
MEDIA ADVISORY



Glendale Teachers Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Glendale Teachers Rescind 2022 Endorsement of City Councilmember Ara Najarian

Glendale– The Representative Council of the Glendale Teachers Association (GTA) voted today to rescind the 2022 endorsement of Glendale City Councilmember Ara Najarian. He was granted the endorsement as he had been a partner to Glendale teachers during the pandemic. At that time, we trusted him to continue speaking out in the best interest of all educators, students and the Glendale community. Rather, he has chosen to do exactly the opposite. Councilmember Najarian has publicly failed Glendale teachers and the children of our community. Trust in his leadership has been irrevocably broken. His unwillingness to fact check disinformation campaigns targeting public school education with those who work in the public schools have shown GTA that he is not interested in being a partner to educators or an ally to the entirety of the GUSD student community.

On October 8th, Councilmember Najarian was interviewed by California Insider. In this interview, he made false claims about GUSD curriculum and slandered Glendale educators. GTA's President Taline Arsenian states, "Councilmember Najarian's comments have perpetuated myths that make schools less safe for LGBTQ+ students and employees. We no longer have confidence that he is willing to understand or meet the needs of the Glendale community."

Many of Councilmember Najarian's accusations have long been debunked by GUSD leaders. Glendale teachers follow the curriculum mandated by the State of California. This includes inclusive and age-appropriate lessons following the CA FAIR Act and State Standards for Health Education. GTA educators are proud to work in a state that acknowledges the full dignity and humanity of ALL students, educators, and families.

Councilmember Najarian's actions over the past few months, punctuated by his unacceptable comments in his interview, indicate he does not seek to represent the full, vibrant, diverse Glendale community. Therefore, the governing body of GTA, the Representative Council, rescinds all support of Ara Najarian as a Glendale office holder.

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