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# ***AD NOTES***

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Volume XXVII, Issue 10  
December 11, 2007

*The Object of Education is to Prepare the Young to Educate Themselves  
Throughout Their Lives.* Robert Maynard Hutchins

## **GGEA Holiday Open House**

GGEA will be hosting its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Open House this Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 6:00 PM at the GGEA Office. Everyone is invited and welcome to stop by and enjoy a good time with some old friends, make some new friends, or just see what GGEA is all about. There will be plenty of 'holiday food' and drinks available. There is no need to RSVP for this event-just drop in and stay as long as you desire.

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## **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**. There are spaces available on the following Wednesday dates: January 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> but appointments are set on a first come, first served basis. Appointment times begin at 3 PM. Call the GGEA Office if you wish to schedule an appointment.

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## **Medical Insurance Information**

If you are enrolled in the District's PPO or EPO Medical Insurance Plan, you can get the latest updated information regarding doctors and medical facilities participating in our plan. Visit [www.cfmnet.org](http://www.cfmnet.org) and click on "Search for Provider". Then just follow the directions to find the list of providers in your area.

The Benefit Year for GGUSD insurance runs from January 1 to December 31 of each year. Those are the tracking dates for benefits paid. GGEA bargained an annual dental coverage increase from \$1500 to \$2000 effective as of October 1, 2007. This is a \$500 dental coverage bonus for the 2007 Benefit Year.

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## Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday Season

### GGEA Office Hours for Winter Recess

The Garden Grove Education Association will be closed over the winter recess from Monday, December 24, 2007 through Friday, January 5, 2008. The office will reopen on Monday, January 7, 2008 resuming regular office hours of 8 AM to 5 PM. We will be periodically checking phone messages over the break. However, if an emergency arises, please call the CTA Orange Service Center at (714) 978-8861 for assistance.

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### Open Enrollment for New Teachers

New teachers have a 120 day window of opportunity to sign up for disability income protection or life insurance without answering any medical questions or disclosing any current or past medical issues. Since teachers in California are not covered under the state disability insurance plan, you must purchase your own policy if you so desire. The window is quickly coming to a close! If you would like more information about these products, please call The Standard at 1-800-522-0406.

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### Discounted Tickets

Since 1959, TSA has been providing value-added products and services to the California Educational Community. Specifically, TSA is exclusively endorsed by the California Teachers Association, Association of California School Administrators and the California Retired Teachers Association. TSA can help you save on entertainment/theme park tickets, worldwide travel and vacation packages, auto and retail services, as well as an array of insurance programs. There is a link to their webpage via the GGEA.org website or find them at [www.tsaspecialservices.com](http://www.tsaspecialservices.com). Another option is to use the [www.wildvacationsca.com](http://www.wildvacationsca.com) website promoted by OCTFCU. Click on "New User Signup" located on the upper right hand corner. Type in "OCTFCU", then click on submit button. System will default to OCTFCU-Costa Mesa. Click on submit button again. Input name, zip code, and e-mail address, then click submit. A password will be sent to Members e-mail address. Members will log back onto [www.wildvacationsca.com](http://www.wildvacationsca.com) and sign in with their new password.

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### GGEA New Teacher Committee

The New Teacher Committee has just been revamped and we need more committee members. In addition to these events we will be sending the new teachers a monthly 'pick me up' with GGEA information and reminders. We appreciate any and all help you can provide! If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please email Lauren Smisko at [ismisko@yahoo.com](mailto:ismisko@yahoo.com).

New Teacher Committee Events:

- January 17<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm: Happy Hour/Mixer at BJ's in Huntington Beach
- February 7<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm: Contract Information Session at GGEA Office

- May 1<sup>st</sup>, 4:00pm: Happy Hour/Mixer, location TBD