



*CTA Award-Winning Newsletter of the Garden Grove Education Association*

# ADVOCATE

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## Preparing Our Students with the Language Skills They Need to Succeed.

Everyone wants California's children to succeed but many lack the resources they need to finish college and career ready. The California Education for a Global Economy (Ed.G.E.) Initiative will give teachers, parents & schools the power to help kids compete for tomorrow's jobs by expanding access to multilingual education.

Various educational models used by industrial countries have made major advancements by implementing technology and multi-language proficiency in the classroom, giving their students the tools to succeed in a competitive global economy. California's education system is too restrictive to keep up with modern demands.

That's why we need the California Education for a Global Economy Initiative, or Ed.G.E. Initiative to pass. This solution, passed by the legislature with bipartisan support and signed by Governor Jerry Brown, and supported by educators and the business community, will appear on the November 2016 ballot. It will overturn California's English-only mandate and provide expanded access to multilingual educational opportunities.

**The California Education for a Global Economy Initiative advances California's goals:**

- ✓ Highest quality education for all children
- ✓ Access to high-quality, innovative, research-based programs
- ✓ Better prepare students for college and careers in the global economy
- ✓ Gives more control to school districts over educational curriculum
- ✓ Empowers parents, teachers, and local schools to meet the needs of students

## Let's give students the Ed.G.E.

The California Education for a Global Economy Initiative (Ed.G.E.) repeals ill-conceived provisions of the Education Code put in place by the passage of Proposition 227 that hurt teachers, children, families and schools. The Ed.G.E. Initiative will enable teachers and schools to offer better programs that prepare students with the multilingual and international skills needed to succeed in school and compete in the jobs of tomorrow.

The Ed.G.E. Initiative will allow teachers, schools, and parents, to determine what language instruction methods and language acquisition programs should be used in schools. Additionally, it allows parents to easily request school districts to offer multilingual programs.

The California Ed.G.E. Initiative will ask voters to repeal burdensome, costly obstacles to providing all children language instruction. It will remove the waiver requirement created by Proposition 227, and allow all children access to multilingual programs, and teachers and schools to once again determine how best to teach their students. This is a win for teachers, schools and students.

## Let's give teachers the Ed.G.E.

California's education system is too restrictive to keep up with modern demands, particularly when it comes to making students language-ready. Passed by the legislature with bipartisan support and signed by Governor Jerry Brown, the Initiative will remove the risk created by Proposition 227, where individual teachers could be threatened by lawsuits if they were found to be out of compliance with the law and restore innovation to the classroom and allow teachers to determine how best to serve their students. Students often spend more time with their teachers in classrooms than they do at home. Teachers know their students and their educational needs better than virtually anyone. This initiative will allow teachers to be creative and use all of their skills as they see fit to best serves their students. Once repealed, the initiative will drive demand for language teachers and recognize the incredible value and knowledge they can offer our students.

Additionally, after Proposition 227 passed, many multilingual programs shut down and many others became charter schools because that was the only way for them to avoid complying with the restrictive laws. If passed the California Ed.G.E. Initiative will level the playing field for public schools that want to offer programs, repealing the excessive and unnecessary requirements placed on them.



## President's Message

Our organizing committee gathered information from math teachers and shared their suggestions at a school board meeting regarding the needs of students in higher level math classes. We have followed up by sending written information to the 7-12 Office of Instruction. As we continue our discussions with Kelly McAmis, Lila Jenkins and Emma Druitt, we are hopeful that positive changes will be made.



After speaking at the April 5th school board meeting about the ELA consult, the decision to adopt the text was put on hold so that the consult could reconvene to truly come to consensus on this important decision. Armon and I attended the meeting and I was very satisfied at how it all came together. I appreciated how Kelly and Lila planned a day that addressed the issues that had arisen at the previous meeting. I am happy to say that a new ELA text book has been approved for 7-12.

