



CTA Award-Winning Newsletter of the Garden Grove Education Association

# ADVOCATE

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## Do You Know Your CTA Benefits?

**CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
MEMBER BENEFITS**

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS AT  
**CTAMEMBERBENEFITS.ORG**

**SAVE MONEY** while traveling, dining out, purchasing apparel, or buying school supplies, at over 350,000 discounts nationwide through the Access to Savings Program.

[CTAMemberBenefits.org/access](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/access)

Access My Deals App  
Organization Name is  
'CTA Access To Savings'

**AUTO and HOME/RENTERS INSURANCE**  
Provided by California Casualty  
Preferred Rates, Educator Benefits, Exceptional Service, Generous Discounts  
For your quick quote, visit:  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/calcas](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/calcas)



**Got Student Loans?**  
Your Union has solutions to help with student loan forgiveness.  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/studentloans](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/studentloans)  
[neamb.com/loanforgiveness](http://neamb.com/loanforgiveness)



**PROVIDENT CREDIT UNION**  
New \$300 Account Bonus (Code 9166) & Auto/Home Loan Discounts  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/provident](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/provident)

**DISASTER RELIEF FUND**  
Administered by CTA Member Benefits Department  
CTA Member Benefits  
1705 Murchison Drive  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 552-5200  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/donate](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/donate)  
[memberbenefits@cta.org](mailto:memberbenefits@cta.org)



**WE WANT YOU TO HAVE A LONG AND HAPPY RETIREMENT**  
CTA-endorsed 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan:  
Low fees and fiduciary standards  
916.235.9800  
[enroll.CTAretirementplan.org](http://enroll.CTAretirementplan.org)  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/rsp](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/rsp)



**THE STANDARD**  
HEALTH INSURANCE PAYS THE DOCTOR.  
DISABILITY INSURANCE PAYS YOU.  
Protect Your Loved Ones and Income With Life & Disability Insurance From The Standard  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org/standard](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org/standard)

This is a brief description of the CTA and NEA Member Benefit Programs. All benefits and eligibility requirements are subject to the terms of the plan certificates, Summary Plan Descriptions, or custodial account agreement. The benefits described herein may be modified or terminated by CTA and NEA Member Benefits at any time.

**CTA MEMBER BENEFITS**  
1705 Murchison Drive  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
(650) 552-5200  
[CTAMemberBenefits.org](http://CTAMemberBenefits.org)  
[memberbenefits@cta.org](mailto:memberbenefits@cta.org)



**NEA MEMBER BENEFITS**  
900 Clopper Road, Suite 300  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-1356  
(800) 637-4636  
[neamb.com](http://neamb.com)  
[ask\\_us@neamb.com](mailto:ask_us@neamb.com)



# President's Message



Are we back to normal in our educational setting? Definitely not. During my site visits I consistently hear that students are having to learn, or re-learn, how to behave, learn and engage in a school setting, and that teachers are working harder than ever while balancing an ever increasing workload. The high expectations being placed on both students and educators can cause stress, which in turn can cause other health related issues. Research shows that stress not only has negative consequences for teachers, but it also results in lower achievement for students.

In 2016, teaching was noted as one of the most stressful occupations in the U.S. and that was long before a global pandemic turned our profession upside down! Being that October is Health Literacy Month, it is important we recognize the importance of taking care of ourselves, but also of making health information easy to access, navigate, and understand. Being health literate means an individual can find, understand, and use information and services to inform health-related decisions and actions for not only themselves but others. Take time this month to make sure you understand your health benefits, and use the district's Open Enrollment to change your plan if needed. Your health and mental well-being are important.

~Stay strong, safe, and healthy~

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucy Nolan".

## Calendar of Events

<b>10/26</b>	Rep Council	<b>11/30</b>	Rep Council
<b>11/02</b>	Board of Directors	<b>12/07</b>	Board of Directors
<b>11/05</b>	Non-Student Day	<b>12/14</b>	Rep Council
<b>11/09</b>	Segments	<b>12/20-31</b>	Winter Recess
<b>11/11</b>	Veterans Day Holiday	<b>01/04</b>	Board of Directors
<b>11/22-26</b>	Thanksgiving Recess	<b>01/11</b>	Segments

## 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 **December 9, 2021**. We can't wait to hear from you!

## JOIN our FACEBOOK group TODAY!

**Join Us:** Facebook members search for “*Garden Grove Education Association*” and ask to join the group. Allow our administrators 24-48 hours to accept your request.

This is a closed group for members of GGEA only and not open to the public. If you have any questions, send a message to the group administrators or ask your rep.



