

NEWS & VIEWS



Fellowship Service and Support

Empowered to Serve

Sept. 14, 2021

Meeting at First Baptist Church
Dallas at 2:00 pm

This meeting will give us the opportunity to meet our Scholarship Recipients.

No snacks at this meeting. We are planning to spread out on the fellowship hall tables and wear masks to keep everyone safe.

Recruit! Recruit!

Please encourage fellow retirees to join GREA. Remember new GREA members have a free year as PREA members.

President's Message:

Welcome Back! Hello, Dear Paulding Friends! I do hope all of you have been well since our last Zoom meeting in March. The Executive Committee met the first week in August and planned our year. We will have in person meetings at the First Baptist Church Dallas. We will meet in the fellowship hall which is quite large and has many tables. We will spread out and wear masks whether vaccinated or not. We will not have any food or drinks at this meeting. We know many of you want to return to in person meetings, and we will do everything we can to make it a safe experience for all of us. Our three scholarship recipients will be with us. They are always an inspiration and remind us of the many good things happening every day in our Paulding County classrooms. Here are the names of our recipients: Breanne Cox from East Paulding High, Linda Hill from South Paulding Middle School, and Elizabeth Sanders from Paulding College and Career Academy.

Remember you will receive a call from Calling Post reminding you of the meeting. It will say Calling Post and the number associated with it is 1-405-303-4474. Please do not block the number. If you do not receive a call, please let me know. We will add you to our list.

Important Dates:

Sept. 14, 2021 PREA Meeting

November 2, 2021 Election Day

November 7, 2021 Retired
Educators Day in GA

November 9, 2021 10:00 am
PREA Meeting

January 11, 2022 2:00 pm PREA
Meeting

March 8, 2022 10:00 am PREA
Meeting and Memorial Service

April 7, 2022 11:00 am Cluster
Meeting in Cedartown, GA

May 3-5, 2022 State GREA
Convention Stone Mountain,
GA

These are still challenging and stressful times for all of us. Just remember how blessed we are to have that pension check coming in every month. We know we can pay our bills and have a home to welcome our dear family and friends. Please continue to work with me to keep our Paulding Unit active. I appreciate your support more than words can express.



Sincerely, Gloria King
404-583-4042



By Laura Weiss

Greetings to PREA Members and our Community,

I continue to be impressed by all of the great work being done in our community and schools by our members and the ways they served others are as varied as the individuals themselves. As we begin this new school year, I thought I would share some of the characteristics of those who volunteer.

They Have a Fearless Approach

They Have Infinite Patience

They Can think Creatively

They Are Eager to Take Initiative

They Stay Humble About Their Work

They Are Driven by Passion

They Can work in Teams.

Those I would highlight for this newsletter more than surpass

those criteria. The first member to recognize is none other than our President, Gloria King. Prior to becoming the President of PREA Gloria actively served in the PREA Scholarship, Memorial, and Retirement committees. Since becoming President Gloria has been a great communicator, keeping all members informed by every means possible. She sends out group emails, robot-calls, and has conducted our meetings via Zoom. She has given freely of her time- inviting anyone who did not know how to use Zoom, or just wanted to practice ahead of the meeting time, an opportunity to practice with her beforehand. She is truly an inspiration: she loves PREA and her love and concern for the personal well being of our members comes from her heart. Gloria assigned herself a daunting task and has re-written the PREA Handbook, including editing and revising the Paulding Retired Educators Directory, and will be making it available to members soon. Gloria has also been working with all the officers in their respective departments to make sure the good work of PREA continues. Importantly, she has also been in constant contact with Dr. Sloan and our State representations to ensure our benefits continue. **Thank you, Gloria, for being our fearless leader.**

