

# GEA NEWSLETTER

January 2019

## News from the President

*Regina Sullivan*

### GEA Officers

#### 2018-2019

**President**  
Regina Sullivan  
GHS  
314-9837 (cell)

**Vice President**  
Kristie Whitcomb  
GHS  
453-2741

**Treasurer**  
Kevin Buno  
GHS  
453-2741

**PR Recording Secretary**  
Patty McLaughlin  
BMS  
457-0222 ext 443

**Membership Secretary**  
Anne Lombard  
BMS  
457-0222 ext 446

### GEA

#### 18-19 Dues

**Full Time Faculty**  
GEA: \$145  
CEA: \$499  
NEA: \$192  
**TOTAL: \$836**

**.5 - .26 Faculty**  
GEA: \$85  
CEA: \$249.50  
NEA: \$107.50  
**TOTAL: \$442**

**.25 - .01 Faculty**  
GEA: \$85  
CEA: \$249.50  
NEA: \$65.50  
**TOTAL: \$400**

### Happy New Year!



I hope you and your family had a very joyous and relaxing holiday break. I wish you a very happy and healthy 2019.

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all members who contributed to our annual Holiday Bear project. Each school helped at least one family in need this past holiday season. What another great success this year!

Have you ever asked yourself, "WHAT CAN I DO?" There are many ways to get involved with GEA. I encourage each you to visit [www.CEA.org](http://www.CEA.org) to stay

up-to-date on important issues. It's helpful to attend your building's "10 minute" meetings each month. We need to all stay informed!

Calling NEW teachers (teaching six years or less): SAVE THE DATE - CEA's annual New Teacher Conference will be announced soon, so please keep an eye out on the CEA's website.

Please do not hesitate to contact your building representative if you have any questions or concerns. The GEA is here to serve and protect you, our hard working teachers!

## GEA News

### Preparing for Taxes:

Are you already thinking of gathering the necessary information for your income taxes? Just in case you are looking for your 2017-2018 dues amount! **For the most accurate calculations**, look at your last December paystub (dated 12/21/18) for the year to date deductions for dues.

### NEA-RA and CEA-RA:

The CEA Representative Assembly (RA), held each May, is CEA's highest policy-making body. During two days of business, approximately 500 delegates take action to decide Association policies, including adopting amendments to the CEA RA Standing Rules, the CEA Constitution and Bylaws, approving revisions to the CEA Resolutions, and voting on new business items.

Delegates - elected from CEA's more than 160 local affiliates - also vote to approve CEA's fiscal-year budget. The budget is proposed by the CEA Finance Committee and then sent to the CEA Board of Directors prior to adoption by the RA. The budget amount approved at the RA determines the amount of annual CEA membership dues for the fiscal year that runs from July 1 to June 30. The budget supports all the

strategic objectives, programs, and services provided to members. This year's annual CEA-RA meeting will be held May 10th and 11th at Mohegan Sun (<http://www.cea.org/members/about/ceara/index.cfm>). The NEA-RA's annual meeting will be held July 3rd-7th in Houston, Texas. If you are interested in attending either event, let your rep know ASAP.

### SARAH Read-a-thon:

Grades K-6 will kick off the SARAH read-a-thon event between the end of January/February. The event will take us through March! Look for more information from your rep! We look forward to another successful year and appreciate all of your support with this event!

### County Forum Meeting:

Meet state officers and other teachers! Each dinner meeting starts at 5:00pm (registration start at 4:30pm) and concludes at 7:00pm. This is a great way to get informed. The next meeting for Middlesex County is February 13th at Baci Grill in Cromwell. You can check all county's dates at <http://www.cea.org/workshops/>. You can see the CEA's website for additional information.

## GEA - Negotiations

## Baldwin Launches SARAH Read-a-thon

### Negotiations Update:

Did you know that our Negotiations Team has been decided? Our first official meeting is scheduled for the end of February. Please stay tuned for updates and opportunities to put forth your input.

In addition to Regina Sullivan (President) and Kristie Whitcomb (Vice President), our 2018-2019 Negotiations Team includes:

GHS: Samantha Chiappa, Diane Hall, & Nick Ripa

AMS: Lori Cattaneo & Melissa Montanaro

BMS: Anne Lombard & Patty McLaughlin

Cox: Megan Lee

Jones: Laura Vedrani

Lakes: Kevin Flanagan

Leete: Jamie Froelick

Special services: Tara Beatty

On Wednesday, January 23rd, Baldwin kicked off its annual readathon at its Community Day Assembly. Picture this: hundreds of fifth and sixth graders crowded into the gymnasium, the lights dim and a student created interview iMovie starts. The iMovie started with a picture slideshow of individuals from around our community that benefit from the SARAH Foundation with the song "This is me" from the motion picture The Showman playing in the background. Then the video went into an interview of two sixth graders who have participated in the readathon event for years. One of the most interesting facts the girls shared was that Guilford has raised over \$313,000 for SARAH. WOW! That is an incredible accomplishment. The girls then challenged their classmates to TOP the amount we raised last year—over \$20,000 between just 5 schools. This part of the presentation ended with Ken Alberti, SARAH rep, talking to the kids about the importance of this fundraiser. We hope this video sparks interest in our school, and that 2019 readathon is the most EPIC one yet!

## Important Reminders

- **GEA online!** Visit [www.gea.yolasite.com](http://www.gea.yolasite.com).
- Do you know about all the **discounts and deals** you can get from being a member of CEA? Check out CEA online, click on "Members" and scroll down to "Benefits and Discounts."
- **Retirement workshops** are being offered. The CEA offers workshops which help teachers understand the teachers' retirement system and aid in planning for the future. **Be sure to register online or call CEA to register.**
- Interested in attending a County Council meeting? Visit <http://www.cea.org/workshops/#county-forums>.
- We want to hear from you, our members! Do you have an entry for the "Spotlight" area? Please share ideas for upcoming newsletters by contacting Patty McLaughlin through e-mail or inter-school mail (BMS).



## Spotlight: Recognizing Our Members for a Job Well Done



The GEA would like to recognize our NEW GEA Treasurer, Kevin Buno. He is replacing our previous, awesome, treasurer, Diane Hall! The GEA Executive Board would like to send their appreciation and thanks to Diane for her years of service to the GEA. You will be greatly missed.

Kevin Buno is not new to the GEA Executive Board. He has served as a building rep at Guilford High School for a number of years. Kevin is looking forward to his new role! If you ever need GEA reimbursement forms, they are located on the GEA website. Please fill it out and submit it to Kevin.



*\*Please e-mail any newsletter submissions or ideas to Patricia McLaughlin.\**