



CTA Award-Winning Newsletter of the Garden Grove Education Association

ADVOCATE

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GGUSD Teachers Get Immunizations!

A special thank you to all the teachers, nurses, and staff who volunteered at our La Quinta vaccination pod this month!



President's Message

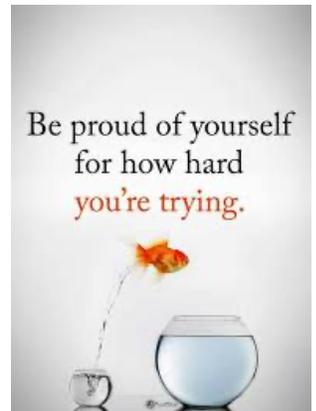


March is the month when spring officially begins and Daylight Savings takes place typically the second Sunday in the month, but March 2021, also signifies that a year ago our school doors closed, and distance learning began. You dug down deep and relied on your hidden reserves of strength and resilience. Be proud of yourselves.

You started this current school year in distance learning once again. A few months later some sites transitioned into a hybrid in-person learning model but had to transition back to distance learning due to COVID-19 case rates/numbers.

As of March 12, 2021, forty-five of our elementary schools are open for in-person instruction as well as five intermediate schools, Mark Twain Special Education Center, and Jordan Adult Transition Program.

The past year has made you stronger, faster, and wiser. It's made you work harder than you could have imagined. Your mental health, wellness, and safety will continue to remain at the forefront of our priorities at GGEA, and in a week and a half Spring Break will be here. Take time for yourself and your family. Stay strong, safe, and healthy.



A special welcome to our newest GGEA member
Ang Borlasa!

We are so happy you are here!

Calendar of Events

03/23	Rep Council	05/04	Board of Directors
03/27-04/4	Spring Break	05/11	Segments
04/06	Board of Directors	05/12	Day of the Teacher/School Nurse Day
04/13	Segments	05/25	Rep Recognition
04/21	Admin Professional Day	05/31	Memorial Day
04/27	Rep Council	06/01	Board of Directors
05/03-7	GGEA Elections	06/03	Retirement Tribute

Executive Director Message

Our Bargaining Team

This has been a trying year for all of us. As educators, you've been asked to learn and implement a new method of teaching while dealing with the anxiety of a global pandemic, and you've done an excellent job of fulfilling your role through such harrowing times. Through it all I wanted to take the time to recognize the role your Negotiations Team has been playing. Our Negotiations Team has been bargaining with the district almost non-stop since March of last year. In that time, we have been able to negotiate three agreements and an addendum, or what we call a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with the District.

- Distance Learning MOU
- Re-Opening Distance Learning MOU
- Hybrid MOU
- Addendum to the Hybrid MOU

A lot of work went into negotiating these MOUs, from researching state legislation and CDPH guidelines, researching MOUs of neighboring districts and listening to what our teachers were saying out in the field. The Team was able to accomplish this while still working in their classrooms. Now we are entering and trying to finalize a new contract for the 2020-21 school year and start the negotiations for the 2021-22 year as well. There is no rest for the weary.

As your Executive Director, it has been a pleasure working with them and I hope you can take the time to thank them for their hard work and dedication.



Bridget Holdermann (Chair),
McGarvin Intermediate



Arquilla Howard,
Rancho Alamitos High School



Joe Miller,
Pacifica High School



Tamra Wood,
Post Elementary



Sarah Held,
Garden Park Elementary

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 by **May 13, 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.



**Attorney available.*

For appointments please contact the GGEA office at 714-638-7480.

Advocate Editorial Staff:

Willie Burghard, Sara McCarthy, Kelly Nolan, Susan Kaylor

Contributors this Month:

Jennifer Quong, Kristy Gladysz, Tina Gurney, Camille Freeman

EXCITING NEWS!!!

We are pleased to announce that the **Garden Grove Education Association** was awarded a **Certificate of Merit** in the **2019-2020 CTA Communications Award** for our **Advocate**, in the category of **Newsletters and Newspapers!** And **WINNER** of the **2019-2020 CTA Communications Award** for our website, **GGEA.org**, in the category **Memorial Award in Honor of Jose Colmenares.**

"The California Teachers Association recognizes and appreciates your dedication toward communicating with your members regularly and effectively. With 18 entries in the Communications Awards program this year, your achievement is a very high distinction."



Not-a-Box STEAM Project

Our State Preschool Program uses the Big Day Curriculum which includes a theme called “Imagine It, Make It!” During this theme, we show our students how to plan, design and create their own STEAM Not-A-Box projects based on the book “Not-A-Box” amongst other theme related books. In an effort to connect home and school during distance learning we asked the parents to partner with their children to create their own projects at home with recycled materials along with art supplies/tools that we send home. All the children received certificates and ribbons for their efforts. We had so much fun with this that we plan to make this a home/classroom collaboration every year.

Garden Grove Education Association

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(GGEA Office)

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Executive Director

Paul Kim
GGEA Office



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) or emailed to 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!!



We focus on what's important
so you can do the same.

