



Guilford County Association of Educators <gcaenc@gmail.com>

Mass Meeting TOMORROW!

1 message

GCAE <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 3:04 PM

Reply-To: gcaenc@gmail.com

To: gcaenc@gmail.com



Newsletter

September 13, 2023

#TroublemakerTidbits:**Why is it a Mass Meeting?**

Have you ever wondered why we come together once a month with our union siblings and call it a Mass Meeting? Mass Meetings have a long history. Check out this excerpt from the [exhibit on Civil Rights Campaigns from the Portland State University Library](#):



"The mass meeting is a long-standing tradition in African American communities that dates at least to the end of slavery. Though the franchise was limited to adult men before 1919, later whole communities gathered to deliberate on positions and candidates. After women's suffrage, such deliberations received fresh urgency. Nonpartisan organizing served important educational purposes and during the civil

rights movement, mass meetings were essential to fostering solidarity, hammering out agendas and strategies, and keeping spirits high."

Are we in a moment of urgency for public education? YES. And it's imperative that we come together to build solidarity, share strategy, and pump each other up for the fight ahead! That's the purpose of a GCAE Mass Meeting, just as it has been the purpose of mass meetings throughout Movement history. We remember that we are standing on the shoulders of great leaders who have come before us, and we know we can fight and win because working class people just like us have fought and won, and they have shown us how to do it.

- Do you love the work of your union and want to find out how to plug in and keep fighting? [Come to the Mass Meeting!](#)
- Are you still checking GCAE out and wondering what we're all about? [Come to the Mass Meeting!](#)
- Are you angry about and maybe afraid of the current state of our public schools? [Come to the Mass Meeting!](#)
- Did you fight for pay raises in the spring and want to know what's up with that? [Come to the Mass Meeting!](#)
- Are you ready to stand shoulder to shoulder with your coworkers to defend and transform our public schools? [Come to the Mass Meeting!](#)

One way we "fuel the Movement" at Mass Meetings is by providing dinner and childcare, so be sure to [register](#) so that we have enough for you and all of your union siblings who are coming together in solidarity!

How to Plug In & Build YOUR Union, GCAE:

The most important things you can do right now to build power are to

- 1.) get involved with your Building Team (come to Building Team Training!) and
- 2.) bring your coworkers with you to our very first Mass Meeting of the year!

We've known it for a while now, but it needs to be said: no one is coming to save us but us. It's time to fight power with power, and that's what we are building. *This all starts at the building level, with a strong Building Leader and a Building Team.*

- Are you the Building Leader? Building Team Training is for you!
- Do you want to join your Building Leader in building power at your work site? Building Team Training is for you!
- Are you unsure who your Building Leader is or how to get started in your building, or even just curious about it? Building Team Training is for you!

[Plan to attend on September 18.](#) And we're serious: bring a coworker with you!

And plan to attend the very first **Mass Meeting** of the school year TOMORROW, **September 14, at Smith High School!** RSVP for yourself, and ask your coworkers to come with you. We're going to feed you good food, take care of your kids, and get you gassed up for a great year of building the collective power needed to win the schools that you, your coworkers, and your students deserve! We win what we're willing to fight for, so bring a ton of coworkers with

you to wrap up our #HotUnionSummer and kick off our #PublicSchoolPower school year! ([Register now](#) so we have enough food and know who is going to need childcare!)

THURS, SEPT 14, 5:30-7:30 pm, Smith HS	First GCAE Mass Meeting of the School Year! Dinner and childcare provided!	Register
MON, SEPT 18, 5:30-7:00 pm, virtual	GCAE Building Team Training, Option 2 All Building Leaders and Building Team members, please plan to attend. Training is required in order to be an official GCAE Building Leader for the 23-24 school year.	Register
SAT, OCT 7, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm, Greensboro	GCAE Organizing Bootcamp This in-person 1-day organizing conversation bootcamp is open to all GCS staff who are NCAE members. It is especially encouraged for building team members ready to level up to organize their worksite.	Register

Ways to Plug In with NCAE:

GCAE is the local affiliate of our state union, NCAE. The following opportunities are available for all NCAE members ready to learn one more thing, take one more step, or dig just a little bit deeper.

- **From Bills to Advocacy: NCAE's Legislative Update and Advocacy Skills Trainings**
 - Wednesday, Sept 13, 6:00-7:15 PM, virtual
 - Register: <https://www.mobilize.us/ncae/event/572162/>
- **NCAE Region 4 BL Training:** Learn about what's been happening in the NCGA, improve your membership recruitment skills, and learn more about professional development opportunities offered by NCAE. Lunch and childcare will be provided. *(Please note that Region 4 Building Leader Training does not replace GCAE Building Team Training as the requirement for Building Leaders. All GCAE Building Leaders should sign up for GCAE Building Team Training above and are most welcome to attend Region 4 Building Leader Training as well.)*
 - Saturday, Sept 23, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Elon
 - Register: <https://link.ncae.org/R4-Building-Leader-Training>

- **Learning the Landscape: What is a Labor Union?:** Learn why we need labor unions, a brief history of labor unions, and the current conditions causing an upsurge in labor union activity.
 - Monday, Sept 25, 6:00-7:30 PM, virtual
 - [Register](#)
 - **NCAE Members and Statewide Candidates Meet-and-Greet**
 - Friday, Sept 29, 6:00-7:30 PM, Raleigh
 - [Register](#)
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