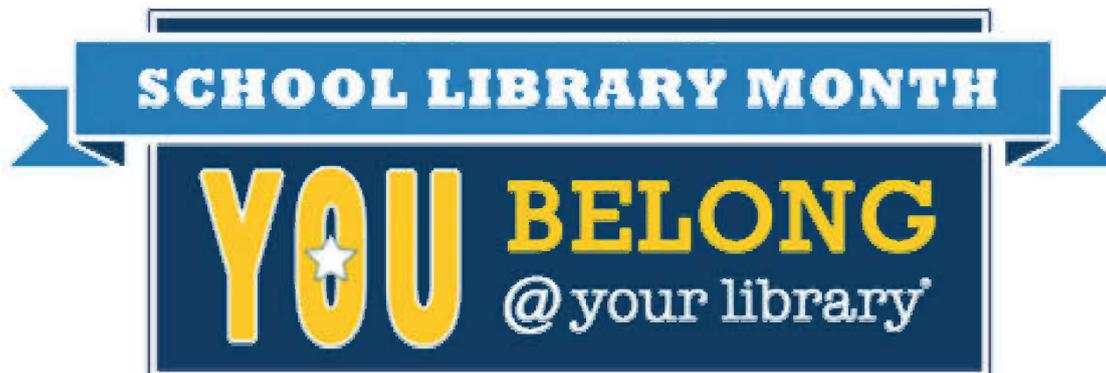
The kindergarten consult also reconvened to plan for next year's implementation of a full day program. They brought questions that need to be addressed. Then they made lists to help bring back the developmental part of Kinder that was lost during the No Child Left Behind era. Soon they will plan schedules and pacing.

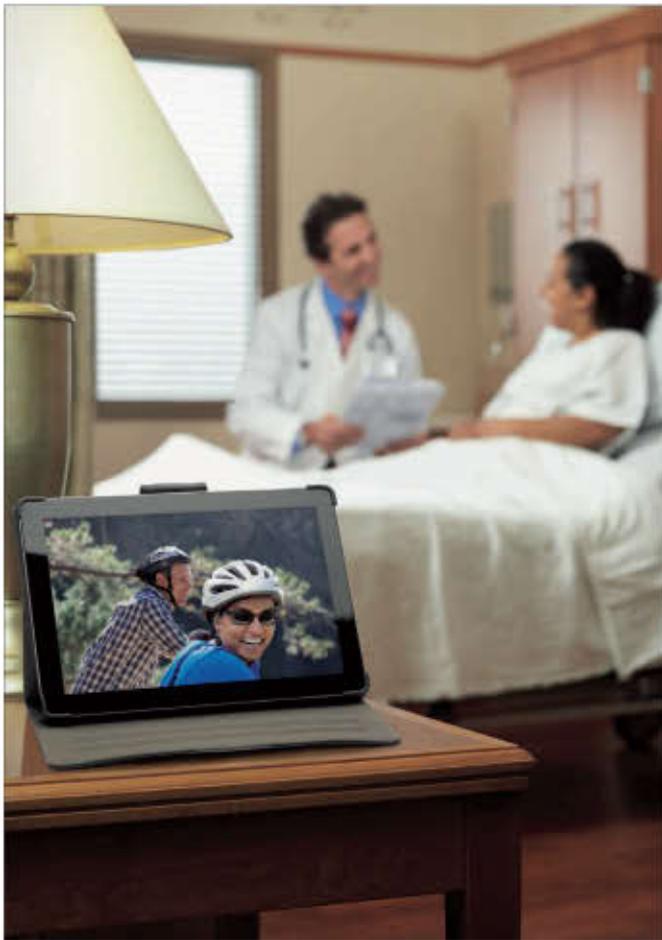
The consult process has been a long standing agreement between GGEA and GGUSD to address educational objectives and textbook selection. Its success is valuable to all who work in this district.

