



GEA Election Candidates Bio's

President (Two Year Term)

Michael McDonough - President



My name is Michael McDonough. I have taught elementary resource since 1995 and been active in the association since 1995. I have stayed involved because at GEA, I get to work with the most passionate, dedicated advocates for kids.

During my first year as GEA president, I learned that if I ask for help, there are lots of people who will show up to help. It's the reason I'd like to work for you for two more years – working with Star and Cindy and Mary, and all the people that show up to help.

Vice President (Two Year Term)

Barbara Antonetti – Vice President



I have been a GEA Association Representative for several years, as well as a dedicated member on the GEA Board of Directors. I am unafraid to meet with administrators when members come to me with concerns. I believe my strengths are in advocacy and follow-through. When I tell you, I will look into something, I am true to my word.

Additionally, I give back to my students and the community through various non-profit organizations and by being involved politically when concerns come up that affect public education. Becoming GEA's Vice President will ensure that the work of NEA, UEA and GEA continues to be strong.

Specialist Seat (Three Year Term)

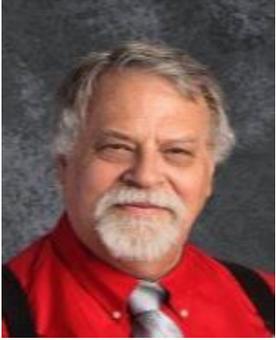
Paula Nelson – Specialist Seat



I respectfully submit my name for candidacy for the GEA Board of Directors' Specialist Seat. As a current board member and AR, I understand the importance of the GEA's mission to not only support and protect teachers, but also lead in the highly political arena of education. My professional work includes twenty years as a Granite secondary teacher. I have also worked in advertising and public relations in the private sector, higher education, and of all things, a truck equipment company. On the good side, I have been a member of GEA since my first year of teaching. For the past eleven years I have served as an AR, which I personally consider the single most important position within the Association. I also serve on the UEA and NEA Resolutions Committee and the GEA Negotiations Team.

Secondary Seat (Three Year Term)

Kerry Bishop – Secondary Seat



It has been my pleasure to serve on the GEA Board for the past three years as the Secondary representative. I have been a member of GEA for the past twenty-five years having joined when I first started teaching (at age 40).

Prior to that, I spent 15 years as a member of IBEW local 57 while I worked for the power company in various positions. With forty years of union experience, I would be honored to serve one more term on the GEA Board of Directors. I will continue to support GEA and attend as many function as possible. I would appreciate your vote.

Tyler Jensen – Secondary Seat



My name is Tyler Jensen and I am running for GEA Board Secondary Seat. I teach 8th grade Science at Olympus Junior High. Teacher retention is my fundamental focus as a member of GEA. In the last two years I have had the fortune to be involved as an interim board member and a member of contract negotiations. I care passionately about fellow educators and their needs to remain successful.

I thank you and I ask for your vote and support. Tyler Jensen for GEA Board Secondary Seat.

At Large Seat (Two Year Term)

Christine Kent – At Large Seat



Hi, my name is Christine Kent. I am running for the At Large Seat on the GEA Board of Directors. I have been teaching in Granite District for six years. I have been a GEA member since I started teaching. I became the Association Representative for Hillside Elementary 4 years ago and I have loved (almost) every minute of it. I am ready to take on more and looking for the next opportunity to be more involved in the changes that will help education and the amazing educators in this district. I am not afraid to use my voice and stand up for what is right. I am a people person and have found that it has helped me work with students, parents, colleagues, and administrators. I am the type of person who likes responsibility and I am always looking for ways to improve. I will help make changes and get teachers' voices heard. I am excited to have a chance to help more teachers in the years to come.

Caren Burns – At Large Seat



Throughout the last four years, being involved on the GEA Board of Directors has been a great experience for me. Being behind the scenes and volunteering my time at GEA has allowed me to see that our association truly is advocating for and supporting all GSD educators at a time when teaching can be a turbulent career. Being involved and sharing in the work that needs to be done is a great way to give back to an association that gives me so much. As the co-chair of the Human Rights Committee, our members have inspired me, and I have had the opportunity to grow my knowledge and work to make our district a more equitable place for everyone. I am running for the At-Large Board seat to be able to continue that work and keep being a strong advocate for our amazing GEA members over the next two years.

Elementary Seat (Two Year Term)

Kim Cretsinger – Elementary Seat



My name is Kimberly Cretsinger and I have been a teacher in Granite and GEA member for 16 years. Joining GEA as a student teacher was an important step in beginning my career as an educator and I have never looked back.

