

GEA NEWSLETTER

October 2018

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

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 2018-2019 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

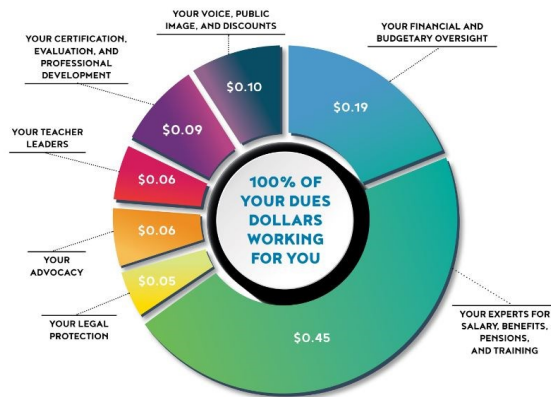
area in their school. On this board, you will find contact information for your GEA Executive Board, as well as each school's building representative(s). The meeting minutes are available for any GEA member, just ask your building rep and they will be happy to share them with you!

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!

CEA Dues Working for YOU

Did you know that your dues dollars are never given to political campaigns for candidates? 100% of your dues dollars are working for you. Here is the breakdown:



Your certification, evaluation, and professional development - **9%** - Monitors trends that affect the teaching profession: develops policy recommendations: assists locals with teacher evaluation, certification and induction issues: provides professional development training: maintains teacher vacancy list: oversees CEA Student Program.

Your teacher leaders - **6%** - Your teacher leaders on the Representative Assembly, Board of Directors, Executive Committee, standing committees and commissions, and other member involvement in policy development, services, and benefit programs.

Your advocacy - **6%** - Implements and advocates-CEA's legislative agenda, and lobbies legislators.

Your legal protection - **5%** - Represents members and locals before courts and administrative agencies in a variety of matters involving salaries, benefits and working conditions including workers' compensation claims, enforcement of arbitration awards, tenured teacher termination hearings, unemployment compensation claims, unfair labor practice charges, and DCF cases.

Your experts for salary, benefits, pensions, and training - **45%** - UniServ staff provides support to locals with collective bargaining, organizing, preparing grievances, negotiating contract, and contract enforcement. Also provide local, regional, and statewide training and offers information and assistance with teacher retirement.

Your financial and budgetary oversight - **19%** - Responsible for financial management, membership processing, property management, printing, purchasing, events planning, and IT maintenance and support.

Your voice, public image, and discounts - **10%** - Promotes the work of teachers through online, print, and TV advertising, videos, email newsletters, social media, and website. Provides discounts and savings through CEA Membership Benefits Program.

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 three dollars this year. The following amounts have been established for this school year. The total full-time dues for the year is **\$836.00**. Any GEA member that is 0.51 or less can see their dues breakdown on the front of this newsletter. 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.

Membership - What to do about paying dues when you are out on unpaid leave?

There are a few options for you to pay the balance of your NEA/CEA/GEA dues when you are out on unpaid leave. It is very important to contact our Membership Secretary, Anne Lombard, via e-mail to discuss your options.

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.

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 has registration begin at 4:30, and then the meeting runs from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. This is a great way to get informed about your Association. The next meeting for our county is **Wednesday, February 13th** at Baci Grill in Cromwell.

Important Reminders

- **GEA online!** Visit 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.