



COLORADO LEAGUE of CHARTER SCHOOLS
focus on achievement



July 7, 2017

Welcome to another edition of the Friday Wire. Let us know if your school is in the news! Please send any articles or announcements to [Kerri Barclay](#), Communications Associate at the League. Articles and announcements are due by noon on Thursday of each week.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Items For Sale**

Aurora Academy has the following items for sale:

- Two 8' folding cafeteria tables with casters. Used for grades K-8, slight repair on seat but table is in good condition. Each table is \$50. Contact Steve Snyder at [ssnyder@academy.org](mailto:ssnyder@academy.org) for more information.
- Approximately 48 computers with monitors selling for \$75 each. Details include: HP DC 5750 SFF Desktop Dual Core Processor 2G RAM 80G SATA Hard drive DVD ROM WINDOWS 7 Pro key (Windows not installed) DVI and VGA Video 8 USB Ports Keyboard/Mouse 17" Flat Panel Monitor. Contact Lance Stevens at [lstevens@academy.org](mailto:lstevens@academy.org). [Click here to view photos of both items.](#)

**Free Elementary Student Desks**

Golden View Classical Academy is giving away student desks. All desks need to be picked up at the school. There are several varieties of desks (all in good condition) available including: 8 Single combo student desk and chair, 176 single student desk with one cubby and adjustable legs and 73 double student desks with two cubbies and adjustable legs ([click here to view photos](#)). Please contact Kait Lochner at [klochner@goldenviewclassical.org](mailto:klochner@goldenviewclassical.org) to learn more or schedule a pick up.

**Free MR18 Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points**

Cherry Creek Academy in Englewood recently upgraded their Wireless Access Points and have 20 MR18 Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points available to donate to your school. [Click here to learn more](#). If you have any questions or are interested in picking them up, please email Hethyr Fouse at [hfouse@cherrycreekacademy.org](mailto:hfouse@cherrycreekacademy.org).

**Room Dividers For Sale**

New Vision Charter School in Loveland is selling two new room dividers. Room divider (by Versare Products) specifics include: 360 Portable Partition, Opal Polycarbonate - 7'6" high x 19'6" long, each panel rotates 360 degrees for infinite configuration

possibilities using a patented 360 degree hinge, patented full panel end member with locking caster, model number is RD790OP. The divider costs \$1200 each; \$2400 for both. [Click here to view photo](#). Dividers can be seen by appointment only. Contact Pat at [psweat@newvisioncharterschool.org](mailto:psweat@newvisioncharterschool.org) to schedule appointment.

[Has the charter school movement gone awry? A new book says yes, and it's causing a stir](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 5, 2017*

That's the point of a charter school? Is acting as another option for families enough, or should it have to post higher test scores than other schools, too?

[From CSAP to PARCC, here's how Colorado's standardized tests have changed \(and what's next\)](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 5, 2017*

For more than two decades, Colorado public school students have taken annual tests to measure how well they've mastered the state's English and math learning standards.

[Colorado announces free and reduced price meal income guidelines for 2017-18 school year](#)

*Fox 21 News - July 5, 2017*

The Colorado Department of Education has announced the policy for free and reduced price meals for children unable to pay the full price served in schools under the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program and/or the Special Milk Program.

[Colorado launches new website showing how schools get and spend money](#)

*Denver Business Journal - July 3, 2017*

A website aimed at improving financial transparency in school districts launched Friday. The website, called "Financial Transparency for Colorado Schools," offers users, such as parents and businesses, a way to research how districts are using tax money, as well as compare school and districts throughout Colorado.

[The Charter-School Equity Push](#)

*The Atlantic - July 3, 2017*

When Josue Bonilla started at STRIVE Prep Federal, he spent a lot of time trying to earn happy-face stickers and string cheese. These were the rewards for sticking to his behavior plan.

[School Administrators Unsure How To Protect Students Under New Law](#)

*CPR - July 3, 2017*

After 17-year-old Claire Davis was murdered by a classmate at a Denver-area high school in December 2013, numerous investigations pointed to deficiencies in safety policies at Arapahoe High School.

[More Charter School Teachers See Unions as an Option](#)

*Education Week - June 30, 2017*

Interest in forming teachers' unions is bubbling up at charter schools in big cities, and the national unions are pitching in to help-but that doesn't mean they've shed their wariness about the charter movement as a whole.