## Advocate Editorial Staff:

Willie Burghard, Sara McCarthy, Kelly Nolan, Susan Kaylor

# WHAT IS THE IMAD AWARD??

The Human Rights Committee recognizes GGEA members who make a positive contribution outside of the classroom with the “I Make a Difference Award.” This award is given to members who volunteer their time and energy to benefit the school community or the community at large. Past IMAD winners have been involved in working in local charities, after school tutoring projects, library reading programs, soup kitchens, charity runs and human rights endeavors.

**Nominations** can be submitted to the GGEA Human Rights Committee via our website online form (located on Human Rights Committee page at [GGEA.org](http://GGEA.org)) or emailed to [humanrights@ggea.org](mailto:humanrights@ggea.org). Nominations can be submitted by a single member, by a group of members, or by the entire school staff. Please include the following in your nomination:

- The nominee's name, school and contact information
- His/her specific contribution (please provide details)
- Your name and contact information

Each month, the committee will honor an IMAD recipient at a Rep Council meeting and feature him/her in the GGEA Advocate.



**NOMINATE A COLLEAGUE TODAY!!**

New Job.  
Fresh Start.  
Sweet Benefits.



## Newly Hired Special Enrollment Opportunity

If you're new at your district this year, you have a special opportunity to apply for CTA-endorsed Disability insurance and up to \$200,000 of Life insurance<sup>1</sup> from The Standard **with no health questions asked**.

**DISABILITY INSURANCE** can help protect your paycheck if you're out of work due to an injury, illness (including mental health disorders and substance abuse), pregnancy or childbirth. **LIFE INSURANCE** provides for your loved ones in the event of your passing. You also get additional features you can use now at no additional cost.

**Offer expires 270 days from your first day on the job.**

**Apply now at [standard.com/cta/newhire](http://standard.com/cta/newhire)**



<sup>1</sup> Coverage reduces to 65% of the amount in force at age 70, 45% of the amount in force at age 75 and 30% of the amount in force at age 80. Offer not available to retirees.

For costs and further details of the coverage and this enrollment opportunity, including exclusions, any reductions or limitations and the terms under which the policies may be continued in force, please contact The Standard at 800.522.0406. Standard Insurance Company, 1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204 GP190-LTD/S399/CTA.1 GP190-LIFE/S399/CTA.3 SI 20945-CTAvol (8/21)

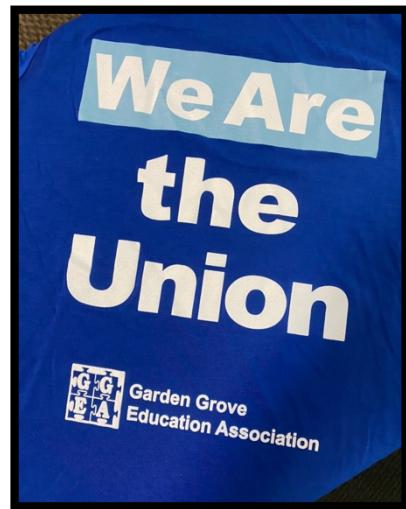
# Be Sure to Get Your Union T-Shirts!

One way we can show solidarity and stand together as unified members is to wear our GGEA T-shirts on campus and out in the community. If you didn't get your t-shirt two years ago, you're in luck because we've ordered more! These t-shirts are soft and stylish, designed by our very own Advocate editor, Sara McCarthy!

If you did not order at one of your recent GGEA meetings, you can find a fillable order form as well as photos of the shirts on the GGEA website. Once your form is complete, please send it to [jennyg@ggea.org](mailto:jennyg@ggea.org). We will fill the order and send the shirts and copy of the order form through district mail!



Front of Ladies tee!



Back of shirt!

A white mug filled with hot chocolate topped with whipped cream and a star anise. The background is dark with gold geometric lines.

Peace of Mind  
with  
Holiday Savings

As you spend this holiday season celebrating with family and friends, take a few minutes to give yourself a little something extra...peace of mind.

**Auto and Home Insurance provided by California Casualty** gives you protection, value and service with a convenient holiday skip-payment option that's perfect for this time of year.

Skip your payments in November & December or December & January.

**\$25**  
Gift Card

And... for the opportunity to provide you a no-obligation quote, California Casualty will give you a \$25 Gift Card — limited offer while supplies last.

**GET YOUR QUOTE TODAY.**

**1.866.268.1754**

**WeProtectEducators.com/Skip**

California Casualty  
Auto and Home Insurance

CALIFORNIA  
TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

CA Lic#0041343 ©2020 CCMC Insurance not available in AK, HI, MA, MI, NY, WI. Coverages described are subject to availability and eligibility. Restrictions apply. See website for complete details. Gift card offer not available in AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, NC, ND, MD, MS, SC, TN, TX, UT and WV.

# Frightfully Delicious Halloween Treats!

Sometimes we just need a sweet treat after a long week in the classroom! So, we are starting a new feature in the Advocate to share recipes and inspire more community among our members. We know this year is a tough one and you are not alone!

If you have a favorite recipe we want to hear from you!