When given the opportunity to be Smith Elementary's building representative three years ago, I was eager to learn as much as I could to help support the teachers in my building. I was also eager to find my voice as an advocate for educators. I have previously served on my school's Building Committee, Leadership Committee, Gifted Committee, and currently volunteer for our drama club. I have earned my M.Ed., as well as my ESL and Gifted endorsements. I know how to work hard and would love to represent you.

Amy Maldonado – Elementary Seat



I would like to run for the GEA Elementary Board position. I have worked for GSD for 9 years as an elementary teacher in a Title One school. I joined GEA at new teacher orientation after listening to Nikki Peterson share how important GEA is to teachers. She convinced me that I needed to join. After two years of teaching I wanted to become more involved and became the assistant AR for five years and then the Association Rep for the past two years. This year I stepped back to the assistant AR position to allow other GEA members to become involved with GEA. At our school we have always shared in the GEA responsibilities to ensure that our teachers had the best representation that we could provide. I am now at the point in my carrier and GEA involvement that I am looking for the "Next Adventure". I would like to run for the Elementary Board Seat. I feel that with my teaching and years of involvement in GEA I can provide GEA with an individual who cares about teachers and our students and can represent the elementary teachers at the level of a Board position. I would appreciate your vote.

Evaluation Committee (Three Year Term)

Christine Kent



Hi, my name is Christine Kent. I have been teaching in Granite District for six years. I have been a GEA member since I started teaching. I became the Association Representative for Hillside Elementary 4 years ago and I have loved (almost) every minute of it. I am ready to take on more and looking for the next opportunity to be more involved in the changes that will help education and the amazing educators in this district. I am not afraid to use my voice and stand up for what is right. I am a people person and have found that it has helped me work with students, parents, colleagues, and administrators. I am the type of person who likes responsibility and I am always looking for ways to improve. I will help make changes and get teachers' voices heard. I am excited to have a chance to help more teachers in the years to come.

Michele Jones



I love teaching. I am passionate about my job and hold a deep respect for my fellow teachers. I have seen our educational system from multiple perspectives: as a parent, volunteer, and teacher. I have seen the public-school system through many lenses and understand the complexities of educational policy. I believe that every child deserves an excellent education, and the best way to reach this goal is to put those who understand the dynamics and intricacies of education – the teachers – as the decision makers.

Michelle Miller Hall



I am currently serving on the Granite District Evaluation committee and would like to continue in this capacity. I appreciate the collaborative relationship that GEA has with the district and that teacher's voices are heard on important issue like teacher evaluation. I would appreciate your vote once again for this position.

NEA Representative Assembly Candidates

Kim Cretsinger – NEA RA



My name is Kimberly Cretsinger and I have been a teacher in Granite and GEA member for 15 years. Joining GEA as a student teacher was an important step in beginning my career as an educator and I have never looked back. When given the opportunity to be Smith Elementary's building representative three years ago, I was eager to learn as much as I could to help support the teachers in my building. I was also eager to find my voice as an advocate for educators. I have previously served on my school's Building Committee, Leadership Committee, Gifted Committee, and currently volunteer for our drama club. I have earned my M.Ed., as well as my ESL and Gifted endorsements. I know how to work hard and would love to represent you.

Adela Genoves – NEA RA



Our world continues to change, and as an educator, I understand the importance of guiding students in their intellectual journey. One of the hallmarks of American democracy is public education. The education profession promotes the democratic ideals of our nation. Educators inspire and guide our nation's youngest citizens in developing their abilities and becoming the next generation of thinkers. Through education we build a society of contributing individuals who possess the tools to address the challenges we face as a nation. An equal and fair education, for all students, give this nation the cognitive fortitude to be contributing member to humankind.

Being a member of GEA is an invaluable part of my professional career. The union provides security and support to me as an educator. I often find myself advocating for unions in general because I fervently believe that unions safeguard worker's right and living wages. I would like the opportunity to continue being part of our education association as a summer 2019 delegate to the NEA RA. My aim in this pursuit is to be more directly involved with GEA and be a vocal voice in support of teachers, our association, and public education.

David Page – NEA RA



Hello, my name is David Page. I would like the opportunity to represent GEA at the NEA Representative Assembly. I am excited to become more involved politically within the organization. In addition, the RA represents an opportunity to learn more deeply about the state of our profession at a national level. This learning experience would be valuable as I seek to improve my capacity as an AR and an educator. Please consider a vote for me as our representative to the NEA Representative assembly.