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COLORADO LEAGUE *of*
CHARTER SCHOOLS
focus on achievement



June 16, 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**

**EZVolunteer Tracking and Screening - Limited Time Offer: June - July**

The League and Relatrix, a Colorado-based company, have partnered to offer League Members the EZVolunteer online platform to register, screen and track volunteers at your school. The terms of this promotion include free setup of your EZVolunteer website and database, PLUS a 10% discount off the annual software service fees. EZVolunteer enables your school to sign-up volunteers from your website; email them about upcoming events; let them register online; and track their volunteer time, both on-campus and off. This offer also includes Kiosk sign-in software for volunteers that enter your school, so you can track who's on campus and for what purpose. For a quick overview of EZVolunteer, [click here](#). Questions? Contact Mark Franke at 720-989-8195 or mfranke@relatrix.com and visit the [EZVolunteer website](#). [Click here](#) to place your order by July 30.

**Educator Shortage Action Plan Town Hall Series**

As you may be aware, the Colorado Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education are embarking on a series of town hall meetings across the state to gather input for a strategic plan to address the educator shortages impacting our state. These meetings will feature a focused discussion on ways to grow the existing educator pipeline and specific strategies to increase the numbers of individuals

interested in careers in education. Parents, students, teachers, community members, business leaders and anyone else with an interest in ensuring Colorado's schools remain strong are welcome to attend and participate. [Click here](#) to learn more and see schedule for upcoming meetings.

### **Teach Plus Policy Fellowship**

The Teach Plus Policy Fellowship is a highly selective leadership opportunity for outstanding Colorado teachers looking to deepen their knowledge of education policy and gain a voice in decisions that affect students and the teaching profession. One of the goals of the fellowship is to build a diverse cohort of teachers who represent rural, suburban and urban areas, as well as teachers from charter and non-charter schools. By doing this, it breaks down barriers that keep teachers from recognizing their shared professional responsibilities which builds and promotes a stronger profession. [Click here](#) to learn more and apply.

### **School Warming Box for Sale**

Windsor Charter Academy is selling a new, never been used, CresCor Insulated Hot Cabinet for \$3,300 OBO. [Click here to view photo](#) and [learn more about this product](#). Interested parties should contact SarahGennie Colazio at sarahgennie.colazio@windsorcharteracademy.org.

### **Free Lockers**

Legacy Academy in Elizabeth is getting new lockers this summer and their former lockers need new homes ASAP! They are all in working condition, but have definitely been used. [Click here to view](#). There are 23 double lockers remaining (46 individual lockers that are 36"x12"x18"). Please contact Kurt Naber at kurt.naber@ legacyk8.org for more information.

### **Play Structure For Sale**

The Denver Language School has a new, never-used 3-bay swing frame for sale for \$2500. All steel construction with a powder coated finish. Frame is made of 3.5" steel tubing. Assembly required. [Click here to view the structure](#). Please contact Camilla Modesitt for more information at camilla@denverlanguageschool.org.

## **News Articles**

[Pueblo Schools must give more authority to management group, state board says](#)  
*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 15, 2017*

The State Board of Education on Thursday gave an outside nonprofit group significant authority in efforts to improve three Pueblo schools. The group, Achievement Network, or ANet, will have the power to determine the schools' schedules, tests, and teacher and leadership training.

[Colorado will no longer give PARCC English and math tests, forging its own path](#)  
*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 14, 2017*

Colorado will begin shifting away from standardized tests developed as part of a controversial multi-state effort and toward tests developed mostly by Colorado educators.

[Fourteen Colorado schools have 100 percent vaccination rates. See if your child's school is one of them.](#)

*The Denver Post - June 14, 2017*

The vast majority of Colorado schoolkids are receiving the recommended immunizations, but the state Health Department on Tuesday released a new tool to help parents look more locally.

Betsy DeVos to charter school leaders: Your schools 'are not the one cure-all'

*Chalkbeat US - June 13, 2017*

In an address to charter school advocates, leaders, and teachers in Washington D.C., U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos appeared to chide charter supporters who oppose her push to expand private school choice.

Now is your chance to weigh in on how Colorado should reverse its teacher shortage

*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 13, 2017*

To get a better sense of Colorado's teacher shortage, state officials are hitting the road. Officials from the the Colorado Department of Education and Department of Higher Education will cross-cross the state this summer for a series of town halls.

Denver takes big step toward career-focused Swiss education model

*Denver Business Journal - June 13, 2017*

Denver Public Schools has taken a major step forward in transforming the city's education model to more closely align with how it's done in Switzerland.

74 Interview: Colorado Rep. (and Gov. Hopeful) Jared Polis on Denver Schools, ESSA & Special Education

*The 74 - June 12, 2017*

After a career in the tech world, U.S. Rep. Jared Polis jumped into elected office - and education - in 2000, when he joined the Colorado State Board of Education.

A powerful pairing: Pre-K boosts future incomes and reduces risk of jail, especially when schools spend more

*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 12, 2017*

It's an issue that has long puzzled policymakers: Why do some early childhood programs produce big benefits for students, but others don't?

Where Have All The Teachers Gone: A Look Into Colorado's Teacher Shortage

*KUNC - June 12, 2017*

School may be out for the summer, but principals and superintendents across the state will be hard at work to make sure schools are staffed up for the fall.

