

# GEA NEWSLETTER

June 2017

## News from the President

*Regina Sullivan*

### GEA Officers

#### 2016-2017

**President**  
Regina Sullivan  
Guilford HS  
314-9837 (cell)

**Vice President**  
Kristie Whitcomb  
Guilford HS  
453-2741

**Treasurer**  
Diane Hall  
Guilford HS  
453-2741

**PR Recording Secretary**  
Patty McLaughlin  
Baldwin MS  
457-0222 ext 443

**Membership Secretary**  
Anne Lombard  
Baldwin MS  
457-0222 ext 446

### GEA

#### 16-17 Dues

**Full Time Faculty**  
GEA: \$125  
CEA: \$494  
NEA: \$187  
TOTAL: \$806

**.5 - .26 Faculty**  
GEA: \$65  
CEA: \$247  
NEA: \$105  
TOTAL: \$417

**.25 - .01 Faculty**  
GEA: \$65  
CEA: \$247  
NEA: \$62.25  
TOTAL: \$376.25

School's (almost) out for



Congratulations on another successful year in the books!! Also, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all teachers who were active participants in association business this year. We look forward to expanding opportunities for member engagement next year, please stay tuned and consider getting more involved; KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!!!

I also would like to thank the executive board members for a job well done. It is a pleasure to work with all of you again

I hope you all participated in your building rep election this June for next school year. Elections occurred sometime at the beginning of June in each building.

The 2017-2018 representatives are: GHS: Allison Camarco, Kevin Buno, Joe Mangino; AMS: Dianne Stevens, Eileen Buccaro; BMS: Deb Leshine, Pete Cuticelli; Cox: Jen Arabolos; Jones: Kara Cebula; Lakes: Lori Luyckx; and Leete: Kate Driscoll.

Early next Fall, please plan on attending a 10 minute meeting to meet your reps, ask questions and hear about the business we are working on.

This year's Summer Leadership will be held at Mohegan Sun again. I hope you visited the CEA homepage or read the material below regarding information about workshops and registration.

## GEA News

### CEA-RA:

This year the CEA-RA took place in May at Mohegan Sun. Hundreds of reps from locals around the state were present. The Representative Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the CEA. During their two days of business, elections were held, the 2016-2017 budget was approved. Also, many changes/updates to the CEA Constitution and By-laws were made.

A very informative and worthwhile Assembly in these tumultuous times. Please consider representing your GEA next year. Six members are typically eligible to attend and importantly, to VOTE on topics including the budget which impacts dues.

### CEA Summer Leadership:

The annual summer leadership conference will take place July 31-August 2 at Mohegan Sun. Have you seen the numerous workshops they are offering? If not, please visit the following link to see the brochure:

<https://blogcea.files.wordpress.com/2017/05/slc-brochure.pdf>

### SARAH Read-a-thon:

The Annual GEA SARAH wrapped up in March/April. Did you know the SARAH organization sees this fundraiser as one of their biggest fundraisers of their year? They really count on the GEA to motivate our students to read and get donations from their families. Thank you to everyone who helps with this special GEA project. We had another successful year with students in K-6 raising \$20,000 for SARAH!



## Our GEA President Meets with Representative Scanlon

Recently, Regina Sullivan met in downtown Guilford with Representative Sean Scanlon, CEA Vice President -Jeff Leake, CEA UniServ Rep -Gloria Dimon and AMS teacher - Dennis Cullitan to discuss what's happening in Hartford in terms of the Governor Malloy's proposed budget and its detrimental impact on Guilford Public Schools. A flyer with the information to the right was as sent to local residents.

### FACTS

Teachers are not eligible for Social Security.

Teachers already contribute 57% of the annual cost of providing retirement benefits for today's members.

Your State Representative, **Sean Scanlon**, supports your rights on

- Pension
- Healthcare
- Collective Bargaining

#### PENSIONS

- He will reject the cost shift of teacher pensions to cities and towns. The shift would increase property taxes, reduce funds for education, and cost teaching jobs.
- He will protect teacher pensions and keep the existing teacher pension plan.
- He will oppose any increased teacher pension payment.

#### HEALTHCARE

- He will protect teachers' contracts.
- He will protect teachers' ability to negotiate healthcare benefits.



Pictured above: Representative Sean Scanlon



## Important Reminders

- **GEA online!** Visit [www.gea.yolasite.com](http://www.gea.yolasite.com).
- **Retirement workshops** are being offered. The CEA offers workshops which help teachers understand the teachers' retirement system and aid in planning for the future. Benefits are fully explained and questions can be answered. **Be sure to register online or call CEA to register.**
- 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).

## ~ Benefits ~

**NEA Benefits:** Discover all we have to offer you by downloading our Programs & Services booklet. Inside you will find a complete listing of what is offered from NEA Member Benefits as well as other valuable services made available through NEA. Link = <https://www.neamb.com/cps/xbc/neamb/DOC-SID-C1B46B2E-8625A175-001.pdf>

#### CEA Benefits:

[Adventure Park, Bridgeport](#) OR [Adventure Park, Storrs](#) - CEA members and their families save nearly 40%!

[Buyer's Edge, Inc.](#) - Use this buying service to call wholesalers and distributors directly for quotes on major purchases such as appliances, TVs, cars, furniture, kitchen cabinets, and 14 other categories. Use group number/username: 1001 and password: member1 to receive a quote.

[TicketsAtWork.com](#) - Discounts on hotels, theme parks, attractions, movie tickets, events, car rentals, and more. Visit the website, click "Become a Member" to set up an account, and enter company code CEA.



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



The GEA would like to recognize the seven teachers who will be recognized at each building for reaching their 25 years in education milestone. We thank you for your dedication to our students and profession. We hope you enjoy your gift on behalf of the entire association this summer! Our seven colleagues are: Jane Kingsley (GHS), Barbara Tokarska (GHS), Susan Lott (GHS), Kathy Chamberlain (Leete), Cory Slifstein (AMS), Karen Chapman (BMS), and Maureen Afeltra (Lakes). Congratulations!

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