

GTA ADVOCATE

The Official Newsletter of the Glendale Teachers Association



President's Message

By: Taline Arsenian, President



November 2019

Vol. 36
Issue 2

One of the most impactful ways you can influence public education is to VOTE! Casting your ballot in local, state, and federal elections is an important way to have a say in the decisions that impact the students we serve. Legislatures and other state officials can make or break policy, determine funding allocations, and require exams and costly district mandates. These decisions can directly impact our working conditions and affect the educational outcomes for our students.

Governor Newsom signed 83% of the bills ratified by California legislatures. Signed into law were AB 1505 (by Assemblymember O'Donnell) and AB1507 (by Assemblymember Smith), bringing much needed accountability and transparency to privately managed charter schools. These two new laws are the first changes to charter school regulations in California in 27 years. Governor Newsom also signed into law SB 328 (by Senator Portantino) which will require the adoption of school start times for middle schools to be no sooner than 8:00 am and for high schools to be no sooner than 8:30 am by July 2022. Governor Newsom vetoed AB 197 (by Assemblymember Weber), which would have required school districts with primary grades offer at least one full day kindergarten program. Also vetoed was AB 500 (by Assemblymember Gonzalez), which would have expanded maternity leave for education employees to allow for at least 6 weeks of fully paid maternity leave. Currently, maternity leave is paid by the District at half the daily rate of pay only after a member exhausts all of their banked sick time. Bills vetoed were categorized as not fitting into the 2019-20 budget structure.

Locally, the decision-making body for all topics pertaining to expenditures of the Glendale Unified School District, including employee wage increases, is the 5 elected school board members, who currently serve 4-year terms, sans term limits. Although, term limits are a topic that board member Shant Sahakian has worked diligently to bring to the agenda, in order to allow for a Glendale community vote. School board elections are districted by 5 regional areas. The next school board election will be held on March 3, 2020, which is the first-time school board elections will be aligned with primary elections. Two seats are up for election, one in district A, currently held by Jennifer Freemon and the other in district E, currently held by Nayiri Nahabedian.

The Glendale Teachers Association Bylaws allow for our union to have a Political Action Committee (PAC), which consists of 6 GTA elementary, middle, and high school members. Like I mentioned above, voting in elections is important to public schools. The GTA PAC Committee works hard to engage and inform Glendale voters in local elections. They represent the teacher voice at political events in Glendale to promote and educate our community about Glendale public schools. The GTA endorsement process includes an interview by the PAC committee. The committee makes recommendations to the GTA Board of Directors, which then recommends to the GTA Representative Council for final approval.

Election season is right around the corner. Please vote for, and promote to your friends and family, public education friendly candidates and measures. It is the most important and influential way we can all impact public education in our city, state, and nation.

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Vice President's Message

By: Alicia Harris, Vice President

GTA TGIF events



Please mark your calendar or stay tuned for a TGIF to be thrown by your Area Director! This year we are hosting seven area focused TGIFs. Our hope is that members can enjoy unwinding and connecting with colleagues who teach in their elementary, middle, or high school cluster.

**Our first TGIF will be for our Middle School members hosted by
Middle School Director Jacqueline DaVolio!**

Where: BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse
101 North Brand Blvd.

Date: Friday, November 15th

Time: 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Save the Dates:

CV-Clark-Daily members-Friday, January 24th from 3:30-5:30

North Area HS Director Chris Davis will be hosting you TGIF event at Joselito's in Montrose.

CV area cluster elementary school members-Thursday, February 6th from 3:30-5:50

CV area cluster Elementary Director Angie will be hosting a Valentine's themed event.

Location TBD

Stay tuned with your site reps for the dates of your TGIF!

Executive Director's Message

By: Nate Banditelli, GTA/BTA Executive Director



SB 419 Updates Pupil Suspension and Expulsion Law

With the passage of SB 419, laws that restrict a principal from suspending a student for willful defiance will expand effective July 1, 2020. The legislation does not change a teacher's right to suspend a student from class for the day and the following day, though. This change first became law in 2015, when AB 420 amended the California Education Code by removing willful defiance as a reason that a principal may use to suspend or expel a student in kindergarten through third grades. AB 420 expired on July 1, 2018, but was made permanent in last year's budget legislation. With the passage of SB 419, the prohibition is permanently extended to fourth and fifth grades and will extend it to sixth through eighth grades until July 1, 2025.