Who's helping and who's hurting? New national study looks at how charter networks measure up, from KIPP to K12

*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 12, 2017*

Some charter school networks are significantly improving student achievement, but others are harming student learning.

Jared Polis to join crowded 2018 race for governor, tells The Post he wants "a Colorado that works for everybody"

*The Denver Post - June 11, 2017*

Congressman Jared Polis plans to join the crowded race for governor this week, and in doing so, the Boulder Democrat will advocate a vision for Colorado that tests how far to the left the state has shifted politically in the last decade.

Colorado is re-examining its academic standards. Will it avoid the political turmoil seen in other states?

*Chalkbeat Colorado - June 9, 2017*

Colorado's in-depth review of its academic standards - what kids are expected to know in several subjects in each grade - has entered a new and potentially political phase.

## 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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[Success Academy Wins 2017 Broad Prize for Public Charter Schools](#)

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools - June 12, 2017

Success Academy Charter Schools is the winner of the 2017 Broad Prize for Public Charter Schools, The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation and the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools announced today at the National Charter Schools Conference.

[A more complete picture of Colorado's high school graduation rates](#)

The Denver Post - June 12, 2017

An Associated Press article in The Denver Post did not provide the complete picture of Colorado's high school graduation story.

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

Facilitation of Quality Professional Development

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, June 21

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: During this workshop, attendees will explore an overview of successful professional development facilitation. This will allow attendees to build background knowledge about the components of quality PD that will lead to superior PD structures that can become systematized over time. Participants will also examine research-based strategies for teaching adult learners and analyze how these fit within PD structures. Time will be allotted to plan and create think partnerships about how to lead effective professional development sessions.

Professional Development Objectives:

- Building an overview of quality facilitation of professional development structures, descriptions, and strategies.
- Learning how to support all adult learners to successfully connect and implement new learning.

Audience: Teachers, Teacher Leaders, PD Coordinators, Administrators, or anyone without a teaching or facilitation background that needs to deliver information over time in a school setting.

Registration: [Click here to register](#). **Deadline:** Friday, June 16.

Board Basics in Colorado Springs - Legal Responsibility, Board Roles, and Emergency Operations Plan

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Friday, June 23

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (8:30 AM - Registration)

Cost: League Members: \$50 per school group; Non-Members: \$75 per school group

Location: Rocky Mountain Classical School, 4620 Antelope Ridge Drive, Colorado Springs

Description: This one-day workshop will include:

- A morning session about the legal responsibility of charter school boards and the basic roles and responsibilities of board members. We are pleased to have Eric Hall and Nathan Dyer from Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie presenting in the morning.
- An afternoon session will provide board-level training on the federal and state required Emergency Operation Plan that each school must document and practice annually. Brad Stiles with the Colorado School Safety Resource Center will present.

Prospective and current board members are encouraged to attend to learn more about the expectations and duties of serving on a charter school board. Administrators and business managers are welcome to attend, especially, the afternoon portion of this workshop.

Audience: Board Members, Administrators, and Business Managers

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations made on or before the registration deadline will be refunded in full. Unfortunately, cancellations made after the registration deadline will not be refunded.

Registration: [Click here to register](#). **Deadline:** Tuesday, June 20. Event is contingent on a minimum of 15 attendees.

Startup Weekend EDU Denver 2017

Powered by Google for Entrepreneurs

Date: Friday, June 23 - Sunday, June 25

Time: Begins at 5:30 PM on Friday, June 23

Cost: Price varies

Location: Roots Elementary, 3350 Hudson Street, Denver

Description: Startup Weekend Education (SWEDU) is returning to Denver in 2017 for another exciting weekend of ideas, collaboration and innovation. SWEDU brings together people of all skill sets and experience levels to collaboratively launch tools, schools and learning spaces that reimagine the future of school and education more broadly. Everyone is welcome and no previous entrepreneurial experience is required. Colorado is home to a vibrant and growing community of education entrepreneurs. Join others to share stories and learn about new ideas that bring change in education! [See](#)

what it's all about!

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

8 Critical Strategies for Compliant Special Education Programming

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Monday, June 26

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cost: League Members: \$100 for one person and \$75 each additional attendee;

Non-Members: \$125 for one person and \$75 each additional attendee

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 to ensure 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.

Audience: School Leaders, Teachers, Instructional Staff, SPED Teachers and Coordinators, etc.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, June 21.

Event contingent on a minimum of 8 attendees.

Principal Leadership: Where Do I Start? A Workshop for First Year Administrators

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, June 28

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

Cost: \$175 per person

Description: This workshop will provide attendees with tools and processes to get organized and focused on creating a successful plan of action during year one as a charter school administrator. Tools will include a month-by-month calendar of essentials, shared vision and mission development, and the creation of major improvement strategies with action steps.

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

Event is contingent on a minimum of 6 registrants.

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.

Implementing Effective Data Teams

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, August 2

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. School personnel will take away several resources for best practices in behavior interventions including:

- Data collection tools
- Behavior change monitoring tools
- Strategies for FAIR Plans and BIPS
- Social emotional learning intervention programs
- Sample MTSS structures for behavior/social emotional learning

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

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.

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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