



COLORADO LEAGUE *of*
 CHARTER SCHOOLS
focus on achievement



July 8, 2016

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

#### Temporary School Furniture Needed

Roots Elementary School in Denver has new school furniture ordered but arriving after their first day of school begins, August 15. They are in need of the following "temporary" furniture for their Kindergarten/Grade 1 classrooms. Furniture needed: chairs for 60 students (ideally around 14" high), shelving for 3 classrooms and 8 activity tables, preferably 3 horseshoe tables, too. If any school or organization can help with these furniture needs, please contact Jill Tew at [jill@rootselementary.org](mailto:jill@rootselementary.org).

#### Furniture For Sale

Windsor Charter Academy is selling school furniture in good condition. The furniture includes: student desks and chairs, kidney tables, and teacher desks and chairs. Please contact the school's Facilities Manager, Bambi Buss, at 970-518-9678 to make an appointment to view. Pictures and pricing available upon request.

#### Free Children's Books

The Molina Foundation will be giving away thousands of books this summer to children. The foundation's mission is to reduce disparities in access to education and health. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program and whether your school or organization qualifies.

#### Free Mobile Carts and Science Lab Desk/Work Table

Aurora Academy Charter School is giving away laminate mobile carts ([photo](#)) used for computers (size includes 5' x 30" x 30" ht) and a sturdy science lab desk/work table ([photo](#)) approximate size is 4' x 55". Please contact Steve Snyder at [ssnyder@academy.org](mailto:ssnyder@academy.org) or 720-341-1284 to learn more.

#### Free Singapore Math Textbooks

Global Village Academy Aurora has Singapore Math Common Core Edition (nearly new) student textbooks to give away to another charter school (must pick them up at Global Village Academy Aurora). Available are 3rd, 4th & 5th grade A & B textbooks and teacher's guides. Please contact Barbara Ridenour at [bridenour@gvaschools.org](mailto:bridenour@gvaschools.org) to learn more.

### **Copy Machines and Indoor Basketball Standards for Sale**

Swallows Charter Academy in Pueblo has the following items for sale: Copy machines in great condition - Bizhub 600, Xerox 4260, Xerox 5755 and two indoor basketball standards. Please contact Kathryn Meyer at 719-240-4163 or [kmeyer@district70.org](mailto:kmeyer@district70.org) for more information.

### **Student Textbooks and Teacher Manuals for Sale**

North Star Academy in Parker has a number of student textbooks and teacher manuals for sale. Some of them include: Holt Science and Technology Integrated Science resources (middle school) and Shurley English books for grades 6-8. Please contact Mary Edwards at [medwards@nstaracademy.org](mailto:medwards@nstaracademy.org) or 720-851-7827, ext. 202.

## **News Articles**

### [HOPE Online gets reprieve from State Board, will continue operating in Aurora](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 7, 2016*

The State Board of Education on Thursday blocked Aurora Public Schools' efforts to kick a struggling online charter school out of the district's boundaries, saying that parent choice trumped the school's poor performance on state tests.

### [Colorado Board of Education reverses Aurora board's call to shutter five online learning centers](#)

*Aurora Sentinel - July 7, 2016*

HOPE Online Learning Academy Co-Op, a Douglas County-based charter school network, will continue to operate five online learning centers in Aurora Public Schools in the coming years despite recent objections raised by the APS School Board about HOPE's performance, the State Board of Education decided Thursday, July 7.

### [Colorado is rethinking all of its major education policies. And everyone is jockeying for influence](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 6, 2016*

As Colorado prepares to adopt a new plan that will set the course for the state's schools for the foreseeable future, competing priorities have emerged spotlighting familiar divides.

### [Where's Denver schools chief Tom Boasberg? Almost back from his 6-month sojourn](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 6, 2016*

It's been six months since Denver Superintendent Tom Boasberg took off for Latin America on an unusual sabbatical. He said he'd be back in half a year.

### [College planning now may mean less stress for seniors come fall](#)

*PBS NewsHour - July 5, 2016*

As the 2015-2016 school year came to a close, I couldn't help but consider the relevance of Charles Dickens' opening lines from "A Tale of Two Cities." It was the best of times when I saw my students achieve their goal of high school graduation and watched them bask in completion of their AP & IB exams.

### [D60 grants long-term charter to PSAS](#)

*The Pueblo Chieftain - July 5, 2016*

Pueblo School for the Arts and Sciences, a charter school under the auspices of Pueblo City Schools (D60), saw its request for a long-term charter agreed to by the board of education during June's regular meeting.

Clinton's charter school comments prompt boos at teachers union event

*Politico - July 5, 2016*

Hillary Clinton on Tuesday said traditional public schools and charter schools should share ideas - a remark met with boos by delegates from the National Education Association's representative assembly.