**Please Note: The following is a sampling of opinion articles about charter schools that appeared in the media over the past week. The opinions in these articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Colorado League of**

## **Charter Schools.**

### National Alliance Statement on NEA Resolution

*National Alliance for Public Charter Schools - July 5, 2017*

Hearing NEA acknowledge charter schools as the public schools they are and always have been is new, and it's welcome. Eighty-five percent of charter schools are either independently run or part of a non-profit network, but no matter their structure, all charter schools are public schools and all are held accountable to their authorizers and the families they serve. The results overall: higher graduation rates, more students going on to college and productive careers, more lives transformed through the power of public education.

### An unintended consequence of choosing the best school

*The Denver Post - July 5, 2017*

It's a segregation that has been allowed to occur because of people like me, who in the search for the top schools, inadvertently perpetuate the divide. And that is something that must change.

### Rice: Charter Schools Are Advancing the Cause of Black Education in America for the 21st Century

*The 74 - July 5, 2017*

African-American educators have been at the forefront of education battles through the centuries. Before Brown v. Board, black educators came together to operate schools that were responsive to our community. And after the landmark ruling, black educators worked tirelessly - literally giving their sweat, blood, and tears - to enforce the Supreme Court's will.

### **Education Blogs, Forums and Resources**

Below are some other great education reform news, blog and discussion sites that may be of interest:

[Another View](#)

[Chalkbeat Colorado](#)

[Charter Schools In Perspective](#)

[Chartering Quality Blog \(National Association for Charter School Authorizers\)](#)

[Democrats for Education Reform Blog](#)

[EdisWatching.org \(Independence Institute\)](#)

[Education Post](#)

[National Alliance for Public Charter Schools - The Charter Blog](#)

[National Charter School Resource Center](#)

### **Onboarding Your Charter School - Summer 2017**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Tuesday, July 11

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Ave., Denver

**Cost:** \$75 per group

**Description:** Recently approved charter schools with a planned 2018 opening won't want to miss this training! Onboarding is for founding teams/governing boards of newly approved charter schools. This workshop will guide teams as they navigate through the complexities of the startup phase; presenting a clear path forward as your school moves from theory to reality. There will be morning workshops and customized, afternoon "office hours" with League staff across essential areas of school startup. Onboarding is designed to help schools address their application while gaining critical information and resources to better ensure a solid foundation for their school.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, July 7.

### **Business Workshop: How to WIN Charter School Business**

*Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, July 14

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:** League Marketplace Member: \$99; Non-Member: \$149

**Description:** Suppliers and Service Providers to the charter school sector are important! Without innovative products and services, charter schools would find it difficult to stretch their dollars and still achieve outstanding academic results with their students. However, many companies new to the charter sector don't understand the market dynamics and needs of these schools well enough to provide viable solutions. In this workshop, vendors will learn about the many intricacies of charter schools, their regulations, buying cycles, decision-making structures and more. With this fundamental information, they will be equipped to successfully serve and sell to the vibrant charter school market in Colorado.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, July 12.

### **Implementing Effective Data Teams**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, August 3

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$100 each additional attendee; Non-Members: \$225 for one person and \$100 each additional attendee

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Description:** In this professional development session, participants will create a product called the "Data Team Action Plan" as an end outcome. Through various readings, use of research-based resources and explicit modeling, participants will build background knowledge about data team structures. The "Data Team Action Plan" will be written as a data teams implementation plan to support data teams over time in your school as well as engage in intervention based instructional strategies that will support data teams next steps.

**Audience:** Teachers, Administrators, Instructional Coaches, Support Staff, Interventionists

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, July 28.

### **Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Planning**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, August 4

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee; Non-members: \$225 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee

**Description:** Are students displaying challenging behaviors that impact their learning and the learning of others? Not sure where to go next? This workshop is designed to enable school administrators, special education teachers, and other stakeholders to craft effective Tier II and Tier III behavior intervention plans for struggling students. Additionally, the workshop will provide training on Functional Behavioral Assessments, an essential component of the IEP process when a behavioral or developmental disorder is suspected.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, August 2.