Between teaching and working on your wellness goals, it might be challenging to find time to research insurance coverage that works for you.

Luckily, CTA offers CTA-endorsed Disability insurance from The Standard that covers you on and off the job. Disability insurance protects your paycheck with funds paid directly to you if an illness, injury, pregnancy, or childbirth prevent you from working.

And the CTA-endorsed plan is the only plan that gives you access to CTA's Student Loan and Cancer Benefits for qualifying claims.*



Energize your life with CTA Member Benefits!

For coverage that'll keep you breathing easy,
get CTA-endorsed Disability insurance.

Visit CTAMemberBenefits.org/Disability.



*Student Loan Benefit and Cancer Benefit are offered by CTA to eligible members on approved Disability claims who meet additional specific criteria. CTA provides these self-funded benefits, and The Standard acts only as the claims administrator of these benefits. Student Loan and Cancer Benefits are not provided under the Disability insurance policy.

For costs and further details of the coverage, including exclusions, benefit waiting periods, 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 GP190-LTD/S399/CTA.1 GP190-LIFE/S399/CTA.3 SI 21765-CTAvol (10/20)

One of our own is the Orange County 2021 Outstanding Professional! Congratulations Willie!! You deserve it!



Orange County Association for the
Education of Young Children
2021 Outstanding Professional

Is awarded to

WILHELMINA BURGHARD



OUR PROMISE

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SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN**

That's why we're working with **California Teachers Association** to provide access to auto and home insurance designed exclusively for you and your fellow educators. It's our policy to do more for the people who give more. Starting with you.

Exclusive Member Benefits | Payment Skip Options | \$0 Deductible Waiver |



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OCDE Bullying Prevention Program

The OCDE bullying prevention program supports schools throughout Orange County with their efforts to provide a safe, welcoming and positive environment for students, families and staff members. The program services are designed to promote a positive school climate that reflects a commitment to meeting and developing the academic, social and emotional needs of all students.

One of our members, Kristy Gladysz recommended this program stating that “the assembly was wonderful, probably even more fun in person but still the kids really enjoyed having something different to do on a school day and not focused on classwork.”

OCDE provides training, technical assistance and school-wide assemblies on the topics of bullying prevention and intervention strategies. In addition, parent training is provided on the topics of digital citizenship and cyberbullying.



If interested in scheduling an assembly for your school site please visit this link:
<https://ocde.us/PEI/Pages/Bullying-Prevention-Program.aspx>

FAMILIES WELCOME

When you're a Member of SchoolsFirst FCU, your immediate family is eligible for Membership and all the benefits that come with it.

- A variety of saving options to suit your unique needs
- Highly competitive low auto, home and personal loan rates
- An organization dedicated to serving you

JOIN ONLINE BY VISITING
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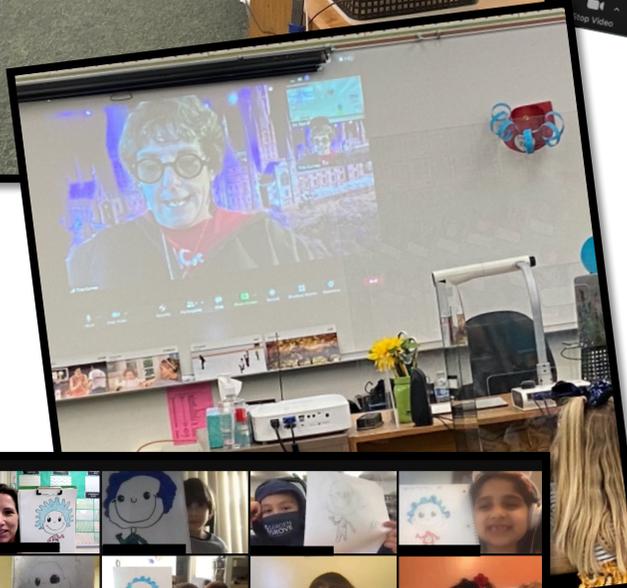
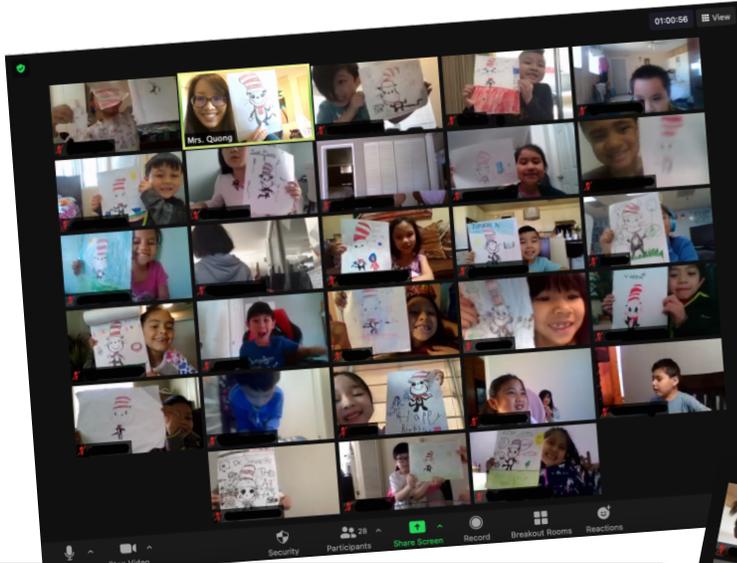


THE CARROLL-GOODBRAND-BISH FAMILY
Three Generations of Membership
Members Since 1986



Insured by NCUA.