The other person I would like to recognize is our former President, Barbara Cohran. Barbara spent over 40 years in education, beginning in Cobb County before moving to Paulding. She spent 30 years at New Georgia Elementary, most of those as Principal. The gymnasium is even named in her honor. She has remained very involved in that school and its Cultural Arts programs. Each month she makes Award Certificates for students to recognize their achievements. Barbara served two terms as President of PREA. Her first term was for 3 years, the second for 2 years. That is impressive dedication. For Gloria she remains a constant source of information and inspiration. Currently she serves PREA as the Membership Chairman. Just looking at all she had accomplished is motivating. **Thank you, Barbara, for your love and constant support.**



Members, be reminded that your help and efforts are needed and appreciated in our schools, community, and PREA. Everyone has something they are good at: a skill that is needed somewhere. Volunteering has many benefits, including (but not limited to): Volunteering connects you to others. Volunteering is good for your mind and body. Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life. Take a leap and get involved. You'll be glad you did!

Helping Hands of Paulding County - PREA members have been a big supporter of this charity. We will continue to accept checks and food donations at our meetings. If you cannot be at our meetings, please consider sending them a check and let them know it is from a Paulding Retired Educator. Here is the address: **Helping Hands of Paulding County PO Box 1130 Dallas, GA 30132** The main location is at 228 West Spring Street in Dallas. They take food donations from 8:30 to 3:30 on Monday-Friday. They need canned vegetables, fruits, meats, beans, and spaghetti sauce. They also need rice, breakfast items and personal care items. Clothing donations are accepted at the Clothing Center 240 Professional Court in Dallas. Their hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10-2. Drop off items only these days and times. They always need volunteers to work in the food pantry and clothing center. Contact Reva Burks at 770-443-1230 for more information.

Congratulations to our Scholarship Winners!



Breanne Cox is an Art Specialist at East Paulding High School. She is seeking a degree in Master of Arts in Art and Design with concentration in Art Education at Kennesaw University.



Linda Hill is a paraprofessional at South Paulding Middle School. She is seeking a Bachelor Degree in Middle School Education at Kennesaw University.



Elizabeth Sanders is clerk at Paulding College and Career Academy. She is seeking a Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education at Georgia Highlands College.

PREA Dues and Scholarship Fund Donations

We will collect membership dues of \$10 at our first meeting in September. If you cannot attend, please send your check to our treasurer:

Sandy Parson 11 Clonts Rd. Douglasville, GA 30134

Also, consider contributing to our Scholarship Fund. We gave three scholarships to Paulding teachers this past year. You can put your dues and scholarship donation in one check. Indicate on the memo line how much for each. You will find the form at the end of this newsletter. you can also make a scholarship donation in honor or in memory of someone. We will notify the family of your contribution.

The Georgia Retired Educators Association is a separate membership from our local Paulding REA Unit. Here are the 2 membership forms. Please join both organizations who work to protect our pension and benefits.

2020-2021 PREA Membership Application Form

Send this application with Dues and/or Donations to:

Sandra Parson, 11 Clonts Road Douglasville, GA 30134

2020 Retirees: Join GREA and get the first year of PREA membership free!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip _____ Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

_____ \$10 for PREA Dues

_____ A donation to the Scholarship fund in the amount of _____

I would like my donation to be in honor or in memory of _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL
Address		
City	State	Zip
EMAIL		Phone #
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER		<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL
<input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMATIC DUES DEDUCTION (I.R.S.) <small>SSN or TRS Retirement # is required.</small> My signature below authorizes TRS to deduct \$2.00/month from my TRS pension payment. This authorization will remain in effect until I choose to terminate it by notice to Georgia Retired Educators Association.		<input type="checkbox"/> \$27 ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> \$360 LIFE Send check with this card to the address below. Make check payable to GREA.
Local Unit/County Paulding		FOR OFFICE USE ONLY CONTROL # _____ DATE _____
Signature	Date	

Return this portion to:
 Georgia Retired Educators Association
 P.O. Box 1379 • Flowery Branch, GA 30542
 Website: garetaeducators.org