

## **BOARD GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

A.C.A. §§ 24-7-401 *et seq.*

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1. The Board of Trustees is dedicated to the proposition that its paramount purpose is that of providing an adequate and equitable retirement plan for the members of the teaching profession, to protect this group in the event total and permanent disability causes them to be unable to continue employment in their profession, and to provide in part for their dependents in case of death.
2. The Board is responsible for the prudent investment of System funds. The two paramount considerations in fund investment are safety and yield, with yield being of first importance, provided such investments comply with legally mandated safeguards.
3. The Board should be fully informed of its financial liabilities, not only to the retirants and beneficiaries, but also to active members of the teaching profession, and to make those liabilities known to members of the state legislature, to other state officials, and to education-related organizations.
4. The Board should provide all interested citizens with information regarding the System's procedures for investing system funds, as well as the budgeting, control, and disbursement of those funds.
5. The Board will actively promote the enactment of state and federal legislation that may improve the economic welfare of ATRS members.
6. The Board endorses programs of counseling and information designed to assist members who are approaching retirement.
7. The Board should be knowledgeable of the most current information regarding effective, efficient governance and operation of state retirement systems that could augment prudent decisions for the benefit of members. To this end, Board members are encouraged to participate actively in regional and national retirement organization programs that offer such information and training.

**Adopted:** June 12, 2002

**Removed from APA:** December 6, 2005