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## EDUCATORS' PENSIONS POSTED ONLINE

More than 1,000 retired New York State school teachers and administrators are entitled to annual pensions of more than \$100,000, according to pension data posted today on [www.SeeThroughNY.net](http://www.SeeThroughNY.net), the government transparency website. The new database from the New York State Teachers Retirement System (NYSTRS) includes name, benefit rate, retirement date and last known employer when available, for 134,796 people collecting pensions in 2009.

The highest pension benefit last year went to James Hunderfund, who retired in 2006 as the Superintendent of the Commack School District on Long Island with a maximum benefit of \$316,245. Additionally, Hunderfund serves as the Superintendent of the Malverne School District, his contract there -- also available on [www.SeeThroughNY.net](http://www.SeeThroughNY.net) -- stipulates that he earn no less than \$225,000 annually through June 30, 2011. Other notable NYSTRS pensioners include Frank Tassone, the former superintendent of the Roslyn School District, who ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> in 2009 with a maximum allowable benefit of \$174,035. Tassone recently served a prison term after admitting he took part in the theft of \$11.2 million from the school district.

A total of 1,004 retired educators were entitled to pensions with an annualized value of at least \$100,000 in 2009, the data show. These included:

- 2 people with a benefit between \$250,000 and \$300,000;
- 11 people with a benefit between \$200,000 and \$250,000;
- 60 people with a benefit between \$150,000 and \$200,000; and
- 930 people with a benefit between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

NYSTRS pensions in 2009 totaled over \$5 billion. The average pension for all retirees was \$38,489. The average pension for educators retiring in 2009 was \$48,238.

SeeThroughNY allows the public to examine government expenditures on the Internet. It includes the wages of more than 1.5 million employees of New York State government, public authorities, cities, counties, villages, towns and school districts. Also posted are teacher and school superintendent employment contracts for 733 school districts, state legislators' office expenditures, pork barrel projects, and a benchmarking feature for comparing local government and school district spending. The site was launched July 31, 2008.

The Albany-based Empire Center is a project of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, one of the nation's leading non-profit 501(c)3 think tanks.

**A table listing the 100 highest-paid pensioners in 2009 is attached.** (Note that the "maximum annual benefit" does not necessarily reflect amounts collected during the year. Some retirees began collecting benefits in mid-year, or may have chosen to collect a lower monthly benefit in order to preserve a larger death benefit for survivors.)

## 100 Highest Pensions in 2009 - New York State Teachers Retirement Fund

Rank	Name	Last Known Employer	Retirement Date	Max. Annual Benefit
1	Hunderfund, James H	Commack Union Free Schools	09/01/06	\$316,245
2	Brande, Richard T	Brookhaven-Comsewogue Union Free Schools	09/01/06	\$290,669
3	Friedman, Ronald L	Great Neck Public Schools	08/01/09	\$267,132
4	Campo, Leon J	East Meadow Union Free Schools	06/30/08	\$232,993
5	Brosnan Jr, William J	Northport-East Northport Union Free Schools	07/01/06	\$228,706
6	Mc Donald, William J	Floral Park-Bellerose Union Free Schools	09/01/05	\$215,226
7	Hirt, Richard I	Locust Valley Central Schools	07/01/08	\$215,076
8	Goldstein, George A	Sewanhaka Central Schools	07/01/04	\$213,493
9	George, John H	North Tonawanda City School District	09/01/06	\$205,809
10	Watkins, Dodge R	Haverstraw-Stony Point Central Schools	07/01/06	\$205,286
11	Brooks, Martin G	Plainview-Old Bethpage Central Schools	07/01/07	\$205,278
12	Lichtenfeld, Robert V	Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$204,573
13	Bolton, William R	Copiague Union Free Schools	07/01/08	\$204,289
14	Natale, Joseph L	Various	02/01/06	\$200,579
15	Murphy, Edward J	NDR	10/01/92	\$198,099
16	Weiss, Kathy G	Baldwin Union Free Schools	07/01/05	\$197,490
17	Caramore, Thomas J	Bellmore-Merrick Central Schools	10/01/05	\$193,987
18	Cronin, George T	Central Islip Union Free Schools	07/01/09	\$193,849
19	Dennis, Bruce L	Bedford Central Schools	07/01/04	\$192,423
20	Black, Leslie A	Brentwood Union Free Schools	07/01/06	\$190,124
21	Freund, Sidney A	Dobbs Ferry Union Free Schools	08/01/06	\$189,909
22	Colvin, Joan L	Jericho Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$189,510
23	Marsh, Richard S	Bethpage Union Free Schools	07/01/09	\$188,638
24	Chambers, John A	Byram Hills at Armonk Central Schools	07/01/08	\$187,222
25	Pereira, Lawrence F	Massapequa Public Schools	08/16/05	\$186,827
26	Eisenberg, Carol D	West Hempstead Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$186,386
27	Maurer, Richard E	Ardsley Union Free Schools	01/02/08	\$186,295
28	Pauline, Robert A	NDR	09/01/02	\$184,511
29	Segerdahl, Richard N	Island Trees Union Free Schools	07/01/04	\$180,662
30	Friedman, Jason P	East Ramapo Central Schools	01/14/06	\$180,594
31	Chapman, Karen M	Hewlett-Woodmere Union Free Schools	07/01/04	\$178,308
32	Vale, Ronald C	Commack Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$176,447
33	Tassone Jr, Frank A	Roslyn Public Schools	07/01/04	\$174,035
34	Watkins, Wilson B	Briarcliff Manor Union Free Schools	09/01/08	\$173,204
35	Leitman, Stephen I	Garden City Union Free Schools	08/01/05	\$172,427
36	Fauci, Linda E	New Rochelle City School District	08/01/06	\$170,830
37	Singe, Anthony L	Locust Valley Central Schools	04/01/06	\$169,537
38	Noble, Melvin S	West Babylon Union Free Schools	06/30/07	\$169,449
39	Ruck, James A	Sachem Central Schools	10/01/05	\$168,855
40	Olivo, Terrence L	Monroe-Woodbury Central Schools	08/01/04	\$168,783
41	McGoldrick, Lawrence R	Valley Stream #30 Union Free Schools	09/29/07	\$168,512
42	Langlitz, Harold N	NYS Teachers Retirement System	02/01/95	\$168,504
43	Uhlich, Myrna M	NDR	07/01/03	\$168,427
44	Martin, Philip M	Fayetteville-Manlius Central Schools	07/01/05	\$168,217
45	Benardo, Steven M	Kiryas Joel Village Union Free Schools	02/02/07	\$167,661
46	McGuire, Kevin	Half Hollow Hills Central Schools	03/01/01	\$167,638
47	Wilson, Charles T	Pelham Union Free Schools	08/01/08	\$167,359
48	McCloat, Raymond A	Harborfields Central Schools	08/01/05	\$167,019
49	Gagliano, Joseph P	NDR	08/31/02	\$166,645
50	Gangemi, John G	Nassau BOCES	07/01/06	\$165,901