You may see GGEA teachers featured in an upcoming CTA Educator magazine. Camie Walker will be featured for her science program with elementary students. Mike Godoy was interviewed about his role as a rep. And I was interviewed about the organizing model we have been using in GGEA with the focus on our rep and principal trainings along with our protocols. It is so interesting to share this as it has become the norm for us. The reporter was very impressed with what we have accomplished. I believe its success is because of reps like you.

As we wind down another busy school year, I will continue to support our members and always appreciate your help in the process.

Thank you!





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When you're out of commission, you aren't just out of the classroom. You're missing out on what makes you, you. That's why it pays to protect your way of life with CTA-endorsed Disability Insurance from The Standard. It replaces part of your income to pay for the things medical insurance won't cover — like groceries, the mortgage, utility bills and more. Get the confidence that comes with knowing you've protected your future so you can focus on making the most of today. Learn more at [CTAMemberBenefits.org/TheStandard](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/TheStandard).



For costs and further details of the coverage, including exclusions, any reductions or limitations and the terms under which the policy may be continued in force, please contact Standard Insurance Company at 800-522-0406 (TTY). Standard Insurance Company, 1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204 GP 190-LTD/S399/CTA.1 SI 17312-CTAvol

## Calendar of Events

<b>5/3</b>	Board of Directors	<b>5/30</b>	Memorial Day
<b>5/4</b>	School Nurses Day	<b>5/31</b>	Executive Board
<b>5/10</b>	Segments Meeting	<b>6/3-5</b>	CTA State Council
<b>5/11</b>	CA Day of the Teacher	<b>6/7</b>	Board of Directors
<b>5/17</b>	Board of Directors	<b>6/9</b>	Retirement Tribute
<b>5/24</b>	Recognition Rep Council	<b>6/22</b>	Last Day of Classes

*\*Attorney available May 4 and May 25, 2016.  
Please call for appointments.*

### Advocate Editorial Staff:

Willie Burghard, Sara McCarthy, Tina Gustin-Gurney, Susan Kaylor

### Contributors this Month:

Teresa Jackson, Kevin Voeller, Human Rights Committee

# Human Rights Committee Update

## Garden Grove Education Association

12966 Euclid Street, Ste. 100  
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Phone: 714-638-7480

Fax: 714-638-9167

Website: [www.ggea.org](http://www.ggea.org)

Email: [president@ggea.org](mailto:president@ggea.org)

## Board of Directors

### President

Tina Gustin-Gurney  
(GGEA Office)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Kelly Nolan (Paine)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Bridget Holdermann  
(McGarvin)

### Secretary

Rebecca Koopowitz (Jordan)

### Treasurer

Thanh Nguyen (La Quinta)

### High School Segment Director

Stefan Dirghalli (La Quinta)

Ivy Trac (7-12 TOSA)

### Intermediate Segment Director

David Van Hoorebeke (Irvine)

Mark Sanchez (Irvine)

### Elementary Segment Director

Lucy Farmer (Peters K-3)

Susan Hansen (Heritage)

Karyn Lui-Silverberg (Allen)

Kim Ufholtz (Anthony)

### Executive Director

Armon Akerboom  
GGEA Office

## GSA Support

In an effort to provide support for our districts' LGBTQ students, the Human Rights Committee hosted a support meeting for the GGUSD GSA advisors. Advisors were welcomed with an activity identifying gender and sexual orientation terms. In addition, we discussed the status of their GSAs and schools. Advisors were given resources, literature on pieces of legislation that protect our students and educators, and a chance to share their ideas and concerns on making their schools safe zones for all students. As a result of this meeting, the committee was able to extend resources to other schools looking for help in ensuring they have a safe and welcoming environment for their transgender students. If you need help or resources, please email the committee at [humanrights@ggea.org](mailto:humanrights@ggea.org).

