

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Colorado League of Charter Schools. Don't forget to add info@coloradoleague.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



COLORADO LEAGUE *of*  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
*focus on achievement*



**June 2, 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.

~~~~~

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Facilities Survey Closes today!**

Charter school participation in the Colorado Charter School Facilities Initiative Survey is vital to its success. The collected data will be analyzed and used to support League policy efforts to address many challenges charter schools face, including limited state funding, expensive private leases, and school districts obstructing the ability of charter schools to acquire available campus space. The online questionnaire takes approximately one hour to complete -- however if you gather the information you will need ahead of time it should only take 20-30 minutes. If you do not have access to your school's unique survey link, contact Omar Ihmoda at oihmoda@coloradoleague.org.

**Congratulations to Fire Up Your Feet Challenge Winners: Crown Pointe Academy and High Point Academy**

Thanks to generous support from Kaiser Permanente, Fire Up Your Feet is awarding up to \$6,500 to Colorado schools for participating in the Fire Up Your Feet activity challenge that took place April 15 - May 15. Awards were based on participation from the whole school community (parents, teachers, community members) and tracking of their physical activity. Schools earned cash awards for tracking any and all types of physical activity; any time of day. Congratulations to Colorado charter school winners Crown Pointe Academy (Westminster) and High Point Academy (Aurora). [Click here to](#)

[see the full list of winning schools.](#)

### **Free Textbooks**

North Star Academy in Parker is giving away the following textbooks: 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Shurley English textbooks including student textbooks, teacher's manuals and a number of other resources to go with the curriculum. They are also giving away Holt Science and Technology Integrated Science books including student textbooks, teacher's manuals and a number of other resources to go with the curriculum. Please contact Mary Edwards at [medwards@nstaracademy.org](mailto:medwards@nstaracademy.org) for more information.

### **Choral Risers For Sale**

Parker Core Knowledge Charter School is selling [Wenger Tourmaster Choral Risers](#) for \$1500 (retail around \$4600). There are 4 - 4' X 18" three step risers with guard rails in used but in good condition. [Click here to view.](#) For further specifications and technical information, please contact Krystal Myers at [kmyers@ckcs.net](mailto:kmyers@ckcs.net).

### **High Point Academy Training Session For Teachers - August 8**

High Point Academy in Aurora will be hosting a training session for teachers, coaches, administrators based on the work of Lucy Calkins and the Units of Study Reading curriculum for grades Kindergarten - Grade 5. As educators, they realize the importance of partnering with other schools in programs that benefit all students. High Point Academy is currently seeking schools that would be interested in partnering with them and sharing in the cost of this unique professional development. This all day training will be facilitated by an expert from Teacher's College Reading and Writing Project and will be held on Tuesday, August 8 from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. Please contact Reyne Hirano at [rhirano@highpointacademy.net](mailto:rhirano@highpointacademy.net) if you are interested in this exciting opportunity.

## **News Articles**

### [Law requires public entities to release records kept digitally in a digital format](#)

*Fort Collins Coloradoan - June 1, 2017*

Starting Aug. 9, stewards of public records that are kept in a digital format must release the records in their native form. It's the first major update to that law in two decades.

### [Colorado Springs School District 11 ditches valedictorians, salutatorians](#)

*The Colorado Springs Gazette - May 31, 2017*

Following a confusing discussion, Colorado Springs School District 11's board voted 6-1 Wednesday night to accept revisions to its graduation policy that eliminate valedictorians and salutatorians and instead use a Latin honor system.

### [Inside one Denver charter school operator's push to serve all students](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - May 30, 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.

### [Colorado's high school graduation rates lag behind other states', but new programs offer hope](#)

*The Colorado Springs Gazette - May 30, 2017*

Colorado's four-year graduation rate has been creeping upward in this decade and is nearing 80 percent, but a 2017 report released earlier this month pegs it as the seventh worst in the nation.

### Gov. Hickenlooper just signed one of the most important bills of the year

*The Denver Post - May 30, 2017*

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper on Tuesday signed into a law a far-reaching spending bill that averts a \$528 million cut in payments to hospitals, generates \$1.9 billion for transportation projects by mortgaging state buildings and lowers the state's spending cap by \$200 million.

### How metro Denver kids can get a free lunch this summer

*9News - May 30, 2017*

A group is working to see that low-income kids get fed this summer, handing out free, nutritious lunches across Colorado.

### Six Years In, Colorado's Teacher Evaluation Program Has Changed The Performance Conversation

*Colorado Public Radio - May 30, 2017*

Something unexpected has happened with several years of teacher and principal evaluations tied to student performance: Teachers may be doing too well.

### Make Your Mark Might Solve DPS's Teacher Diversity Problem

*Westword - May 30, 2017*

The fifth-graders in Michael Diaz-Rivera's classroom are anxious for summer. The boys in the front fidget under rows of fluorescent lights, and a few students have their heads on their desks.

### WATCH: 14 Ed Reform Advocates Discuss Politics, Common Ground, and the Radical Middle in Education

*The 74 - May 29, 2017*

The sense that America is more divided than ever came to a head in November, when voters elected the most unpredictable, and certainly most untraditional, presidential candidate.

### Colorado charter schools close to becoming most equally funded in U.S.

*Colorado Watchdog.org - May 29, 2017*

Colorado will make history if Gov. John Hickenlooper signs a bill that more equally distributes funding to charter schools into law.

### In Jefferson County, some parents see hypocrisy in recent school superintendent selection

*The Denver Post - May 28, 2017*

When Dan McMinimee was named sole finalist for superintendent of the Jefferson County School District three years ago, the reaction was swift and harsh.

### A record number of kids now attend public preschool, so why has inequality grown?

*PBS Newshour - May 26, 2017*

Living in the rural mountain community of Salida, Colorado, Kate and Mike Madden were fortunate to have a lot of family support for child care when their two sons were infants.

## **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.**

