



For Immediate Release
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Gulf Coast Educators Giving Back to School Employees



Pasadena ISD first-year teacher, Maria Flores, after she completed her Teacher Supply Shopping Spree sponsored by Gulf Coast Educators FCU.

Pasadena, TX: Back to School season is known to be a busy but exciting time for all those in the education industry. As teachers prepared their classrooms for the welcoming of their students, Gulf Coast Educators FCU thought this would be a great time to show their gratitude for those getting back to school ready. They organized a virtual giveaway for deserving educators and school employees to show them how much they are valued and appreciated.

The 2021 Back to School Giveaway was held from August 9 – September 1, 2021. Gulf Coast Educators FCU held daily giveaways on each of their social media channels for educators and school employees. Giveaways included prizes ranging from Amazon gift cards, flexible seating classroom sets, and more, totaling over \$6,300.

Educators also had the opportunity to enter to win GCEFCU's grand prize cash drawing on their website. Of the 3,975 entries received, ten school employees were selected at random to win \$500 each, totaling more than \$5,000. Each of the winners are listed below.

Kristen Aguilar, Pasadena ISD
Dalia Salinas, Pasadena ISD
Meagan Walls, Deer Park ISD

Della Villarreal, Faith Christian Academy
Nicole Beaty, Alvin ISD
Victoria Munoz, Deer Park ISD



April Johnson, Houston ISD
Shea Merilatt, Pasadena ISD

Kristi Donaho, Pasadena ISD
Michael Ogea, Dickinson ISD

If giving away cash and prizes all month long wasn't enough, Gulf Coast Educators FCU decided that they wanted to do something a little extra special for a few first-year teachers. Three first-year teachers were selected at random to receive a Teacher Supply Shopping Spree. They each had one minute to do a "Supermarket Sweep" style shopping spree at Lakeshore Learning and fill up their baskets with as many items that they could fit. The three first-year teachers are named below.

Sarah Gross, Deer Park ISD
Maria Flores, Pasadena ISD
Carmelen Faria, Clear Creek ISD

You may view a short video of the first-year teachers and their shopping spree by clicking [here](#). The credit union would like to give a special thanks to Lakeshore Learning in Friendswood for hosting the event.

About Gulf Coast Educators FCU: Since 1948, eleven Pasadena ISD educators got together and formed what today remains a credit union dedicated to serving the financial needs of school employees in the state of Texas. The credit union offers its member-owners a full line of banking services, but through a cooperative ownership structure. To learn more about the credit union, visit www.gcefcu.org.