

**President**

Evelina Loya  
NEA Director for Texas  
[Evelina.Loya@gea-tsta.org](mailto:Evelina.Loya@gea-tsta.org)  
[ELoya@garlandisd.net](mailto:ELoya@garlandisd.net)  
Hudson Middle School

**First Vice-President**

Carlos Reza  
[Carlos.Reza@gea-tsta.org](mailto:Carlos.Reza@gea-tsta.org)  
[CFReza@garlandisd.net](mailto:CFReza@garlandisd.net)  
South Garland High School

**Second Vice-President**

Judy Hester  
[Judy.Hester@gea-tsta.org](mailto:Judy.Hester@gea-tsta.org)  
[JEHester@garlandisd.net](mailto:JEHester@garlandisd.net)  
Freeman Elementary  
School

**Secretary**

Norma Waters  
[Norma.Waters@gea-tsta.org](mailto:Norma.Waters@gea-tsta.org)  
[NWaters@garlandisd.net](mailto:NWaters@garlandisd.net)  
Hudson Middle School

**Treasurer**

Christopher Reza  
[Christopher.Reza@gea-tsta.org](mailto:Christopher.Reza@gea-tsta.org)  
[CJReza@garlandisd.net](mailto:CJReza@garlandisd.net)  
Sachse High School

**TSTA Staff**

Janna Connolly  
[Jannac@tsta.org](mailto:Jannac@tsta.org)

**Staff Development Workshops:**

Chapter 37  
Legal Hot Buttons  
Member Benefits  
ESP Have Rights, too

*Garland Education Association / Texas State Teachers Association*  
Staff: 469-952-7288

**Holiday Greetings from GEA!**

The **Garland Education Association** along with Texas State Teachers Association wishes all GISD employees a great Holiday Season!

We are excited at the new changes to our website....

<http://www.gea-tsta.org>

You will be able to see political and education updates, download application forms, view meeting dates and trainings

*GEA has lowered their dues for new members only!*

Dues this year will be almost a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the regular dues! New members will take four years to pay the full rate.

Applications are available for the GEA website or call 469-952-7288

**Sign the 22:1 Petition!****Demand legislative action for:**

- 22-1 class size limits in pre-K through 6th Grade.
  - 25-1 class size limits in Grades 7-12.
  - 15-1 class size limits for all low-performing campuses or campuses in danger of becoming low-performing.
- Additionally, the Legislature must:**
- Reduce a district's ability to get class size waivers for more than two consecutive years.
  - Fully fund these changes with state revenue.
- Lower class sizes work!**
- They improve learning conditions.

- They increase graduation rates.
- They improve test scores.
- They are especially important for students from low income families.
- They improve teacher working conditions.

**Even in tight budgetary times, nothing is more important than improving our children's education and preventing dropouts. Quality education helps secure their future and the future well-being of our state. And, quality education demands**

**classes of reasonable, manageable sizes that enable teachers to teach kids, not just try to corral them.**

**Contact your Local Staff to bring the petition to your campus:  
469-952-7288**

**Please join our campaign to Lower Class Size!**



## Are Your Student's safe from Internet Threats?

### Safety Tips!

#### Are your student's safe from Internet Threats?

After students at a Round Rock school received a Facebook message that their school would be blown up, the administration sent a message to employees urging internet safety. (The school and a nearby campus were shut down most of the day, but the perpetrator turned out to be located in a foreign country.) Here are some excerpts:

"What is disturbing about this situation is it may have been avoided if proper Internet safety had been followed. The Saudi Arabia suspect became Facebook 'friends' with several of our students and from there had access to all of their Facebook 'friends.' Another disturbing component is the fact that our students have placed personal information on their Facebook accounts.

Students' e-mail addresses, phone numbers and personal pictures were available for the suspect. The suspect was able to threaten many of our students via Facebook and by calling their cell phones.

"It is vital that our students understand the importance of being safe on the Internet. We need help from our parents to be vigilant in monitoring their child's social networking accounts and general Internet use while at home. For their safety, students should not place any personal information on the Internet and they should not accept 'friends' online ho they do not know. At school we teach our students Internet safety and we have systems in place that block social networking sites such as Facebook on all school computers."

Here are Tips to Share with Parents (for additional safety tips, visit [www.onguardonline.gov](http://www.onguardonline.gov)).

- Never give out any personal information to anyone on the Internet (including name, address, phone, age, friend's names, school location, etc.).
- Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with anyone you have met on the Internet.
- Parents should search and monitor their child's social networking accounts. Make sure your child's online "friends" are people they actually know.
- Always maintain access to your child's online account and randomly check his/her e-mail. Be upfront with them about your access and the reasons why.
- Make sure you understand how your children are using the computer, what Web sites they are visiting, and who they are communicating with online.

## Holiday Shopping? Use Your TSTA Membership Card

### Sign up and save

Follow the instructions on the card to register for Click & Save. One of the benefits of TSTA/NEA membership is discounts on brand-name merchandise from hundreds of top retailers, online stores and local merchants. <http://www.neamb.com/clickandsave>

**Click & Save** Get up to 70% off brand-name merchandise from hundreds of retailers like JC Penney, Target, and more! <http://www.neamb.com/clickandsave>

- Never upload (post) pictures of yourself, or your friends/family, on the Internet or send to anyone you do not know personally.
- Periodically check your child's cell phone use and text messages to see who your child is communicating with.