Rank	Name	Last Known Employer	Retirement Date	Max. Annual Benefit
51	Manheimer, Robert	NDR	11/01/95	\$163,466
52	Milliken, Edward J	NDR	07/01/98	\$163,424
53	Dodge, Arnold E	East Rockaway Union Free Schools	09/01/07	\$163,037
54	Spina, Peter A	NDR	11/15/99	\$161,977
55	Smith, Helen B	Suffolk 2 BOCES	01/01/06	\$161,226
56	Dicesare Jr, Vito P	Beacon City School District	07/01/06	\$159,702
57	Billig, Martin L	NDR	07/01/01	\$159,198
58	Planz, Charles A	Smithtown Central Schools	07/22/06	\$159,113
59	Coletti, Charles D	Port Chester-Rye Union Free Schools	07/01/06	\$158,815
60	Myers, Joseph D	Suffolk 2 BOCES	11/01/08	\$158,298
61	Groshans, Edwin G	Great Neck Public Schools	07/01/04	\$158,150
62	Kindelmann, Albert G	Half Hollow Hills Central Schools	06/30/07	\$157,705
63	Elliott, Thomas C	Pocantico Hills Central Schools	07/01/08	\$157,413
64	Beni, Vincent T	Irvington Union Free Schools	08/10/04	\$157,362
65	Bronzo, Robert J	Brentwood Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$157,260
66	Dillon, Robert R	Various	09/01/07	\$156,887
67	Mc Elheran, Timothy J	Victor Central Schools	03/28/09	\$156,544
68	Nelson, Bert	NDR	07/01/98	\$156,454
69	Bernhard, William P	Various	09/01/06	\$155,287
70	Dadey, William J	NDR	02/18/03	\$155,230
71	Zampolin, Roberta R	Nyack Union Free Schools	07/01/05	\$155,000
72	Tedaldi, Christie R	Brentwood Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$153,821
73	Di Natale, John J	Various	07/01/07	\$151,965
74	Chapman, Lee	Baldwin Union Free Schools	07/01/04	\$151,128
75	Schildkraut, Michael	William Floyd Union Free Schools	07/01/04	\$149,671
76	Derose, Mary N	Kings Park Central Schools	07/14/07	\$149,429
77	Packman, Stanley H	Eastern Suffolk 1 BOCES	07/01/06	\$149,401
78	Schissler, Mark S	NDR	07/01/02	\$148,594
79	Walter, Richard J	Various	02/01/08	\$148,551
80	Ross, Randolph H	Great Neck Public Schools	09/01/08	\$148,541
81	Volp, Frederick D	Cold Spring Harbor Central Schools	08/08/05	\$148,272
82	Smith, Jeffrey D	Orange-Ulster BOCES	10/01/06	\$148,237
83	Scordo, Peter C	Hauppauge Union Free Schools	07/01/06	\$147,640
84	Riggio, Russell V	Nassau BOCES	08/01/06	\$147,433
85	Grant Jr, Carmen A	Niagara Falls City School District	01/01/09	\$147,109
86	Bruno, Linda J	Southampton Union Free Schools	07/01/07	\$146,819
87	Cataldo, John J	Liverpool Central Schools	07/01/03	\$146,252
88	Ferez, Peter H	Mount Sinai Union Free Schools	07/20/07	\$146,203
89	Schwartz, Mitchell J	East Ramapo Central Schools	03/01/08	\$146,081
90	Connors Jr, Gerard E	Sewanhaka Central Schools	07/01/05	\$145,785
91	Smith, Ronald	NDR	07/01/03	\$145,522
92	Van Cott, Alan W	Islip Union Free Schools	07/01/08	\$145,404
93	Davis, Robert L	Various	07/01/06	\$145,288
94	Hocker, Maureen A	Bay Shore Union Free Schools	07/01/06	\$145,125
95	Desorbe, Brian M	Amityville Union Free Schools	09/29/07	\$144,809
96	Polka, Walter S	NDR	03/15/03	\$144,594
97	Gemmill, Warren H	Bronxville Union Free Schools	07/31/05	\$143,897
98	Harrington, Cramer L	NDR	08/01/99	\$143,814
99	Singleton, Joseph F	Suffolk 2 BOCES	01/14/95	\$143,771
100	Lowery, Kathryn K	Suny at Albany (28010)	05/30/09	\$143,603