

Candidate Biographies for the 2019 TRS Board of Control Election Runoff

Anita Gibson is a leader and education advocate who retired in 2015 with 27 years of service. She currently serves on the National Education Association (NEA)/Alabama Education Association (AEA) Boards as Retired Director, District 2 Director on the AERA Board, Vice President, membership chair/program chair of the DeKalb Education Retirees Association, delegate to the Retired National Conference/NEA-RA, member of the National Retired Leadership Summit Planning, NEA-Retired Communications and NEA-Retired Distinguished Retiree Award Selection Committees. While an active member, Mrs. Gibson served the members of AEA on the AEA Board of Directors; the NEA Board of Directors; two terms AEA Vice President and two terms AEA President. She has taught all subjects in grades K-5. She holds an Associate Degree from Northeast Alabama Community College, a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Jacksonville State University (JSU), a Master's in Elementary Education from the University of Alabama. Mrs. Gibson received the 2002 AEA Teaching Excellence Award, 2002 National Horace Mann/NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence, finalist for the National Education Teaching Excellence Award, 2003 North Alabama Girl Scouts Woman of Distinction – Outstanding Educator, June 2003 JSU "Gem of the Hills" Alumni Spotlight and 2004 Who's Who Among America's Outstanding Teachers.

Mr. Joe Ward, the incumbent, received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision from Mississippi State University. He worked as a teacher in Mississippi and Florida, as association staff in Florida, Kansas, Alabama, and with the National Education Association (NEA). Mr. Ward served as Director of Field Services and President for the Alabama Education Retirees Association (AERA), as well as on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Education Association (AEA). He has served two terms on the Teachers' Retirement System Board of Control. He is a registered lobbyist in Florida, Kansas, and Alabama. He served on the Governor's Commission of Education in Florida, and on numerous other committees and commissions. Mr. Ward is politically active in educational issues.

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**Thank you for voting in
the 2019 TRS Election
Runoff.**

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ballot along the
perforated lines.**

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**Place Holder
For BRM**