

## While 68% of Jefferson County Middle School Students are failing basic Reading tests, Politician School Superintendent Eydie Tricquet maneuvers for a \$468,266 Pension Bonus!



In one of Florida's Poorest Counties Jefferson County Politician School Superintendent Eydie Tricquet decided her Salary of \$ 118,764<sup>1</sup> and pension cash bonus of \$252,105 was not enough money and applied for a special \$468,366<sup>2</sup> taxpayer-funded pension bonus! Source documents at <https://tripleddippers.org/triple-dippers-hall-of-shame/>

"Eydie Tricquet's original Pension cash bonus contract of \$262,196 was scheduled to be paid on June 30, 2023", noted Dave Jaye, Researcher <https://tripleddippers.org/> "But on June 20, 2023 greedy Eydie Tricquet used her political position to extend her pension cash bonus period to from five to eight years increasing her pension cash bonus to \$468,266 and monthly pension from approximately \$2,681 to \$4,791! Elected School Superintendent Eydie Tricquet exploited her political position by signing up for a Triple Dipper Program where Tricquet collected a paycheck and a pension at the same time to do the same job and doesn't pay 3% of her \$118,764 salary (\$3,562), into the Florida Retirement System like other public employees".

"Sneaky Politician Eydie Tricquet is greedy. How many gourmet meals, luxury cars, and vacation homes does one person need or can even use? How much of the \$468,266 taxpayer-paid pension bonus will School Superintendent Eydie Tricquet promise, in writing, to donate to charity? Superintendent Eydie Tricquet is setting a disgraceful benchmark for personal enrichment in Florida Public Schools."

See Hall of Shame Face Book site <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555625861400>

Jefferson County Florida Poverty Rate is 16%<sup>3</sup> 26% higher than Florida's State wide poverty rate of 12.7%<sup>4</sup> The average Jefferson County worker makes only \$27,300<sup>5</sup> which is \$13.13 an hour. Jefferson County regular working men and women would have to labor 22.8 years to make Politician School Superintendent Eydie Tricquet's outrageous \$468,266 Pension cash bonus.

Local activists and concerned citizens are questioning the ethics of such a substantial bonus, especially when many families struggle to make ends meet. "I've not seen anything in Eydie Tricquet's behavior as Superintendent that has been anything but selfish. I am not surprised to learn this", Billy Townsend,

<sup>1</sup> <http://edr.state.fl.us/content/local-government/reports/finsal23.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Division of Retirement (850) 778-4408 Florida Department of Management Services

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/jeffersoncountyflorida/PST045222>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/FL/IPE120222>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.talent.com/salary?job=jefferson+county&location=florida>

Investigative Reporter/Blogger Public Enemy Number 1

[https://billytownsend.substack.com/p/the-last-scandal-of-the-floridas?utm\\_source=publication-search](https://billytownsend.substack.com/p/the-last-scandal-of-the-floridas?utm_source=publication-search)

Superintendent Eydie Tricquet has been accused of misusing her Political position to benefit Businesses that sell services to Schools.

<https://billytownsend.substack.com/p/my-formal-ethics-complaint-against>

After taking the \$468,266 Pension cash bonus, Republican Politician Tricquet can use her Political position as School Superintendent to shamelessly break her contract promise to resign as a condition of receiving that \$468,266 taxpayer-paid bonus and continue not paying 3% of her salary into the Florida Retirement system.

68% of Jefferson County Middle Schools students fail at Basic Reading and 73% fail basic Math<sup>6</sup>. Shockingly, no information is provided for High School Graduation rates nor High School student reading and math scores. Eydie Tricquet's \$468,266 taxpayer funded pension bonus would be better spent on providing 33,447 tutor hours<sup>7</sup> to Jefferson County School children.

Politician Eydie Tricquet's pension cash bonus is formally called the "Deferred Retirement Option Program" (DROP). DROP's original intent: helping the state retain essential and rare skill sets and experience in mission-critical jobs-- not for politicians and low-skill jobs. For the list of the names, employers and pension cash bonuses of approximately 28,536 Florida's Triple Dippers, visit <https://tripleddippers.org/fl-statewide-2023-june-28537-tripleddippers/> .

