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COLORADO LEAGUE of  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
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**July 21, 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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**CLASSIFIEDS**

**Free Middle School Desks**

Highline Academy is giving away 28 middle school desks ([click here to view photo](#)). Desks need to be picked up ASAP. Contact Heather Knight for more information at [hknight@highlineacademy.org](mailto:hknight@highlineacademy.org).

**Items For Sale**

Aspen View Academy in Castle Rock has the following items for sale. \$50 each. Contact Dina Walton, HR Business Director at [dwalton@asperviewacademy.org](mailto:dwalton@asperviewacademy.org) for more information.

- 49 Dell OptiPlex 3010 desktop with Windows 7
- 28 Dell Monitors

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.](#)

**DISCOUNTED FACILITY SUBLEASE - WESTMINSTER**

Spartan College is looking to sublease their former Westminster campus located at 1865 W. 121st Street. The space was recently built-out in mid-2016 and is located in a phenomenal area of Westminster. They're willing to get very aggressive with rates, as the current term extends through March 2025. [Click here to view a brochure with more information.](#) [Click here for a virtual tour.](#)

## News Articles

### [After 30 years, education returns to the Salt Creek community](#)

*The Pueblo Chieftain - July 20, 2017*

On Thursday, with a host of local and state dignitaries, elected officials, law enforcement, school staff and supporters looking on, Repola's not-so-crazy vision -- the Pueblo School for Arts and Sciences Fulton Heights -- was officially welcomed into the Salt Creek community.

### [Student health center opening at Mountain Middle School](#)

*Durango Herald - July 20, 2017*

Mountain Middle School and Pediatric Partners of the Southwest have partnered to open a new student-based health center in August. A Pediatric Partners of the Southwest physician will be present at the middle school five days a week, for half a day each day. A full-time school nurse will also be at the center, as well as a rotation of different specialists, a nutritionist and behavioral health provider.

### [Pueblo Youth and Family Academy charter school closes](#)

*The Pueblo Chieftain - July 19, 2017*

Failing to secure a new charter to operate as the Pueblo Vocational Academy, a longtime charter school serving 130 high-risk students has closed. The Pueblo Youth and Family Academy, which recently celebrated its 20th anniversary and a new Midtown location, was unable to secure a chartering entity for the upcoming school year.

### [At DeVos protest, opponents seek to tie Trump education appointee to Denver school board](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 19, 2017*

With local school board elections looming in November, speakers at Wednesday's rally sought to tie the policies championed by billionaire Republican DeVos to those enacted by Denver Public Schools Superintendent Tom Boasberg and Democrats on the nonpartisan school board.

### [Classical education charter school coming to the Falcon area](#)

*Colorado Springs Gazette - July 17, 2017*

The second time around, organizers won approval to open a new charter school in the fall of 2018 in Falcon School District 49. The D-49 board unanimously agreed this week to authorize Liberty Tree Academy.

### [Colorado Springs charter school seeks donations of used band instruments](#)

*Colorado Springs Gazette - July 17, 2017*

Rocky Mountain Classical Academy, a kindergarten through eighth-grade charter school in the Cimarron Hills neighborhood of Colorado Springs, is seeking donations of used musical instruments to start a band program. Any instruments, except pianos, are needed.

### [Internship benefits business, high school students](#)

*Douglas County News-Press - July 18, 2017*

Castillo is one of three STEM School and Academy students picked for the first summer intern program at Panther Industries, an automated labeling equipment manufacturer in Highlands Ranch, located just up the street from the K-12 school. With a background

in science, technology, engineering and math, students bring more to the table than Panther expected.

## Opinion/Commentary Articles, Reports & Press Releases

**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.**

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### The Challenges of Opening a Charter School: Three Colorado Case Studies *Independence Institute - July 20, 2017*

Outside of education policy circles, few are aware of the diversity of charter schools, the wide variety of student populations they serve, or who founds and governs them. While it would be nearly impossible to capture the full picture of charter schools in Colorado in a single publication, case studies can be instructive and can help bring abstract policy arguments into perspective at the ground level.

### Liberty Tree Academy Approved by D49 Board of Education *Liberty Tree Academy - July 14, 2017*

Liberty Tree Academy Charter was unanimously approved by the District 49 Board of Education at its July 13, 2017 meeting. Liberty Tree is a K-12 charter public school opening its new facility in the fall of 2018, starting with grades K-8.

### **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](#)

## Community Calendar

### **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:** During this event, participants will create a product called the "Data Team Action Plan". Through various readings, use of research-based resources and explicit modeling, attendees 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.

### **PowerSchool: Beginning of Year Readiness**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, August 3

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location:** Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool, 6857 S. Spruce Street, Centennial

**Meals:** Lunch will not be provided

**Cost:** League Members: \$75 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee | Non-Members: \$125 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee.

**Description:** Start the school year off on a positive note! Workshop attendees will assemble and complete their PowerSchool setup items. During this event, attendees will review settings at the school and district level, and learn how to set up new staff to ensure their data is ready for the new school year.

**Audience:** Registrar, Secretary, PS System Administrator

**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, this 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, attendees 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

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

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

**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:**

- Close Reading Strategies 101: Wednesday, September 13 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM
- Close Reading Strategies 102: Wednesday, October 18 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM
- Close Reading Strategies 103: 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.

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

## **8 Critical Strategies for Compliant Special Education Programming**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, September 14

**Time:** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$75 per person and \$50 for each additional attendee | Non-Members: \$100 per person and \$50 for each additional attendee

**Description:** School leaders (principals, executive directors, etc.) are ultimately responsible for the operation and compliance of special education programming in their schools. Therefore, it is essential that school leaders, in addition to special education teachers/coordinators, understand the IDEA requirements for special education services and make sure their school is in compliance with these requirements. This workshop is designed to equip school leaders with 8 critical strategies for managing special education compliance.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, September 11.  
Event is contingent on 8 attendees.

## **PowerSchool: Preparing for October Count**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, September 15

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Cost:** League Members: \$75 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee; Non-Members: \$125 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee

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

**Meals:** Lunch will not be provided

**Description:** The Student October Report does not have to be intimidating! During this workshop, attendees will break the report down into understandable segments and define the tasks and data associated with each piece. This is a hands-on workshop with time allotted for participants to work on their data.

**Audience:** Registrar, Secretary, PS System Admin, Enrollment/Admissions Staff, and Designated State Reporters

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Tuesday, September 12.  
Event is contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

## **Deconstructing Bias: Creating Equity in Schools - Annual Educators Conference**

*Hosted by the Colorado Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education*

(CO-NAME)

**Date:** Friday, September 29

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Adams 12 Conference Center, 1500 E 128th Avenue, Thornton

**Cost:** \$100 per person.

**Description:** Learn about the national and local efforts to deconstruct bias for staff, students and families as a community.

**Registration and More Information:**

<https://sites.google.com/a/psdschools.org/coname/home>

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

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