

Summary of April 17th Briefing with the Missouri Education Associations

The Federal Section 218 Task Force for Missouri School Districts held a briefing and discussion session, on April 17, 2009, at the Public School Retirement System's (PSRS') Board Room in Jefferson City, for the various directors of the Missouri Educational Associations. The Regional Commissioner (RC) and the Regional Chief Counsel (RCC) discussed the Social Security coverage determinations as set forth in the Task Force Report which can be found on OA's web site. They discussed the school district categories, the potential impact on employees and the affected employee groups, the treatment of extra duties and positions, use of DESE codes, and next steps. The IRS, General Counsel of PSRS and the Public Education Employees Retirement System (PEERS), and Assistant Director of the Division of Accounting in OA, also attended the presentation and participated in the briefing.

With respect to next steps, the RC explained that OA should communicate the Social Security Administration's (SSA) coverage determinations to the school districts and that the OA is the focal point of all contact with the IRS and the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding "coverage" determinations. For other Social Security information, such as the Windfall Elimination Provision or the Government Pension Offset, employees should be directed to their local Social Security office. The RC assured the group that SSA is committed to providing assistance to OA during implementation of the coverage determinations by the school districts.