### **Restorative Practices Workshop**

*Hosted by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center*

**Date:** Thursday, August 10 - Friday, August 11

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM each day

**Location:** Wheat Ridge Recreation Center, 4005 Kipling Street, Wheat Ridge

**Description:** Day one of this workshop will provide a philosophical overview of restorative practices in schools and the rationale as to why this will help with discipline issues, positive school climate, data tracking and aligning your RTI/PBIS programs. Designed particularly for administrators. Day two of the workshop will focus on communication skills, restorative practices and practical strategies that can be used immediately by teachers, counselors, security and administrative staff that want to improve relationships, behavior, and reduce discipline incidents in the classroom and hallways. This interactive workshop presents a spectrum of restorative techniques, offers implementation ideas, and explains how the process works. Designed for teachers and others who will be implementing restorative practices in their schools.  
**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#)

### **Specially Designed Instruction in Literacy**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, August 11

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee; Non-members: \$250 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee

**Description:** Attend this workshop to understand the different cognitive processes of reading. Participants will be able to improve student growth by implementing a continuous instructional inquiry cycle. In addition to gaining a deeper understanding of reading processes and building a stronger skill set in data-driven instruction, participants will learn instructional best practices and evidence-based programming options for specialized instruction in reading and writing.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, August 9.

### **Classroom Strategies for Teaching English-Language Learners & Overview for English Language Development Planning**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, August 17

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$100 each additional attendee; Non-Members: \$250 for one person and \$100 each additional attendee

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Description:** With the growing population of English Language Learners within our schools, it is essential that schools be prepared to meet the needs of ELL students. In order to do this, teachers and interventionists will need to understand the basic elements of WIDA standards, the features of an English Language Development Plan (ELDP), and the strategies to support learning. This training will provide an overview for creating an English Language Development Plan as well as how to utilize the WIDA standards and build a foundation for classroom strategies that can be incorporated into teaching English Language Learners. The training will focus on instructional strategies that can be used with all levels of English Language Learners; something you will also be able to experience as a participant.

**Audience:** ELA teachers, ELD teachers, ELD Coordinators, Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Interventionists

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, August 14.

### **Instructional Coaching Practices**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, September 8

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee; Non-members: \$250 for one person and \$125 per additional attendee

**Description:** This workshop will focus on two instructional coaching practices: 1.) Observation/Feedback Cycles, and 2.) Data Review Meetings. Participants will:

- Learn and apply an observation/feedback protocol called the 6 Steps for Effective Feedback
- Determine what to coach along with how to coach by digging into the management and rigor trajectories for new teachers
- Master and apply a simple protocol for engaging in 1:1 data meetings that harness the standard-based teaching and learning cycle
- Learn about tools and resources for ensuring accountability loops and tracking teacher growth

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, September 6.

### **Close Reading Strategies Cohort**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**\*\*Note: Registration and payment covers three separate events. Please make sure you can attend each one.\*\***

#### **Dates/Times:**

Wednesday, September 13 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Wednesday, October 18 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Wednesday, November 15 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:** League Members: \$400 per person for all three sessions and \$200 for each additional attendee for all three sessions | Non-Members: \$500 per person for all three sessions and \$200 for each additional attendee for all three sessions

**Target Audience:** Teachers, Reading and/or Literacy Specialists and Interventionists, Reading Across the Curriculum Teachers, Instructional Coaches

**Description:** In this series of professional development sessions, participants will learn a variety of ways to teach Common Core State standards through close reading rituals and various systematic strategies. These strategies can be used across the content areas and with various curriculum components. Teachers will be able to experience the close reading rituals with a variety of text, standards, models, and time to adjust existing lesson plans to embed and implement the close reading strategies learned. We will also learn how to make a close reading strategy a ritual, embed interventions, and receive quality feedback through reciprocal peer feedback. Lunch will be provided at each session.

**Close Reading Strategies 101 (Wednesday, September 13)**

**Close Reading Strategies 102 (Wednesday, October 18)**

**Close Reading Strategies 103 (Wednesday, November 15)**

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, September 8.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Legal Seminar - Friday, October 27**

Charter School Law Institute will be running a one-day in-depth legal seminar on emerging federal and state civil rights issues. Through a combination of lectures and small-group breakout sessions led by local and national experienced legal counsel, they will: examine how to navigate immigration issues facing students and schools; learn how the US Supreme Court is raising expectations for public schools serving special education students; discuss how to prevent race discrimination, including unintentional and unconscious bias; review state and federal laws regarding LGBT students; and address issues specific to school discipline, bullying, harassment and sexual violence. Together, they will tackle the most cutting edge legal questions facing charter schools across the country. As an attendee, you will leave with concrete, practical strategies and tips on how to ensure you are in compliance of all related legal requirements and effectively serving all students. **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Let us know if your school is in the news! Please send any articles, comments, or questions to Kerri Barclay.**

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