

## Leaves of Absences

Your pension benefit is based, in part, on your SPTRFA retirement service credit and your final average salary, both of which can be affected by taking a leave of absence. To eliminate any negative impact on your pension benefit, you may be eligible to make a payment to the SPTRFA to purchase the retirement service credit for the leave period.

When considering a leave of absence the school district offers several options. Six of which are eligible for purchase of retirement service credit during the leave: sabbatical, military, parental, mobility, medical and family medical. If you would like more details about **applying and/or qualifying** for these leaves, the school district can provide you with that information or visit: [http://hr.spps.org/Leave\\_of\\_Absence.html](http://hr.spps.org/Leave_of_Absence.html). If you are considering taking a leave of absence, please contact the SPTRFA to discuss the potential effects of a leave on your pension benefit and to learn about the process for making a leave of absence payment.

More information about leaves of absence and purchasing missing retirement service credit can be found on pages 15 through 19 in your copy of *Pension Facts*. An electronic version of *Pension Facts* is available online at [www.sptrfa.org](http://www.sptrfa.org).

### Leaves Eligible for Retirement Service Credit Purchase

Sabbatical  
Military  
Parental  
Mobility  
Medical  
Family Medical

### School Visits

Ames Elementary  
May 11, 2009

Washington Technology Magnet  
Middle School  
May 12, 2009

Franklin Music Magnet  
May 14, 2009

## Leaving the District?

If you have made the decision to leave the district at the end of the year you may find yourself having questions about your pension. If you plan to continue teaching in Minnesota, please see *Pensions 101* Volume 1 Edition 7 for information about Combined Service. If you do not plan to return to teaching, are leaving the state, or are planning to retire you should contact our office if you have not all ready. You can reach our office by calling (651)-642-2550 or emailing us at [info@sptrfa.org](mailto:info@sptrfa.org).