Denver school principals spending time in summer school as students

*The Denver Post - July 3, 2016*

The teacher raised his hand to ask for quiet among the dull roar of students chatting and learning around him. A wave of hands went up in acknowledgement, and a hush fell over the room.

New board addresses conflict with charter schools in Colorado

*ColoradoWatchdog.org - July 1, 2016*

Charter school officials are upbeat - so far - in the aftermath of a power struggle over the political makeup of the school board in Jefferson County.

New District 49 high school set to open next fall

*KKTV11 News - July 1, 2016*

The new school is called the Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy. It will be a charter school expansion of Banning Lewis Ranch Academy, which currently serves kindergarten through eighth grade. The school is on track to have its first freshman class start fall 2017.

How Will ESSA's Innovative Assessment Pilot Work?

*Education Week - June 30, 2016*

States and districts that want to "test-drive" the next generation of assessments will have the chance, thanks to one of the most buzzed-about pieces of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Five stories you should read about Denver's DSST charter network and its CEO, Bill Kurtz

*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 30, 2016*

Bill Kurtz, CEO of the homegrown and high-performing DSST charter school network, was inducted this week into the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools' Hall of Fame.

## **Opinion/Commentary Articles & 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 charter school movement turns 25

The Detroit News - July 5, 2016

Tariq Muhammad of Detroit will be off to Harvard University in a few weeks, but the

wheels for his trip to Cambridge were actually set in motion a quarter-century ago.

Let Colorado's State Board of Education chief do her job

The Denver Post - July 1, 2016

Recently, every article about the State Board of Education has been negative. The most recent one highlighted a secret meeting held with the former commissioner of education who resigned after four months on the job.

Education Blogs, Forums and Resources

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

[Chalkbeat Colorado](#)

[Charter School Solutions Blog](#)

[Charter Schools In Perspective](#)

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

[Democrats for Education Reform Blog](#)

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

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

[National Charter School Resource Center](#)

Community Calendar

Onboarding Your Charter School

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Monday, July 18

Time: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Cost: Special new school pricing! \$75 per person. Groups of 3 or more use promo code GROUP20 at checkout for \$20 off each ticket.

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

Description: *Spring 2016 Cohort of Approved Charter Schools Scheduled to Open in 2017 - Sign Up Now for Onboarding Your Charter School*

Now that your charter application has been approved, what's next? Attend this training as you navigate through the complexities of the startup phase; presenting a clear path forward as your school moves from theory to reality. With a combination of sessions AND personalized team meetings with various League staff across all of the critical areas of year-0, Onboarding is designed to help you effectively identify next steps and understand how to implement them across critical areas of school start-up. This training is recommended for planning teams (anyone involved in the startup phase of your school) and special group discounts apply for schools with three or more attendees. You may be eligible for planning grants to cover the cost of this training (check with Lori Ventimiglia).

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, July 11.

Vendor Workshop: How to WIN Charter School Business

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Thursday, July 21

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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

Cost: League Marketplace Member: \$75; Non-member: \$99

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. Learn how to successfully connect and serve the vibrant charter school market in Colorado by attending this one-day educational event.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Tuesday, July 19.

Leading Effective Professional Development Workshop

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, July 27

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

Cost: League Member: \$175 and \$100 for additional attendee; Non-member: \$250 and \$100 for additional attendee

Description: This workshop will apply research-based strategies for teaching adult learners to support teachers in learning how to structure, plan, and lead effective professional development workshops. This session will build instructional leaders' capacity to lead school-based PD sessions in their areas of expertise.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, July 25.

Webinar Series: The School Safety Plan, #1

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, July 27

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: Free

Description: The Safe Schools Act for Colorado can be read in C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 The Act requires all schools, including charter schools, to adopt and implement a safe school plan. This School Safety Plan webinar series focuses on Subsection (4) of the Act and will lead each participating charter school through a step-by-step process to build and complete by June 30, 2017. This webinar series will help schools establish a school response framework that shall consist of policies described in subsection (4) of the Act. By satisfying the requirements of subsection (4), a school shall be in compliance with the national incident management system, referred to in this subsection (4) as "NIMS", developed by the federal emergency management agency.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Tuesday, July 26.

Register using a valid email address and the webinar URL will be emailed to you before July 27.

An Overview for Creating an English Language Development Standards Crosswalk for Curriculum Mapping, Lesson Planning, and Implementation of Best Language Strategies

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Thursday, July 28

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

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

Description: With the growing population of English Language Learners in your schools, it is crucial for the schools to be prepared with the best tools and resources that can be utilized to help with implementation of quality instruction. One of the of the most important tools needed is a Standards Crosswalk of the WIDA standards integrated with the Common Core Standards, Essential Questions, English Language Development Best Practices, and Vocabulary. Teachers need a tool that is user friendly, can be aligned to any curriculum for mapping, and can offer the benefit of alignment

for assessment. This training will provide an overview of the process needed to create the Standards Crosswalk for pacing/mapping out the school year, aligning curriculum, and streamlining the lesson planning process for your teachers. This training will begin to build a foundation for clearer understanding of ALL of the standards, lesson planning and integration of language teaching strategies to best meet the needs of English Language Learners.