~~~~~

EDITORIAL: Law will create opportunities for all children

*Colorado League of Charter Schools - June 2, 2017*

Friday, our nationally acclaimed education system should get even better, as Gov. John Hickenlooper is expected to sign House Bill 1375 into law. Colorado's follow-the-students financial arrangement has led to an unprecedented revolution in public school choice, with charters popping up in most communities to serve students with diverse needs. The old one-size-fits-all attendance center model is a thing of the past in our state.

HB 17-1375 Bill Signing to Take Place on June 2nd at Rocky Mountain Prep Southwest

*Colorado League of Charter Schools - June 1, 2017*

Nevada is a majority-minority state that ranks near the bottom in math and reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

A Bipartisan Approach to School Funding Boosts Equity

*Education Week - May 31, 2017*

Nevada is a majority-minority state that ranks near the bottom in math and reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Vail Daily Column: Colorado legislature comes through for schools

*Vail Daily - May 31, 2017*

In spite of recent fireworks at the federal level relating to education, most major policy decisions (and the vast majority of decisions relating to funding) happen at the state level.

**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**

**Providing Literacy Through Equity Seminar**

*Hosted by Achieve3000*

**Date:** Monday, June 5

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 12:45 PM

**Location:** Tim Gill Center for Public Media, 315 E. Costilla Street, Colorado Springs

**Note:** A complimentary breakfast & lunch will be provided.

**Description:** With equity of access to core instruction, all students can build the strong literacy skills needed for success in school and beyond. How can Colorado educators ensure equity and empower every student to meet the Colorado Academic

Standards and perform on the PARCC, PSAT and SAT? Join Pati Montgomery, one of the visionaries behind the READ Act, as she shares proven strategies for providing literacy through equity - and learn how Achieve3000's blended, differentiated approach is helping to make this vision a reality for ALL students.

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

### **Administrator Mentoring Cohort (AMC)**

*Hosted by the CDE Schools of Choice Office*

**Date:** Wednesday, June 7

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Location:** Prospect Ridge Academy, 2555 Preble Creek Parkway, Broomfield

**Description:** A mentoring program that meets six times a year, geared toward new administrators or experienced administrators that are new to the charter school environment (though administrators outside these categories are welcome).

Administrators will work as a cohort team, work one-on-one with a mentor, and participate in site observations as they build leadership capacity among new charter school administrators. The AMC is also fully accredited as a charter school principal induction program where charter school leaders with their initial principal license can be recommended for professional licensure.

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

### **2017 National Charter Schools Conference**

*Hosted by National Alliance for Public Charter Schools*

**Date:** June 11 - 14, 2017

**Location:** Washington DC

**Description:** The National Charter Schools Conference delivers exceptional learning and networking opportunities for every participant. With inspirational keynote speakers, more than 130 engaging breakout sessions and unique networking events, this national event has something for everyone.

**Registration:** [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

### **Two-Day Workshop: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)**

Formerly known as Response to Intervention

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Monday, June 19 - Tuesday, June 20

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

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$350 for one person and \$175 per additional attendee from the same school community; Non-members: \$450 for one person and \$17 per additional attendee

**Description:** MTSS is a comprehensive, student-centered assessment, systems, and intervention framework used to identify and support individual student academic or social emotional gaps and challenges. Attend this workshop to learn how to effectively select intervention strategies aligned with current evidence of student learning through a collaborative model that includes:

- Identifying, collecting and analyzing student data with a robust body of evidence
- Selecting instructional and social emotional Tier 1, 2, and 3 interventions aligned to appropriate skill gaps
- Monitoring student progress and setting appropriate goals
- Deepening your understanding of the principles of MTSS and best practices as shared through national researched-based practices and real time case scenarios
- Prioritizing an action plan that includes next steps for your team or individual

toolbox and capacity

Some of the content is provided by The Leadership and Learning Center.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Thursday, June 15.

### **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.

### **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.

**Secondary Mathematics Standards Review and Collaborative Curriculum Mapping**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Wednesday, July 26 - Thursday, July 27

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

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$350 for one person and \$175 per additional attendee from the same school community; Non-members: \$450 for one person and \$175 per additional attendee

**Description:** This workshop will provide a structured and collaborative setting for secondary math professional development where educators review and process the current Colorado Academic Standards for mathematics. Attendees will review resources that are available to implement the standards with fidelity while engaging in a curricular mapping process. Bring and share current curricular documents and resources from your school as a part of this learning process (if available).

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, July 21. Event is contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

**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 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 Terri Barclay.**

~~~~~

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

**Find Us on Facebook**

[Click here](#) to like us on Facebook.

**Follow Us on Twitter**

[Click here](#) to follow us on Twitter.

Colorado League of Charter Schools, 2696 S. Colorado Blvd.,  
Suite 250, Denver, CO 80222

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}

[Forward email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [srader@coloradoleague.org](mailto:srader@coloradoleague.org) in collaboration with



