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**Garden Grove Education Association**  
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President: Tina Gustin-Gurney, Electronic AdNotes, June 13, 2014

12966 Euclid Street #100, Garden Grove (714) 638-7480 www.ggea.org
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*A soft Sea washed around the House  
A Sea of Summer Air  
And rose and fell the magic Planks  
That sailed without a care --  
For Captain was the Butterfly  
For Helmsman was the Bee  
And an entire universe  
For the delighted crew.*

*Emily Dickinson*

**Bargaining Update will be sent next week**

**Important Dates & Upcoming Meetings**

- June 17 School Board Meeting 7:15 @ 5th Floor*
- June 18 Last Day for Students*
- June 19 Last Day for Teachers*
- July 14 Vacant Position Postings*
- June 23-August 29 GGEA Summer Hours*
- July 22 School Board Meeting 7:00 @ 5th Floor*
- August 4 Vacant Position Postings*
- August 18 Vacant Position Postings*
- August 28 Teachers Report Back to School*

**Happy Summer Break!**

This will be the last AdNotes of the school year. Thank you for reading these updates and keeping informed about the workings of GGEA, CTA and NEA. GGEA appreciates the time you give to your students and knows that you are making a difference in the world. Enjoy your time off and may you have a restful, relaxing and fulfilling summer break.

**Consult Members**

Thank you to all of the teachers who have served on the consults this year. Your work will provide information and guidance as we transition to the Common Core State Standards next year. Many of you were able to contact GGEA about this experience. If you haven't been able to do so, please let us know how it went. If you have any concerns, we would like to assist. We also appreciate feedback on what worked well.

**Vergara Case-Politics in Your Classroom**

Vergara v. State of California was a meritless lawsuit brought by Students Matter, an organization created by Silicon Valley multimillionaire David Welch and a private public relations firm for the sole

purpose of filing this suit. [Students Matter](#) is supported by Michelle Rhee and [Students First, Parent Revolution](#) Executive Director Ben Austin, Billionaire and school privatizer Eli Broad, former lawmaker Gloria Romero, and other corporate education reformers with an interest in privatizing public education and attacking teachers' unions. The suit challenged California statutes governing due process in teacher dismissals, using experience as a criteria during school layoffs, and the two-year probationary period for teachers. The suit wrongly alleges those laws are unconstitutional and hurt students. The defendant in the suit is the State of California. CTA and the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) intervened in the case to ensure all stakeholders have input in educational policy decisions and to protect the rights of educators.

CTA, CFT and the state of California will appeal the recent ruling. They will appeal on behalf of students and educators. Circumventing the legislative process to strip teachers of their professional rights hurts our students and our schools. This lawsuit has nothing to do with what's best for kids, but was manufactured by a Silicon Valley millionaire and a corporate PR firm to undermine the teaching profession and push their agenda on our schools. This ruling would make it harder to attract and retain quality teachers in our classrooms and ignores all research that shows experience is a key factor in effective teaching.

GGEA will post current information and articles on the GGEA Facebook Page. To read more on this very important case go to:

<http://www.cta.org/en/Issues-and-Action/Ongoing-Issues/Vergara-Trial1.aspx>

### **EPO Update**

Due to the issues that have been occurring with accessing doctors on the [Anthem website](#), effective October 1, 2014, EPO members will have access to the PPO network since Blue Anthem was unable to fix the problem. This will be for the 2014-2015 school year only as we will continue to negotiate for health benefits.

### **Retro Paycheck Update**

Payroll checks with the 2% pay increase were sent on Tuesday, June 10, 2014. This was retroactive to July 1, 2013. Check all of your accounts as the payment may have been direct deposited into a different account than your normal paycheck.

### **Super Week Sign Ups**

The district was aware of some glitches during the sign up period for Super Week. They worked quickly to remedy any problems. If you choose to attend Super Week, you may continue to sign up at school or even call the Offices of K-6 or 7-12 over the summer and they can assist you.

### **CalSTRS Information**

At CTA State Council, delegates were informed about possible changes in STRS (State Teacher Retirement System). The 2014-15 Governor's May Revise to the CA State budget proposed a plan to fully fund the CalSTRS Defined Benefit Program. There is a \$74 million gap due to the recent financial crisis that can be resolved through gradual, predictable contribution increases. CTA is working on the behalf of its members to ensure a secure retirement for all educators. The proposal is being discussed by the CA legislature. Go to [cta.org](http://cta.org) or [calstrs.com](http://calstrs.com) for more information. As GGEA learns more, we will inform our members as to any changes.

### **GGEA Summer Office Hours**

Beginning June 23, GGEA office hours will be Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Susan Kaylor and Jim Rogers will be sharing these office hours. President Tina Gurney will be checking in over the summer. GGEA returns to full time on September 2nd.

### **CCSS Resources from CTA**

CTA has compiled a variety of diverse resources for members to use as the new standards are rolled out. Go to [cta.org/ccss](http://cta.org/ccss) to find the links.

**Facebook Page and Summer Info**

[Click here to join GGEA's Facebook group](#). Allow our administrators 24-48 hours to accept your request. If you are concerned about privacy, please make sure your own Facebook page has privacy settings adjusted before joining GGEA Facebook. Follow GGEA Delegates this summer on Facebook as they attend the NEA Representative Assembly in Denver, CO. Also, please do remember that even if Facebook is set for privacy, others may see your own postings. Do be cautious as to anything you post on your personal site. If you have further questions, call GGEA.

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***Together Everyone Achieves More***

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**Contact Information**

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