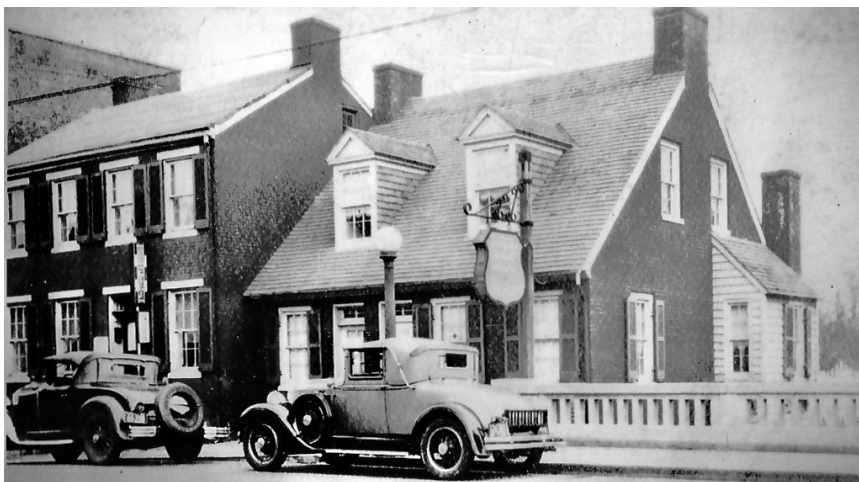
Submitted by Carroll Kehne

I'm trying hard to keep your FCRSPA.org website as up to date as possible. I must wait until all minutes have been approved prior to listing. I do invite you to read an important news item regarding our pension funds. Look for the NOTICE on the left-hand side in the red bar. Double- click on it and you shall see an article by Luke Broadwater from the Baltimore Sun on July 5, 2019. Investment challenges have again become the issue for the managers of the retirement funds. We should be concerned.



I have added a new Volunteer opportunity listed in the Volunteer section on the header. Judy Thompson sent the notice showing many types of activities that are available at the Schifferstadt Museum. There is no better cause for those interested in our history of Frederick County.

www.fcrspa.org



Speaking of history, I recently obtained an old postcard of Barbara Fritchie's house in Frederick in the 1930s. Take notice that Patrick St. is two-way traffic.





General Membership Meetings

Fall Luncheon	October 8, 2019	Lewistown Fire Hall	Noon
Holiday Breakfast	December 10, 2019	Dutch's Daughter	8:30 A.M.
March Luncheon	March 10, 2020	TBA	Noon
May Luncheon	May 12, 2020	TBA	Noon
Picnic	July 7, 2020	TBA	6:00 pm
Fall Luncheon	October 13, 2020	TBA	Noon

Board of Director Meetings

Held at CTC at 2:00 P.M.
August 13, 2019
October 15, 2019



ATTENTION!!
FCRSPA Members
Residing at HOMEWOOD

COME ONE! COME ALL!
WHAT: Social Gathering
DAY: Tuesday, September 17, 2019
TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
WHERE: Homewood Multi-Purpose Room
Light Refreshments
Members are encouraged to join us and visit.



SAVE THE DATE

Fundraiser for Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership
August 27 from 4:00 - 9:00 at La Paz

Gather your friends for dinner to support children whose lives are impacted by the incarceration of a loved one.
COIPP is a former MRSPA State Individual Service award winner from Frederick County.
 Just mention COIPP to your waiter and 20% of your bill, before tax, will be donated to COIPP.

See you there.

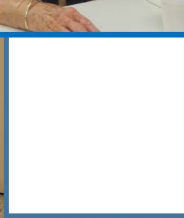
Questions? Contact Sally Smith at simplysally@comcast.net

July Picnic

*Preparations
underway*



*Friends
and
Family*



*And
a great time
was had
by all!*



FCRSPA October Luncheon Reservation Form

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
Saturday, September 21, 2019
PLEASE RESPECT THE RESERVATION DEADLINE.
THANK YOU!**

**Location: Lewistown Fire Hall
11101 Hessong Bridge Road
Frederick, MD 21701**

Time: Doors Open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served at 12:00 p.m.

Cost Per Person: \$16.50 (same fee for all)

Name: _____ Name of Guest: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Total Number Attending: _____

Have you become a new member within the past 12 months? Yes _____ No _____
Emeritus _____
(90 years or older)

\$ _____ Amount Enclosed (\$16.50 per person – Members & Guests)

★ **Please contact Ann Keyfauver if you require a special diet.** ★

**Reservations must be received by
Thursday, September 21, 2019.
Mail form and check made out to
FCRSPA
to
Ann Keyfauver**

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MRSPA Membership Application (Please Print) (New Members Only)

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Your Position at Retirement:

Administrator/Supervisor Non-Certificated/Support Staff

Teacher/Other Certificated Other _____

Retired from _____ Date of Retirement _____
(County/Local)

Payment Options:

Dues Deduction from pension authorization. I hereby authorize annual dues deduction from my retirement check or deposit. This authorization shall remain in effect until I revoke it. By authorizing dues deduction, I will receive a one-time \$10 reduction in my state dues. (see chart on the back)

Signature _____ Date _____

(Social Security Number Required) _____ - _____ - _____

Forms with Social Security #'s are destroyed when MRSPA is notified of dues deduction.

Enclosed is a check made payable to MRSPA.

I prefer to pay by credit card. Please go to www.mrspa.org

Signature: _____ Date _____

Do not share my information with member benefits providers.

I prefer to receive the MRSPA Newsletter electronically.

Referred or Recruited by _____

Return completed form to:
MRSPA
8379 Piney Orchard Pkwy Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113

Local and MRSPA Dues

	Local Dues	MRSPA Dues	Total Dues	Total for Dues Deduction Only
Frederick Co.	\$10	\$45	\$55	\$45

The MRSPA Membership year is July 1 through June 30

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MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION
8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113-1508

SWITCH AND SAVE!
AUTHORIZATION FOR ANNUAL DUES DEDUCTION

I hereby authorize the Maryland State Retirement Agency to deduct state and local annual membership dues for the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association from one of my retirement checks each membership year. This authorization will remain in effect until cancelled by written notice by me. I understand that my full social security number is required, if I wish to become a dues deduction member.

Print Name _____ SSN: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail this form to the Odenton, MD address above

Local Association Dues 2019-2020

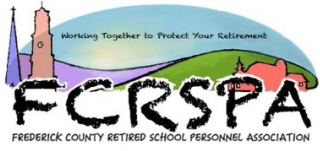
Allegany County	\$20	Anne Arundel County	\$15	Baltimore City	\$15
Baltimore County	\$15	Calvert County	\$10	Caroline County	\$8
Carroll County	\$10	Cecil County	\$10	Charles County	\$10
Dorchester County	\$10	Frederick County	\$10	Garrett County	\$10
Harford County	\$12	Howard County	\$10	Kent County	\$15
Montgomery County	\$10	Prince George’s County	\$15	Queen Anne’s County	\$10
St. Mary’s County	\$10	Somerset County	\$5	Talbot County	\$15
Washington County	\$10	Wicomico County	\$10	Worcester County	\$10

MRSPA dues (\$35)* + Local Association dues \$ _____ = Total Membership Dues _____

*Switch and Save dues deduction members will receive a one-time \$10 reduction in state dues.

MRSPA dues is \$35 the first year and \$45 per year thereafter.

(Recurring Dues deduction is made once/year from the July 31 pension check.)



FREDERICK COUNTY RETIRED
SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION