



## **District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan**

### **Summary of Material Modifications**

**September 21, 2009**

The Omnibus Domestic Partnership Equality Amendment Act of 2008 (the "Act") resulted in important changes to the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Plan (the "Plan"). These changes, which were effective retroactive to September 12, 2008, are summarized below:

#### **Domestic Partners Treated as Survivors**

The Act amends the Plan to allow domestic partners of public school teachers to be included as survivors. Essentially, the Act removes the word "spouse" wherever it appears in the Plan and the words "spouse or domestic partner" are inserted in its place. Consequently, retiring public school teachers may elect the Plan's Reduced Annuity with a Maximum Survivor Annuity or the Reduced Annuity with a Partial Survivor Annuity to cover either a spouse or a registered domestic partner.

#### **Impact on Active Members**

If you are an active teacher who is a member of the Plan and you have a domestic partner with whom you have registered under the District's Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992 (D.C. Code §§ 32-701 et seq.), you may elect a survivor pension benefit for your domestic partner when you retire. Informational materials and forms required for retirement under the Plan are being redrafted to accommodate this change.

#### **Impact on Current Retirees**

If you retired on or after September 12, 2008, and you had a registered domestic partner, you will have a one-time opportunity to change your retirement option to elect a survivor benefit for your domestic partner. To effect this change, you must contact the District of Columbia Retirement Board (DCRB) in writing within 30 days of your receipt of this notification. Your correspondence should be sent to:

Benefits Department  
District of Columbia Retirement Board  
900 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Second Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

**Please keep this document with your copy of the Plan's Summary Plan Description (pension booklet) for future reference.**

If you have questions or you would like additional information, active members should contact the DCPS Human Resources Office at (202) 442-5885. Retired members should contact the DCRB Member Services Center at (202) 343-3272 or toll free at 1-866-456-3272.

---

Lyle M. Blanchard • Barbara Davis Blum • Joseph M. Bress • Diana K. Bulger • Joseph W. Clark • Deborah Hensley • Lasana Mack • Judith C. Marcus • Edward C. Smith • George R. Suter • Thomas N. Tippet • Michael Warren