## Bullying



On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Human Rights Committee hosted the showing of the 2011 documentary, *Bully*. The documentary follows a number of youth as they try to survive each day at school. In addition, the documentary records how teachers and administrators respond to the acts of bullying happening in classrooms, cafeterias, restrooms, and buses. By the end of the workshop, teachers and nurses discussed how students in our schools can feel safe, the role teachers and administrators have in combating bullying, and possible steps schools can make towards becoming a bully-free environment. The discussion included today's bullying facilities, such as the anonymous platforms of Ask.fm and Ogle. These sites and apps are taking cyberbullying to a new level due to their anonymity, which makes it difficult for administrators and law enforcement to trace bullying and threats. Finally, the committee provided attendees with resources to help identify bullying and how to intervene.

### Did You Know?

- Studies show that 15-20% of students are bullied with some frequency.
- Bullying can lead to a drop in grades, absenteeism, depression, and thoughts of suicide.
- The California Ed. Code requires educators to intervene and help victims of bullying.
- Schools must have a protocol on how to deal with bullying.

In an effort to create a safe environment for all students, the committee would love to share any successful strategies. If your school has enacted a successful strategy towards curbing bullying or is seeking resources to do so, please email the committee at [humanrights@ggea.org](mailto:humanrights@ggea.org).

# Strawberry Stomp

Three of our teachers, Kevin Voeller, Tisha Voeller, and Sheryl Beard work with the Sister City Association of Garden Grove.

Sister City is a non-profit 501(c)3 charity that maintains the sister city relationship Garden Grove has annually with Anyang, South Korea. The highlight of their work is the year exchange of students between the two communities. In January, ten Korean students visited the city of Garden Grove and some of our High Schools. Over spring break ten GGUSD students traveled to Anyang for nine days.

The major fundraiser for Sister City is the annual Strawberry Stomp 5K race held Memorial weekend. This year's event will be held Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, at 8am on Main St., before the Strawberry Festival Parade.

The Strawberry Stomp is their major fundraiser and because of the support from GGUSD teachers, there is a \$10 discount to any teacher (or their friends or family) who would like to participate in the 5K.

Teachers can sign up through *Active.com* or *Strawberrystomp.com* and enter the discount code GGEA2STOMP during the online registration.

If any of our schools have a large number of students that wish to run or if you have any questions, please contact Kevin Voeller, at GGHS or send an email to [ggsistercityexchange@gmail.com](mailto:ggsistercityexchange@gmail.com).



GGUSD Students having a great time at the Strawberry Stomp 5K.



ID: macuser:

## IMAD Recipient – Tisha Voeller

Tisha has been working with the Sister City Association of Garden Grove as the Exchange Program Coordinator since about 2008. The SCAGG has been the non-profit organization that has for almost 30 years maintained and fostered the sister city relationship between Garden Grove and Anyang, South Korea. For 27 years this relationship has been highlighted by an exchange of students between Korea and GGUSD. Every January 10 students from Korea visit Garden Grove and the Southern California area, and over spring break 10 students from GGUSD visit Korea.



Since 2009 Tisha has coordinated the SCAGG exchange program within GGUSD and worked with all the high schools to raise the profile of this amazing opportunity. She coordinates the application process and has led the growth of this process from a few applications from a few schools to around 60 applications a year including some from every comprehensive high school in GGUSD. Every year she works with chaperones, parents and especially the students to get them ready for a trip in which they will live with a foreign family for 9 days.

Tisha and the program have shepherded students from all backgrounds through this program, from former gang members, to Board of Ed. Student liaisons, to the countless students who have changed the direction of their life because of the experience Tisha helped bring them. We have seen students come out of their shells, being the kid who sits in the back of the room to a member of the ASB. We have seen kids who never before left the country decide they want to study abroad. We have also seen students who showed no interest in politics, go on to study geopolitics and international relations in college.

Tisha, has worked for years with GGUSD students and this life changing program. She has worked with GGUSD and the City of Garden Grove to provide an experience that many communities and schools don't have. She is working with students from different backgrounds, socioeconomic situations, and communities from every part of GGUSD. And she is making a positive difference in the lives of students.

