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**Garden Grove Education Association**  
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**President: Tina Gustin-Gurney, Electronic AdNotes, February 27, 2015**

**12966 Euclid Street #100, Garden Grove (714) 638-7480 [www.ggea.org](http://www.ggea.org)**

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*I think it's my adventure, my trip, my journey,  
and I guess my attitude is, let the chips fall where they may.  
Leonard Nimoy*

*GGEA First Fridays  
Join GGEA members for a meet and greet!!  
March 6th 3:00-?  
Lazy Dog on Beach Blvd, HB*

*Upcoming Meetings  
Join a GGEA Committee!*

*March 2 Human Rights  
March 9 Instruction and Professional Development  
March 12 Communications, Special Ed, Organizing, Community Action*

*School Board Mtgs. are March 3 and 17.  
Schools asked to attend:  
Santiago, Los Amigos, Doig, Walton, Eisenhower, Riverdale, Clinton,  
Clinton Corner, Peters K-3, Peters 4-6, Woodbury, Rosita, Hazard,  
Russell and traveling music teachers*

*See Tina at the Board meeting to get a form for raffle.  
Contact Tina if you have any questions.*

**Call your Congressperson and Senator today!**

Both the House and Senate are now fully underway in the most serious effort to rewrite the law since the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)/so-called No Child Left Behind passage in 2002. This means the time for each and every one of us to act and shape the outcome is now. This reauthorization of ESEA is an opportunity to set a new vision of shared responsibility for a public education system that promotes opportunity, equity and excellence for all students. A system where students and teachers can focus on learning over testing. It's up to us to make sure Congress gets it

right this time!

PLEASE CALL 866-331-7233 Use these Talking Points [NCLB/ESEA](#)

### **New Contracts and Negotiations**

By now you should have received the latest GGEA/GGUSD Agreement for the 2014-15 school year. Please keep it handy so you can refer to it for any issues that may arise at your site or if you have questions on things such as leaves, evaluations, safety etc.

GGEA has begun bargaining for the next school year. An update was sent to each member with the explanation of the Memorandum of Understanding for school calendar for next year. Please see your rep or contact GGEA if you have any questions.

### **On MONDAY: It's Read Across America!**

It's right around the corner! Read Across America is Monday, March 2 - the day when the entire nation is encouraged to celebrate books and the love of reading. Mark your calendar and join in the fun!

As you finalize your plans for RAA, visit [www.cta.org/raa](http://www.cta.org/raa) to download bookmarks, posters, certificates in English and Spanish, and reading tips for parents (in eight languages). You can also download the entire year of book recommendations with the accelerated reading levels.

CTA will be collecting photos from the various events state-wide. Don't forget to send us your special RAA reading event photos and photo cutlines! Send to [editor@cta.org](mailto:editor@cta.org)

### **Parent Trigger**

Described by advocates as a citizen initiative to balance the power between parents, school administrators, and educators in the school reform process, "parent trigger" laws are being advocated as a "silver bullet" that cuts through the complexities of the "education establishment" and gives parents new, formal, legal power to fix their own children's schools.

California, Mississippi, and Tennessee enacted "parent trigger" laws in 2010. In California, the parent trigger law allows 51% of parents with children attending a "low performing" school to sign a petition and force actions such as closing the school down completely, replacing the principal, firing 50% of the teachers, or converting it into a charter school.

An elementary school in Anaheim recently collected signatures to invoke 'parent trigger.' There are schools in GGUSD that may qualify for parent takeover. You can help:

1. Establish effective, two-way communications with families of all backgrounds
2. Partner with families to promote positive student outcomes and support strategies to reach school improvement goals
3. Engage all school personnel in promoting family-school-community partnerships
4. Support passage of laws and policies and/or collective bargaining agreements that provide funding and resources to support solutions that work.

### **GGEA Scholarships**

**GGEA offers scholarships to GGUSD seniors as well as to senior children of members. Counselors at the high schools have further information or go to <http://www.ggea.org> to download an application.**

**Applications are DUE ON MONDAY, March 2nd!**

### **Building Positive School Climates**

GGEA board members recently met with reps from "red" schools to make an action plan to help the reps address the school climate at their site. We have also reached out to "yellow" sites to see what support they might need from GGEA. Thank you to those who have worked to address the issues at your sites so that we can develop positive working sites for all of our members.

### **Send us your photos!**

Do you have photos from Tet celebrations? Will you be participating in Read Across America next week? Send us photos or stories to share in our next Advocate newsletter. Send any to [advocate@ggea.org](mailto:advocate@ggea.org)

### **Pediatric Cancer Fundraiser**

Come join us for a super fun family friendly workout benefiting Reaching for the Cure's Team Running with Todd! 100% of the profits will go to the team's fundraising efforts! We will have door prizes and fun competitions for the kids. Following the workout, we will have a FREE Nutrition Workshop where 15% of retail purchased will go towards the team as well!

**WHEN:** Sunday, 3-8-15

**TIME:** Workout 11:00/Nutrition Workshop 12:00

**WHERE:** Max Fitness, 9065 Adams Ave, HB

**PRICE:** \$10/adult \$5/kid or \$20/family

Please RSVP to Jackie Novak [novak.jackie@gmail.com](mailto:novak.jackie@gmail.com)  
or Megan Ritter [meg\\_ritt@yahoo.com](mailto:meg_ritt@yahoo.com)

*Reminders:*

### **Scholarship for Students with Disability**

**Help a talented student with a disability win \$2,500 for college**

TheStandard is once again partnering with Incight, a nonprofit dedicated to reducing barriers between high school and college for students with disabilities, to offer one-time scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each to eight students nominated by California Teachers Association (CTA) members.

The deadline to nominate your students is March 15, 2015, and student applications must be completed by April 1, 2015.

To learn more and to submit your student nominations, visit [www.standard.com/cta/scholarship](http://www.standard.com/cta/scholarship)

**Looking to Retire and Need Information?**

The CTA Orange Service Center will be holding CalSTRS Retirement Workshops for members on March 21 and May 16 in Orange. The workshops cost \$10. Please see the flyer for further information: [Retire](#)

**Tax Return Information**

Remember, your professional association dues are tax deductible. The amount paid for GGEA/CTA/NEA dues for the 2014 tax year is posted here: [2014TAXINFO](#)

W-2 tax forms can be accessed through the Orange County Department of Education Information System website. To access the website, there is a link posted on <http://www.ggea.org>

For first time users:

- Log-in: ten digit District Employee Identification Number
- Password: Last four digits of District Employee ID Number immediately followed by the last four digits of your social security number

**Attorney Available at the GGEA Office**

GGEA provides its members with the opportunity to meet with an attorney for 30 minutes about non-job related issues free of charge. This is on a first come, first served basis. There are spaces available on the following afternoon: March 11 and 25 from 3:00-4:30. Please call the GGEA office if you wish to schedule an appointment.

**Join the GGEA Facebook Page**

To join, Facebook members search for "Garden Grove Education Association" and ask to join the group. This is a great way to get up to date information. 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.

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***Together Everyone Achieves More***

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**Contact Information**

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