Please send it over to [advocate@ggea.org](mailto:advocate@ggea.org)

This month we want to share a devilishly good no bake Halloween delight that will surely make you popular in the teachers' lounge!

## Creepy Vampire Donuts

Recipe and Photo credit: [sheknows.com](http://sheknows.com)



### Ingredients:

- 12 pairs of plastic fake vampire teeth
- 1 dozen doughnuts (glazed is best)
- 24 mini candy eyes (or white and black decorating gel)
- Red decorating gel

### Instructions:

1. Take a pair of vampire teeth and hold them closed.
2. Gently place the teeth in the center of a doughnut and then carefully allow the teeth to open. Wiggle the teeth so that they fit perfectly into the center of the doughnut and place the doughnut onto a serving plate.
3. Repeat with the remaining doughnuts and vampire teeth until all the vampires are made.
4. For each pair of vampire eyes, lightly moisten the backs of 2 candy eyes, and gently press them to the doughnuts so they stick. If using the black and white decorating gels to make the eyes, then first place 2 drops of white gel onto each doughnut, followed by a smaller drop of black gel directly onto each white gel eye.
5. Use the red decorating gel to draw blood around the teeth of the doughnuts.
6. If desired, use the black gel to draw a widow's peak onto each doughnut.
7. Allow the gel to dry about 20 minutes and then serve!

# A Special Welcome to Our New Members!



Ruby Acosta-Monzon  
Jennifer Aiken  
Teresa Avila  
Candido Basillo Severiano  
Meghan Basurto  
Katie Boynton  
Adrienne Brewer Erin  
Busatto  
Trisha Camargo  
Alejandra Chavez

Erin Busatto  
Trisha Camargo  
Alejandra Chavez  
Katherine Cunningham  
Dalal Princess Dandan  
Diana Doan  
Dayan Flores  
Gabriela Gomez  
Cintia Gonzalez  
Jonathan Goss  
Julienne Jones  
Moses Jung  
Tzipora Khodzhayez  
Roy Lara  
Brandon Le  
Andre Leon  
Sara Littlefield  
Nicole Lonski Katherine  
Luu  
Tiffany Luu  
  
Mikala Martin  
Briana Miller  
Haillie Moore  
Matthew Newby  
Amanda Newcomb  
Kimberly Nguyen  
Kelli Nhim  
Juliette O'Blenes  
Esther Oh  
Angie Olmedo  
Alisa Perry  
Harrison Pham  
Tho-Tori Phu  
Brittnie Richards  
Dinora Rivera  
Gisselle Ruiz  
Rachel Schlesinger  
Mike Solis  
Ashley Tayles  
Karen Uhles

**GET THE CREDIT CARD WITH A DEGREE IN HIGHER EARNING.**

OUR SCHOOL EMPLOYEE CREDIT CARD OFFERS:

- **1.5% cash back** on all purchases<sup>1</sup> deposited into a Summer Saver at **2.50% APY<sup>2</sup>**
- Rates as low as **7.50% APR<sup>3</sup>**

SCHOOLSFIRST

Subject to credit approval. APR = Annual Percentage Rate. **1.** Earn 1.5% cash back on qualifying purchases. Cash advances, balance transfers and returns are not eligible for cash back. Deposits will be made quarterly to Summer Saver. If Summer Saver maximum contribution limits have been reached, or if no Summer Saver share is open, deposit will be placed in Member's Primary Share or (Savings). **2.** APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Rate valid as of 9/1/21, accurate as of last dividend declaration date, variable and subject to change after account opening. **3.** SchoolsFirst FCU's credit card program features a range of interest rates based on a variety of factors, including the applicant's credit rating. Rates quoted are effective as of 9/1/21 and are subject to change without notice. Variable rate subject to change after account opening. Foreign transaction fee: 2% of the transaction amount in U.S. dollars.

Insured by NCUA.



MICAH O.  
Member Since 2014

# In Memoriam

We would like to take a moment to honor the GGEA members we lost over the past two years. Because we were unable to be together, we could not grieve, share memories, and recognize the colleagues we loved who truly changed lives each and every day.

## *Active Teachers who passed since 2020:*

Marie Brady (Excelsior)  
Monica Luna (Bolsa Grande)  
Reema Zoumut (Bolsa Grande)  
Jesse Goodwin (Santiago HS)  
Amy Keller (Gilbert)  
Erin Ard (Hazard)  
Anne Levine (Parkview)

## *Retired Teachers who passed since 2020:*

James Rawls (GGHS)  
Shari Hale (Patton/Former GGEA Board Member)  
Mike DaDeppo (Sanitago)  
Jan Hopkins (Santiago)  
Anthony Dean DePeri (Pacifica)



We received some heartfelt contributions from members that we would like to share...