Rights of a Principal to Suspend or Expel

A principal may still suspend or expel students for any of the reasons that are enumerated in Ed. Code Sec. 48900: causing physical injury, using force or violence (including hate violence), possessing firearms, firearm replicas, knives, explosives, drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol, robbery or extortion, damaging property, stealing, receiving stolen property, hazing, bullying (including electronic), use of tobacco or nicotine, habitual profanity or vulgarity, obscene acts, sexual harassment, sexual assault, harassing or intimidating witnesses, or making terroristic threats.

Students in fourth through twelfth grades may be suspended or expelled when a principal or superintendent "determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual or reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of either school personnel or pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment."

The right to suspend or expel is not unlimited, though. The Ed. Code requires that other means of correction be used for a first offense, except when a student causes physical injury, causes a danger to persons, for possession of a firearm or other dangerous object, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of a controlled substance, or commits or attempts to commit robbery or extortion.

Students who receive special education services are subject to the same suspension rules as students who do not receive special education services, except that the suspension may not exceed ten days without an IEP "manifestation determination", which is a formal procedure used to determine if a student's behavioral issue was an expression of that student's disability.

Rights of a Teacher to Suspend from Class for the Day and the Following Day

SB 419 does not impact a teacher's right to suspend a student from class for the day and the following day due to willful defiance. Before suspending the student from class, though, you should document the use of other means of correction. Other means might include parent conferences, referral to support personnel, student study teams, PBIS, or restorative practices.

2019-2020 Site Visit Schedule

- *Visits will take place during lunch(es)*
- *Sites will be contacted with a reminder via email both a week prior to and the day of the site visit.*

Semester 1		Area Director
November 7 th	Muir ES	Virginia
November 14 th	Franklin ES	Rosemarie
November 21 st	Mann ES	Virginia
December 6 th	Monte Vista ES	Angelina
December 10 th	S.E.L.P.A.	Judy
December 12 th	CV HS	Chris
Semester 2		
January 16 th	Cerritos ES	Virginia
January 23 rd	La Crescenta ES	Angelina
January 30 th	Edison ES	Rosemarie
February 6 th	Wilson	Jacqueline
February 13 th	GHS	Deb
February 18 th	District Office	Judy
February 27 th	Balboa	Rosemarie
March 5 th	Glenoaks ES	Virginia
March 12 th	Cloud PreSchool	Judy
March 26 th	Clark Magnet HS	Chris
April 2 nd	Fremont	Angelina
April 9 th	Daily HS	Chris
April 16 th	Columbus ES	Rosemarie
April 23 rd	Marshall	Virginia
April 30 th	Mountain ES	Angelina
May 7 th	Roosevelt MS	Jacqueline
May 13 th	Lincoln ES	Angelina
May 14 th	Keppel ES	Rosemarie
May 28 th	RD White ES	Virginia

Thank You Site Reps!



**Mike Hawley and Craig Phelps,
College View**



**Scott McCreary and Arus Boggs,
Valley View ES**



Kirsten Korte, Pacific Pre-School



**Mildred Outlaw,
FACTS and Verdugo Academy**

Thank You Site Reps!



**Vahe Tcharkhoutian and Sharon McMillon,
Toll MS**



**Katie Turner and John Andrews,
Verdugo Woodlands ES**



**Dana Schwarzmenn and Diana Echeverria,
Muir ES**

Thank You Site Reps!



Congratulations to Jefferson kindergarten teacher, Suzanne McDonnell, for receiving the GUSD Teacher of the Year Award!

Congratulations to Roosevelt teacher, Randy Kamiya, for receiving the “Extra Yard for Teachers” Award!





Nov. - Dec. 2019



November 2019

- 11/5 GUSD Board of Education
- 11/13 GTA Board of Directors
- 11/19 GUSD Board of Education
- 11/25 - 11/29 NO SCHOOL



December 2019

- 12/3 GTA Rep Council
- 12/9 GTA/GUSD Board Reception
- 12/13 GTA Board of Directors
- 12/17 GUSD Board of Education
- 12/23-1/6 WINTER BREAK



Name or Address Change?

Please notify the GTA Office of any name, address or phone number changes. You may send in the form below to the GTA Office via school mail. GTA will update our records and notify CTA of any changes.

Name: _____

New Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email (Non-GUSD): _____

School Site: _____



Visit our website at www.glendaleteachers.org for bargaining updates, organizing news, forms and flyers, and pertinent information.

Follow us on Facebook [@glendaleteachers](https://www.facebook.com/glendaleteachers), on twitter [@glendaleGTA](https://twitter.com/glendaleGTA)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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