Governor Jim DeSantis signed SB 7024 effective July 1, 2023 allowing politicians and bureaucrats to extend pension bonuses by 60% from 5 to 8 years and up to 10 years for School Employees and increasing the pension bonus interest rate from 1.2 to 4% and allowing many to collect pension bonuses earlier<sup>8</sup>. The Triple Dipper Pension Bonus system has created \$39 billion in unfunded Florida Retirement obligations, amounting to a \$1,725 liability for every man, woman, and child in Florida. <https://thecapitolist.com/frs-double-dip-retirement-expansion-will-make-it-harder-for-private-sector-to-compete-with-state/>

State and local Politicians are entitled by law to special treatment that allows them to accrue benefits faster and retire with bigger payments than most other workers. The separate class was created and modified over the years by the Florida Legislature, whose 160 members also are covered by pension cash bonuses<sup>9</sup>. Check out our latest investigative Report the **Hall of Shame** <https://TripleDippers.org/hall-of-shame> where we profile the most Greedy Florida Politicians and Bureaucrats using their public positions for personal enrichment.

**Triple Dippers Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555625861400>

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/florida/districts/jefferson-104381> and <https://data.tallahassee.com/school/fsa/jefferson/330000/jefferson/ela/2020-21/>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.ziprecruiter.com/Salaries/High-School-Tutor-Salary--in-Florida> \$468,266 pension cash bonus/ \$14 per hour for tutors - 433,447 tutor hours

<sup>8</sup> <https://thecapitolist.com/frs-double-dip-retirement-expansion-will-make-it-harder-for-private-sector-to-compete-with-state/>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.sun-sentinel.com/2011/03/13/florida-pension-benefits-especially-good-for-elected-officials-judges/>

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**Exposing Public Corruption and Wasteful Spending**

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Florida Retirement System Pension Plan  
Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP)  
Elected Officer DROP Termination Notification  
DROP Termination and Refund Payments  
PO BOX 3090  
Tallahassee, FL 32315-3090  
Local: (850) 487-4856 Toll Free: (877) 738-3767



MEMBER NAME Al Nienhuis MEMBER SSN [REDACTED]

Your DROP termination date is 12/30/20 as an elected officer, you may end your Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) participation without terminating your elected office as provided in s. 121.091(13)(b)(4), Florida Statutes. If you choose to continue your eligible elected employment after DROP participation ends you must acknowledge the following:

1. This provision applies only to employment as an elected official.
2. I cannot be paid monthly pension benefits or my accumulated DROP benefits until all FRS employment is terminated as provided in s. 121.021(39)(b), Florida Statutes.
3. If my DROP participation began before July 1, 2010, at the conclusion of my participation, my DROP account will not accrue additional monthly benefits, but will continue to earn interest through the month of my elected employment termination. If my DROP participation began on or after July 1, 2010, my DROP account will not accrue additional monthly benefits and will not accrue interest during the period after my DROP participation ends through the month of my elected employment termination, as provided in s. 121.053(7)(a)(1), Florida Statutes.
4. My elected employment, from the calendar month after my DROP participation ends through the calendar month that my elected employment is terminated, is subject to the following:
  - Retirement contributions will not be required of my FRS employer; however, Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) contributions will be required.
  - Renewed membership service credit will not be earned.
  - Retirement benefits for this period will be forfeited.
5. I understand that I may not enroll in DROP again.

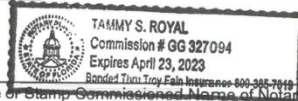
**MEMBER CERTIFICATION:**

My DROP participation will end or has ended on 12/30/2020. I have chosen to continue employment as an elected officer until the end of my current, consecutively held or succeeding term of office, OR an earlier resignation date of 1/2025 or later. I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above statements.

Member Signature: (sign in the presence of a notary) *Al Nienhuis*

Notary: State of Florida, County of Hernando. The above named person who has sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of September 2020 and who is personally known  or produced \_\_\_\_\_ identification.

*Tammy S. Royal*  
Signature of Notary Public



Print, Type or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

**EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION: TO BE COMPLETED BY AGENCY HEAD OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE:**

I certify that the above elected member's DROP participation will terminate or has terminated on 12/30/2020 with the Agency, who I am authorized to represent. I acknowledge that the member's post-DROP employment (from the calendar month following the month his/her DROP participation ended through the calendar month of his/her elected employment termination is subject to the following:

1. Retirement contributions will not be required.
2. Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) contributions will be required.

I further certify that the above named elected official's anticipated employment termination date is 1/2025 or later

Authorized Signature: *Rhonda Cantu* Position Title: HR GENERALIST

Print Name: RHONDA CANTU Phone Number: (352) 754-6830

Agency Name: HERNANDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Agency #: 37000 Date: 9/15/2020