*Monica Luna was home grown and proud to be part of the GGUSD family. She attended Peters, Walton, and graduated from Garden Grove High School in 2002. After graduating college, she returned to GGUSD to teach at Bolsa Grande High School for all of her 14 years as an educator. To say that she was a dedicated teacher would be an enormous understatement. Monica poured her heart and soul into her profession and students. In addition to the hours spent planning quality instruction and assisting students in and out of the classroom, Monica went above and beyond as an AVID Teacher. College Field Trips were often a highlight of her school year. Her hard work and dedication was recognized in October 2017 when she was named as GGUSD Employee of the Month.*

*In addition to the work at Bolsa Grande, Monica was also a very active member of GGEA. She served as a Site Rep and as the Chair of the Human Rights Committee. In acknowledgment of her outstanding service, she was also a W.H.O. Award recipient. Monica was quick to advocate for students and teachers alike who were at risk or members of the minority. "Be the Change You Want to See in the World" is something that Monica believed in and obviously lived by. Her influence will indelibly live on within us and her students.*

.....

*Monica Luna, Human Rights and Social Activist, accomplished so much in such a short period time. Her activism set a strong course of action in our district. Her involvement with the AVID program at her site made a powerful difference in the life of many children. Her activism as the chair of the GGEA Human Rights committee made a powerful impact for all in the district. She led our anti-bullying campaign bringing workshops for members, established a digital library of resources on the GGEA website and helped bring in GGEA professional development during Super week. Monica was a fierce warrior for creating a school environment welcoming to all members. During her leadership, she helped members have access to Safe Space and Unconscious Bias workshops. Her team also developed and promoted the recognition of members for Making a Difference in their school communities.*

.....

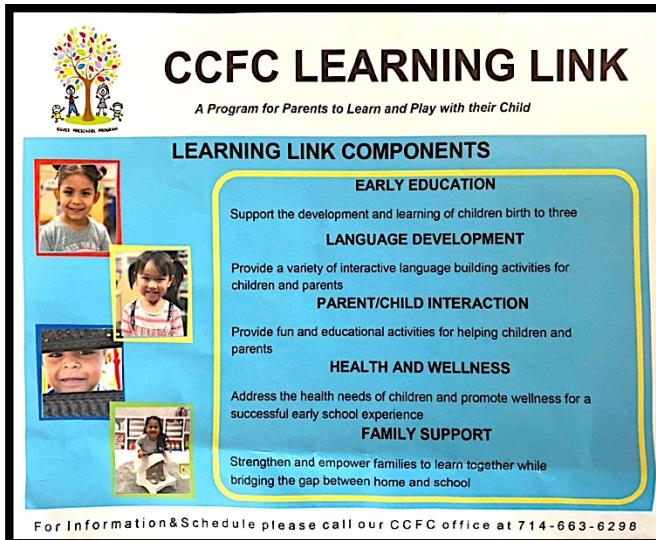
*Marie Brady's humor and quick wit filled Excelsior with laughter. She was creative and could turn anything into a masterpiece. She was well loved by all of her students and known for making learning fun. She instilled creativity in her students and she showed them "there are no mistakes in art." She was a strong advocate for teachers, representing Excelsior at GGEA for many years. Marie was always ready to listen and offer advice and guidance for anything big or small. She is greatly missed by all who knew her. A celebration of life for Marie was held at Excelsior in June and a tree was planted in her honor.*



# Learning Links: Early Ed Program for Children and their Parents

In support of early learning in GGUSD, Clinton Corners Family Campus is offering a program for parents and their children ages 0-3 years of age. Learning Links supports all the important areas that a child needs to grow to be healthy and ready to succeed in school and early life. Early Education, language development, parent and child interaction, health and wellness and family support are all “linked” together in this unique and comprehensive program.

The Learning Link provides an open and flexible schedule where parents can join along with their child in interactive learning through play. The classroom and outdoor environment are designed for hands-on exploration by infants and children with guidance from the preschool teacher and parents. Children receive health screenings, referrals and services through our preschool health team. The benefits of early intervention will only serve to better enable the children during their elementary school years.



**CCFC LEARNING LINK**  
*A Program for Parents to Learn and Play with their Child*

**LEARNING LINK COMPONENTS**

- EARLY EDUCATION**  
Support the development and learning of children birth to three
- LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**  
Provide a variety of interactive language building activities for children and parents
- PARENT/CHILD INTERACTION**  
Provide fun and educational activities for helping children and parents
- HEALTH AND WELLNESS**  
Address the health needs of children and promote wellness for a successful early school experience
- FAMILY SUPPORT**  
Strengthen and empower families to learn together while bridging the gap between home and school

For Information & Schedule please call our CCFC office at 714-663-6298



\*\*Member contributors for this issue: Nicole Sisemore, Dana Atkin, Rebecca Koopowitz, Chris Pearce, Suzy Francis