

# GEA NEWSLETTER

October 2016

## News from the President

Regina Sullivan

### WELCOME BACK!

I hope you had a relaxing summer and that your school year is off to a wonderful start.



Who is your building representative? Elections occurred in each building this past June. Please be aware of your assigned building representative(s) and the executive board members for the 2016-2017 school year. Your building rep looks forward to seeing you at ten minute monthly meetings this school year.

Have you located your GEA bulletin board yet? I encourage all members to take the time to locate this important area in

their school. On this board, you will find contact information for your GEA Executive Board, as well as each school's building representative(s). The meeting minutes are available for any GEA member, just ask your building rep and they will be happy to share them with you!

Stay connected! I encourage everyone to log on to the CEA webpage for professional development opportunities, discounts/benefits for teachers, and much more! Also, don't forget about the GEA website too! (Website address is on the back of this newsletter.)

Here's to another great school year!

## GEA Negotiations Update

### IMPORTANT UPDATE:

After a very long negotiations season, the entire Negotiations Team is extremely excited to announce that as of October 17th, a tentative agreement was made with the Board of Education.



You are strongly encouraged to attend the following imperative meeting to learn more:

**DATE: Tuesday, November 1, 2016**

**LOCATION: Guilford High School - Auditorium**

**Time: 4:00 PM**



We know that every teacher in Guilford puts in a hard day's work each and every school day, and that is sometimes difficult to arrange for an afterschool meeting, but we **strongly** urge you to attend this meeting to hear a presentation lead by Gloria Dimon. The team is very anxious to share this information with you. Oh wait, there's one more one request that we have to add - we need everyone, YES EVERYONE (*that includes you reading this right now*) to partake in: THE VOTE. According to our GEA bylaws, a vote must take place five days after our presentation. **On Tuesday, November 8, 2016**, each building will hold an official ballot vote. We need everyone's support and participation. We need to show our support for the Negotiation team by attending the November 1st meeting and voting on November 8th!

Please, we are strongly encouraging that each and every valued Guilford Education Association member make EVERY possible arrangement to attend our meeting on November 1st.

### GEA Officers

#### 2016-2017

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

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

**Treasurer**  
Diane Hall  
GHS  
453-2741

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

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

### GEA

#### 15-16 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**

# GEA News

## Dues Update:

Did you know that just your dues have increased? This summer at the NEA-RA, their dues were voted upon and increased by two dollars. CEA dues increased by five dollars this year. The following amounts have been established for this school year. The total full-time dues for the year is **\$806.00**. Any GEA member that is 0.51 and above pay full dues listed above; half-time (.5-.26) pays \$417, and anyone .25 and less pay \$376.25. Remember these dues include membership in not only the GEA, but also the CEA and NEA. These deductions are taken from two monthly paychecks starting at the beginning of October. If there is a month that has three pay periods, dues will not be taken out of your third monthly paycheck.

## County Forum Meeting:

Meet state officers and other teachers! There is no cost to members. Your building representative should have informed you of the October meeting. Please log in to CEA and register for any of these meetings you are planning to attend. Each meeting starts at 5:00pm and concludes at 7:00pm. This is a great way to get informed about your Association.

## Reminder - Change in Degree Status:

Donna Costello sent e-mail in September about the change in degree status form. Please refer to her e-mail for specifics, but remember that according to Article 37B-5, there is a stipulation that anyone who anticipates a **change in salary status** during the next school year, due to the expected completion of a graduate degree or program, must inform the Central Office in the school year *preceding the year in which the change is to occur*. Completion of this form will satisfy requirements under Article 37B-5 regarding proper notification of anticipated change in degree status.

## Membership - Active or Agency?

Ever wonder the difference between full active membership and agency fee? Well, here you go! Don't forget even Agency Fee members pay 80% of dues. These agency fee dues are determined in December and paycheck deductions begin in January.

Issue	Active Full Membership	Agency Fee Membership
Grievance assistance	Yes	Yes
Contract Administration	Yes	Yes
Statutory terminations*	Yes	No
Nonrenewals	Yes	No
DCF Investigations*	Yes	No
Workers' Compensation*	Yes	No
Advice on Certification	Yes	No
Advice on Retirement	Yes	No
Unemployment*	Yes	No

# 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



# Welcome New Guilford Teachers!

The GEA would like to recognize our NEW TEACHERS (those that attended orientation are pictured on right) for this newsletter's spotlight section! We hope you are enjoying your transition to teaching in Guilford. If you have any questions regarding our education union or contract, please swing by and talk with your building representative. Always remember what David McCullough said, "Real success is finding your lifework in the work that you love."



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