



# ADVOCATE

12966 Euclid Street, Suite 220  
Garden Grove, CA 92840  
(714) 638-7480

# NOTES

**Issue Editor: Eric Padget**

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## **Our Students are our Special Interest**

GGEA is an organization of teachers who advocate for the best educational programs and environment for our students and teachers by serving as an equal partner with the community and school district.

### **Job Shares / Optional Part-Time**

All job-share and optional part-time requests are due in to the Office of Personnel Services by March 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions about either of these options, please contact the GGEA Office.

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### **Beginning Teacher Support & Assistance (BTSA)**

First and second year BTSA teachers now have available to them the option to purchase 3 units of college credit for each year they participate in the BTSA program. The units will be through CSUF and can be applied to a master's degree. Contact your BTSA support provider or Joli Armitage, Director, Personnel Services, for more information.

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### **Legislative Action Reminder**

Remember to write or call your state senator in support of funding for public education. Your site representative has information with sample messages along with the addresses and phone numbers of the senators for your area. **Your involvement is needed to help preserve public education funding!**

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### **FACT/FUND Reminder**

GGEA is holding a FACT/FUND Drive during the month of March. FACT money is used to help out the teachers in California who have suffered an economic loss due to some type of disaster. The money is either given as a grant or a low-interest loan. Fund money is used by NEA for political action. Since none of the dues you pay to NEA can be used for political action, donations to the FUND help support education-friendly candidates. The FUND money can also be used to provide lobbyists to work for changes in federal laws that affect public education, such as the No Child Left Behind Act. See your site representatives or call the GGEA Office for more information.