

MARSP History



1950-1959

- 1951** Founded December 15, 1951, in Detroit by 11 public school retirees and 2 representatives of MEA as Michigan Retired Public School Employees Association (MRPSEA); contribution memberships (not dues) at \$.25, \$.50, \$.75, or \$1.00; MRPSEA Constitution approved and included “all public school employees may become members” and “the association shall maintain department status in the MEA and shall be a chapter of the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA)”; Michigan had approximately 800 annuitants.
 - 1952** MRPSEA became a Department of MEA; first annual meeting in Detroit, 50 in attendance; Jean McKay elected first MRPSEA president; in December, Muskegon chapter presented quarterly mimeographed publication called VANGUARD to the state organization; Anna Van Buskirk of Muskegon first editor.
 - 1953** VANGUARD became official publication for MRPSEA - cost \$.50 for ten (10) issues; MRPSEA, along with MEA, became legislatively active; 1,050 members.
 - 1954** July 1, affiliated with NRTA; income tax exemption bill passed to exempt from up to \$1,200 of retirement income.
 - 1955** Proposed legislation relative to retroactive retirement laws; proposed legislation for recalculation of retirement annuities; 1,069 members, 5,100 annuitants.
 - 1956** Rally at Capitol Building re: giving retired public school employees better annuity; legislation passed with recalculation clause to grant new retirement allowances; MRPSEA endorsed MEA resolution to make the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction appointive.
 - 1957** Endorsed NRTA resolution to increase tax exemption on retirement income and provide Social Security for retired teachers over age 65; legislation introduced to raise minimum retirement benefits of qualified public school employees to \$1,800 but died in committee.
 - 1958** Legislation introduced again to increase minimum retirement benefits to \$1,800 - again died in committee.
 - 1959** Legislation again introduced to raise minimum retirement benefits to \$1,800 - again died in committee; MRPSEA representatives testified at both Michigan hearings for U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Problems for the Aged and Aging.
-