Read Across America Day



Despite the distance, GGUSD teachers were still able to celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with their students in fun and meaningful ways!

In First Grade at Paine Elementary, students in Jennifer Quong's class celebrated Dr. Seuss all week long with stories, activities, and dress up days!

Former GGEA president Tina Gurney read some Harry Potter virtually for Ms. Ngo's Kindergartners at Barker and Ms. Wood's fourth graders at Post Elementary!

And at Rosita Elementary, our GGEA President, Kelly Nolan, read stories to 2nd graders in Camille Freeman's class. They drew pictures of Dr. Seuss characters too!

GGEA Implements Electronic Voting!

Since Covid19 Quarantine began one year ago your Rules and Elections Committee found it necessary to try different ways of voting in elections during a pandemic. In the Fall of 2020 we mailed out ballots with prepaid stamped envelopes to our almost 2000 members for our first election since the shutdown. The cost to host a paper pencil election was about \$4000 and it took volunteers and paid staff several days to stuff all the envelopes. More often than not, we would receive less than a quarter of the ballots back. The team therefore decided to research electronic voting options.

CTA has a list of approved electronic voting companies they recommend so after a couple of months of research by the committee, the board voted to use the company Simply Voting. Simply Voting provides GGEA with a secure, cost effective, and environmentally friendly solution for voting events. Simply Voting gives us 10 elections for one year (which we will probably never need) for a cost less than the cost of one mailed ballot election. CTA and many other local organizations and institutions successfully conduct certified elections, by-law ratifications, and other voting events online using Simply Voting.

Members recently received emails with a link that allowed them to vote easily and securely in our first online election. Please make sure we have your correct email address so you too can vote online in the next election! Once an online voting period ends, the results are immediately tabulated within Simply Voting. The Rules and Elections Committee downloads and views the results in the Election Manager along with various reports on voting activity before publishing results. Once published, the results are made available to the public on our voting website and anyone will be able to verify the results by downloading a file containing votes and receipt numbers. We are excited to offer our members this new voting update and hope you find it an easy and positive change!

The results of our March 8-12 CTA State Council Run-Off Election are as follows: Out of 1842 eligible voters/members we had 332 ballots cast, yes this is a small number but according to other units this is to be expected on the first Electronic Vote because it's a new system. We also weren't able to promote the election on campus like usual! But don't worry, we have big plans for the upcoming elections! Due to the small numbers with this recent election there was no majority vote and therefore no candidate had a majority vote so we are required to do a run-off election again. Stay tuned! And please vote! ☺



We hope you enjoy your much deserved time off!



WHAT ARE SOME IDENTIFIED DISABILITIES OF STUDENTS WITH IEPs THAT YOU MIGHT SEE IN YOUR CLASSROOM?

"A person who never made a mistake, never learned anything new."

- Albert Einstein



So you have a student with an IEP in your classroom. You look at the IEP and see a marked box under the qualifying disability. What does that mean? Here are four common types of identified disabilities that you might see in your classroom:

Do not confuse "disability" with low cognitive functioning. Most students with an identified disability process or learn differently. This doesn't mean they are not able to learn or be successful. Break the cycle of alienation that many of our students with IEPs feel. Remember, every student is OUR student.

#1

Many people with autism have difficulty with sensory processing. This may include sensitivity to sound, light, taste, and touch. Be aware of these sensitivities to maintain a safe learning environment for your student.

#2

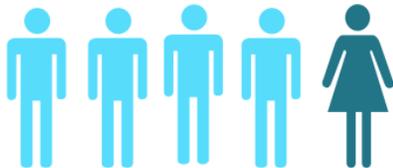
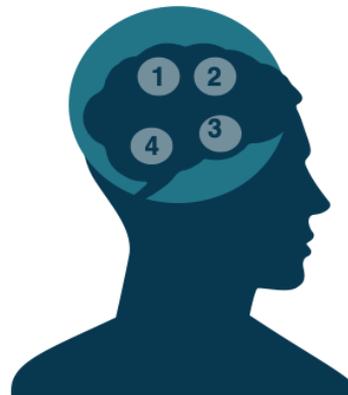
There is not one type of autism, but many subtypes. Each person with autism has unique challenges and strengths.

#3

Some children may display repetitive behaviors or obsessions with topics or objects.

#4

Autism can affect communication & social skills. This doesn't mean they have limitations however! We have many ways to overcome these difficulties.



1 in 59 of all children are diagnosed as autistic. ASDs are 4 times more common in boys than in girls.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Source: autismspeaks.org