Why is this election being held?
The Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement Board is composed of seven members: two who are elected by the members; two who are appointed, either by the other members or the Governor; and three who are members automatically because of their office. The election is being held now because the terms of both elected Board members will expire in December 2015.

What is the Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement System?
The Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement System (MTRS) is a contributory retirement system governed by the Commonwealth’s retirement law, Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The MTRS, which is the largest of the state’s 104 contributory retirement systems, provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits to Massachusetts teachers, administrators and their families. The MTRS is governed by the Board.

What are the duties and responsibilities of the Board?
The Board, which meets once a month,
- establishes the budget, policies, rules and regulations of the agency,
- oversees the dissemination of benefits, services and information to its membership of more than 88,000 active educators and 60,000 retirees, and
- investigates and votes on all claims for accidental and ordinary disabilities.
The Executive Director, together with a staff of 90 professionals, implements the programs and policies of the Board.

Who is on the Board now?
The current members are:
- Jeff Wulfson, Chairman and Designee of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Deborah B. Goldberg, State Treasurer
- Suzanne M. Bump, State Auditor
- Karen Mitchell, elected by the members
- Dennis J. Naughton, elected by the members
- Richard L. Liston, appointed by the Board
- Anne Wass, appointed by the Governor

Who is eligible to run?
You may run if, as of August 1, 2015, you are a member of the MTRS who is:
- actively employed,
- on an authorized leave of absence, or
- retired and receiving a pension from the MTRS.
The term of an elected member is four years. Members serve without compensation.

How do I run for one of these two positions?
If you are interested in running, you first need to obtain nomination papers and the Rules of Election, available upon request from the MTRS’s Cambridge office (see below), on or after August 3. You will then have to obtain the signatures of at least 100 active or retired MTRS members, and submit your nomination papers by 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2015. We will validate your signatures and, if you qualify as a candidate, you will have the opportunity to submit a brief biographical sketch, which we will publish and distribute with each ballot.

When will the election be held?
Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters on or before Tuesday, November 10. They must be returned by Thursday, December 10.

For more information or to obtain nomination papers, contact:
2015 Board Election Officer
Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement System
One Charles Park, 2nd Floor
Cambridge, MA 02142-1206
Phone 617-679-MTRS (6877)
Fax 617-679-1661
Online mass.gov/mtrs

This election is being conducted by the Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement Board, Erika M. Gaster, Executive Director, under regulation 807 CMR 2.00 (Rules of Election) promulgated by the Massachusetts Teachers’ Retirement Board.