Registration: [Click here to register](#). **Deadline:** Wednesday, July 13.
Event contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

Active Shooter Response Training Instructor Course

Hosted by Loveland Classical Schools

Date: Monday, August 1 - Tuesday, August 2

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

Location: Loveland Classical Schools, 3835 SW 14th Street, Loveland

Cost: \$595 per person

Description: ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) is a set of proactive, options-based strategies, that increase your chances of survival during a violent intruder or Active Shooter event. For 14 years, the ALICE Training Institute has provided violent intruder response training to individuals and organizations across the nation. This 2-Day Instructor training course is designed to teach law enforcement as well as school, church, hospital and workplace administrators and employees skills and strategies that bridge the gap between the time a violent event begins and law enforcement arrives.

Registration: [Click here to register](#).

Applying GASB 34: Books to Financial Statements

Hosted by Colorado ASBO

Date: Friday, August 5

Time: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Location: Denver Marriott Westminster, 7000 Church Ranch Blvd., Westminster

Description: Governments, including school districts, historically keep their financial records (the books) on a cash basis. End of year happens. Now we have to get the information from our books into our financial statements. One of the most sweeping changes to our financial statements was the issuance of GASB 34. Attend this class to learn how to go from "cash basis" to "accrual basis" accounting and how the different statements are presented.

Lodging: Discounted rates of \$149 for lodging are available at the Denver Marriott Westminster. Reference code: ColoradoASBO.

Registration: [Click here to register](#).

8 Critical Strategies for Compliant Special Education Programming

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Friday, August 19

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Cost: League Members: \$175, additional attendees \$100; Non-Members: \$250, additional attendees \$100

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

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:** Wednesday, August 17.

Gifted Education 101

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Friday, September 16

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Academy for Advanced and Creative Learning, 2510 N. Chestnut St., Colorado Springs

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

Description: Founding principal and Academy Director Nikki Myers and founding teacher and gifted education specialist Teresa Brown will guide participants in the following objectives:

- Awareness of the definition of giftedness and requirements in the state of Colorado for each charter and traditional public school.
- Awareness of the characteristics of giftedness as they present in the classroom and the challenges that teachers face in supporting those needs.
- Strategies and techniques for addressing gifted educational needs that can be met within a variety of school models.
- Sample Advanced Learning Plan formats that meet requirements for Colorado.

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

Event is contingent on a minimum of 10 registrants.

Specially Designed Instruction in Literacy

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Friday, September 23

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

Cost: League Member: \$175 for first attendee and \$100 for each additional attendee; Non-member: \$250 for first attendee and \$100 for each additional attendee.

Description: Attend this workshop to understand the different cognitive processing of reading. Participants will be able to improve student growth by implementing a continuous instructional inquiry cycle:

- Teachers collect various screeners that assess the different processing of reading.
- Teachers plot and analyze screening data to determine root cause gaps.
- Teachers triangulate data with other assessment and observational sources.
- Teachers prioritize instruction through a problem solving process.
- Teachers implement prioritized instruction and progress monitor goals/objectives.
- Teachers review progress monitoring and adjust groupings and instructional plans.

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, September 21.

Event contingent on a minimum of 10 registrants.

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

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Monday, October 3

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

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

Cost: League Members: \$175 for one person and \$100 for each additional attendee; Non-Members: \$250 for one person and \$100 for 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 strategies that can be used with all levels of English Language Learners.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, September 30.

Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Planning

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Friday, October 7

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

Cost: League Member: \$175, additional attendees \$100; Non-Member: \$225, additional attendees \$100

Description: Is the honeymoon period over? 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. School Personnel will take away several resources for best practices in behavior interventions: data collection tools, behavior change monitoring tools, strategies for FAIR Plans and BIPS, social emotional learning intervention programs, and sample MTSS structures for behavior/social emotional learning.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, October 5. Event contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

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**Take Action! Join the Colorado Charter Advocacy Network (Colorado CAN)**

Join the Colorado Charter Advocacy Network (Colorado CAN) to receive news, legislative updates and ALERTS about political issues impacting charter schools. Easily send emails to state legislators weighing in on important political matters impacting Colorado's charter schools! Visit [www.coloradoleague.org](http://www.coloradoleague.org) and click "Take Action!"

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**Visit us online at:** <http://www.coloradoleague.org>

**Quick Links...**

- [Conference and Events Calendar](#)
- [Grants](#)



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