**VERGARA RULING OVERTURNED**



**BY CALIFORNIA APPEALS COURT**

## IMAD Recipient – Teresa Jackson

I have been blessed to be able to teach and create unforgettable moments for ten years in Garden Grove Unified School District. I'm currently a sixth grade teacher and absolutely love educating pre-teens.

My first year teaching, I soon realized that I was always on the search for engaging activities, strategies and noisemakers to make lessons creative and fun. In 2007, I began to use science demonstrations as a way to keep students engaged in other curricular areas. A year later, students were eager to stay after school and create interactive shows that use science as a vehicle to educate about college, bullying and the importance of saying NO. Students with my support, performed science shows for multiple grade levels at our school, and in the community on the weekends. These shows helped scholars develop self-confidence, public speaking skills and created volunteering opportunities. Eventually, after countless hours of volunteer work and community building, I then formed Jackson's Science Maniacs. For the past five years, I have been fortunate to educate and perform interactive and upbeat assemblies all over the district and in Orange County with the assistance of adult former students.



As a result of my science show success, I then found the funds to begin Jackson's College Bound Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides college and extracurricular activity scholarships to Garden Grove Unified students. This teacher-led organization strives to guide students to discover their spark while also educating about the importance of a higher education. The organization also has a College Bound Science Maniac Club that helps students continue to educate others in the community about science and college. This group of students assists with fundraising events and serve as intermediate, high school and college buddies to younger scholars. Each June, students are nominated and selected to participate in extracurricular activities over the summer. Last summer, eight students from different elementary schools in Garden Grove were awarded scholarships that provided students the opportunity to participate in science, music, gymnastics, art, and basketball camps throughout the summer. One college scholarship was awarded, and a community science camp was also organized with the help of generous donors and fundraisers.

I am a very motivated educator who wants to help break the cycle of poverty by educating and inspiring students to see the importance of college and entrepreneurship. Over the years, I have witnessed struggling students succeed and overcome, which in turn, has motivated me to continue to work outside of the classroom. I believe that no matter what environment you grow up in, or what obstacles you may face, success is possible. Programs such as AVID, The College Mentoring Program, and other college bound clubs plant the college bound seed into thousands of young minds, and these types of programs influenced me as a child, and helped me become extremely driven.

When former students send letters explaining how you influenced them as a young scholar and come back and visit, you know you made a difference. When adult students come back and offer to help with science shows or college bound events, you know you made a difference. When other caring educators listen to your ideas and support events, you know you made a difference. Last year, I knew that I made a difference when a former student became valedictorian and mentioned my contributions and influence during her speech. When the college bound foundation holds events, and one witnesses the smiles and unforgettable comments young kids say, you know you made a difference.

The key factor in becoming more involved with students and community is realizing the impact a teacher can have on a student's life and the desire to want to give back. One life, one mark, how will you leave your mark?

# OCDE School Board Election

## Teachers For Local Control

**Vote for Public Education  
Tuesday, June 7 Primary**

**Rebecca “Beckie” Gomez For Orange County Board of Education Trustee Area 1**

- ✓ Currently serves on the Tustin City Council
- ✓ Professor in the Health Information Technology Program at Cypress College
- ✓ Bachelor of Science degree from UCLA School of Public Health, a Master of Science degree in Healthcare Administration from Cal State University Long Beach, and a Master of Arts degree in Sports Fitness and Management from the University of San Francisco.
- ✓ Has three children who attend(ed) Tustin Unified

92701 - Santa Ana	92703 - Santa Ana
92780 - Tustin	92782 - Tustin
92799 - Santa Ana	92840 - Garden Grove
92842 - Garden Grove	92843 - Garden Grove
92844 - Garden Grove	92707 - Santa Ana
92706 - Santa Ana	
92704 - Fountain Valley/Santa Ana	
92708 - Fountain Valley/Santa Ana	
92705 - Santa Ana/North Tustin/Panorama Heights/Cowan Heights	

