

# Garvey Education Association

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October 2009

To: All GEA Unit Members  
From: Les Nakasaki, GEA President  
Re: October Bulletin

Election Day, November 4th is only three weeks away. This is a time to exercise your power as a citizen and go out and vote for the candidates and issues that affect you and your livelihood.

## **Look Before You Leap ... The Dangers of Race To The Top**

The rush to qualify for federal Race To The Top (RTTT) grants would require overhauling California's content standards and creating a new state testing system, and mandate teacher compensation and evaluation be based "significantly" on student test scores. CTA leaders have met with Secretary Arne Duncan. Members have testified at several legislative hearing, and CTA and NEA have submitted formal responses to the proposed guidelines. All of our actions have had some impact, as the U.S. Department of Education was overwhelmed by the number of responses and has delayed adopting regulations to allow more time for review. You can go to the CTA website at [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and find additional information:

- Where We Stand
- CTA Position Paper in Response to "Race to the Top" Regulations
- Review Testimonies on RTTT
- Write or call your lawmaker to voice your stand on RTTT.

On October 15, 2009, the ***GEA Representative Council will be held at the Garvey Education Association Office at 3:30 pm.*** Everyone is welcome to attend Representative Council.

The Association meets monthly or on an as needed basis with Superintendent Ginny Peterson and Assistant Superintendent Genaro Alarcon. At this meeting we discuss issues, concerns and problems that surface from unit members, Representative Council and Executive Board.

Unit members who are scheduled to be evaluated this year should be aware of the following timelines in the "Evaluation Procedure":

Sept. 15 to Oct. 31	Observation, goal setting and assistance.
By October 15	District to notify unit members of their evaluator
By October 31	Goal setting conference
By February 15	Second evaluation for unit members possibly being recommended for termination.
By May 2	Deadline for summative evaluation...sixty (60) days prior to the end of the school year (June 30).

Please check out the GEA website. The website is [www.garveyea.org](http://www.garveyea.org). The site is a valuable resource that contains information and links that will assist you.

October /November Events:

October 1	GEA Executive Board Meeting 3:15 PM (If necessary)
October 12	GSD Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
October 15	GEA Representative Council 3:30 PM at Monterey Vista School
October 19	Registration Deadline for November Election
October 21	SESCC Dinner, 6:00 PM, Holiday Inn Select, La Mirada
October 23-25	CTA State Council of Education
November 1	Daylight savings time ends
November 3	Election Day
November 5	GEA Executive Board 3:15 PM
November 11	Veteran's Day Holiday
November 16	GSD Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
November 17	SESCC President's Release Day 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
November 18	Southeastern Service Center Council School Board Dinner, 6:30 PM
November 19	GEA Representative Council, 3:30 PM
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Holidays