**Michael Parham For Orange County Board of Education Trustee Area 3**

- ✓ Irvine Unified School Board since 2004
- ✓ Received two Bachelor degrees with honors from Dartmouth College in Economics and in Russian Language, an MBA from New York University and earned his CPA license while working in New York City
- ✓ Has a son at Northwood High, a daughter at Orange Coast College and two very young children who will eventually enter Irvine USD schools

92602 - Irvine	92821 - Brea
92603 - Irvine	92823 - Brea
92604 - Irvine	92861 - Orange/Villa Park
92606 - Irvine	92862 - Orange
92612 - Irvine	92865 - Orange
92614 - Irvine	92866 - Orange
92617 - Irvine	92867 - Orange/Villa Park
92618 - Irvine	92868 - Orange
92620 - Irvine	92869 - Orange
92630 - Lake Forest	92886 - Yorba Linda
92887 - Yorba Linda	92899 - Anaheim
92610 - Lake Forest/Foothill Ranch	
92676 - Silverado/Modjeska Canyon	
92807/08/09 - Anaheim/Anaheim Hills	
92679 - Portola Hills/Trabuco Canyon/Coto de Caza/Dove Canyon/Robinson Ranch	

**John “Jack” Bedell For Orange County Board of Education Trustee Area 4**

- ✓ Currently serves on the OC Board of Education
- ✓ Served nine years on the Fullerton School District Board of Education
- ✓ Professor Emeritus California State University, Fullerton where he worked as a university educator and faculty leader for over 40 years
- ✓ Jack’s wife, Sue, of 51 years, is a retired special education teacher

90620 - Buena Park	90621 - Buena Park
90631 - La Habra	92801 - Anaheim
92802 - Anaheim	92804 - Anaheim
92805 - Anaheim	92831 - Fullerton
92832 - Fullerton	92833 - Fullerton
92835 - Fullerton	92870 - Placentia
92806 - Anaheim	



## Rebecca "Beckie" Gomez

Board of Education Area 1

- ✓ Educator, parent, city councilmember and businesswoman
- ✓ Supports education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century jobs
- ✓ Advocate for art, music and other enrichment programs
- ✓ Believes in getting input from all educational stakeholders in Orange County



## Michael Parham

Board of Education Area 3

- ✓ Irvine USD Board Member, parent and businessman
- ✓ Supports high-quality and well-trained teachers
- ✓ Advocate for high standards and accountability, with access for every child to fulfill his or her potential
- ✓ Believes Orange County deserves a world-class education system



## John (Jack) Bedell

Board of Education Area 4

- ✓ Current member of the Orange County Board of Education, educator and parent
- ✓ Supports strong school site safety plans for all Orange County schools
- ✓ Advocate for enhancing college readiness, career and job training programs
- ✓ Believes in constantly striving for improvements in our education system

# Preschool STEAM Activities at Clinton Corner Family Campus



**PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION:** Registration information for the 2016-2017 school year is currently available at all GGUSD Elementary Schools and at CCFC. Our program is for 3 - 4 year olds. If your child's birthday is between 12/3/2011 - 9/1/2013 he/she is age appropriate for our preschool program next year. Morning and afternoon sessions are available.

Please call [714.663.6298](tel:714.663.6298) if you have any questions.

*Come check us out!*

## CALL FOR ARTICLES!

Are you or your colleagues doing something fabulous at your school site? We would love to hear about it! The Advocate Team is looking for articles about YOU, our GGEA teachers and your students. We want to spread the word about the fantastic teaching, events, and successes happening at all the schools across our district. Please email your stories, articles, ideas, and photographs to [ADVOCATE@ggea.org](mailto:ADVOCATE@ggea.org) by **May 12, 2016**. We can't wait to hear from you!

## GGEA New Members

Daniel Kondrath  
Lauren Lingle  
Liliana Magdaleno  
Jennifer Mizell  
Tess Roberts  
Christina Tran

*We are so happy to welcome you to the GGEA family!*

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