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COLORADO LEAGUE *of*
CHARTER SCHOOLS
focus on achievement



August 11, 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 Manager at the League. Articles and announcements are due by noon on Thursday of each week.

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**CLASSIFIEDS**

**2017 Charter School Policy & Facility Summit - Registration Open**

This year's event will take place on Monday, September 25 from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM in Arvada. This summit will provide charter school leaders with the option of attending sessions related to policy and legal topics or facilities management and financing. It's an opportunity for charter school leaders to obtain important information about ongoing policy and legal updates and issues affecting their individual charter school and the sector at large. [Click here to register.](#)

**Opportunity For Colorado Educators**

This is an exciting opportunity for Colorado educators, schools, and districts to apply for a \$15,000 cash award through [The Succeeds Prize](#). The Succeeds Prize - a collaborative effort between 9NEWS and Colorado Succeeds and powered by mindSpark Learning - honors the transformational impact of Colorado's educators with nearly \$100,000 in cash prizes. It also supports educators in bringing their best ideas forward through the \$15,000 Excellence in Education Innovation Award. Any Colorado public school educator, group of educators, school, or district is eligible. Applications are due by **September 1 and consist of a 2-minute pitch video and short submission form.** [Click here for more information and the application.](#) Please email [info@TheSucceedsPrize.org](mailto:info@TheSucceedsPrize.org) with any questions.

## 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.

## News Articles

### [Colorado testing an updated teacher evaluation system that will take less time but set a higher bar](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - August 9, 2017*

Lori Petersen, principal of Arkansas Elementary School in Aurora, is a huge fan of teacher evaluations. But as she sees it, there are two critical problems with the state's system that need fixing: First, the system is cumbersome and overly time-consuming. Second, too many teachers in Aurora and across the state are earning high ratings while student test scores continue to lag.

### [Pueblo's first charter school thrives](#)

*La Voz Bilingue - August 9, 2017*

When it launched in 2004, the Dolores Huerta Preparatory High in Pueblo was expected to be a place where education went further for high school students in Pueblo City Schools (District 60).

### [Residents oppose K-12 charter school in Eastridge neighborhood](#)

*Douglas County News-Press - August 8, 2017*

A group of residents is fighting a proposed K-12 charter school that would be built in Eastridge Terrace, an area between University Boulevard and East Wildcat Reserve Parkway where dozens of single-family homes line quiet side streets and cul-de-sacs.

### [Highlands Ranch charter school gets name change](#)

*Highlands Ranch Herald - August 8, 2017*

STEM School and Academy will have a new look when students return from summer break on Aug. 9.

### [Colorado schools get more flexibility in issuing over-the-counter meds](#)

*The Denver Post - August 8, 2017*

A new law that gives schools more flexibility to administer cough drops, allergy pills and other over-the-counter medications to students goes into effect Wednesday.

### [Education leaders hold town hall in Colorado Springs on state's teacher shortages](#)

*Colorado Springs Gazette - August 7, 2017*

Is paying teachers more the best way to solve the statewide shortage? Maybe a compelling marketing campaign would help attract would-be teachers.

### [New law says students must be told about skilled labor, military careers](#)

*The Denver Post - August 7, 2017*

A law that goes into effect Wednesday mandates public schools in Colorado must inform high school students that not all post-secondary paths lead to college.

### [Hickenlooper, on national TV, calls for bipartisanship on job training for high school](#)

graduates*Chalkbeat Colorado - August 5, 2017*

Gov. John Hickenlooper on Sunday said Republicans and Democrats should work together to rethink how states are preparing high school graduates for the 21st century economy.

## 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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Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - Loveland Classical Schools Academy*Loveland Classical Schools Academy - August 10, 2017*

We are happy to announce Loveland Classical Schools Academy GRAND OPENING scheduled for August 26 at 1:00 PM.

Charter Principals Are More Diverse (and Other Highlights From New Federal Data)*EdWeek - August 8, 2017*

A larger share of charter school principals are black and Hispanic compared to their peers who run traditional public schools, new federal data show.

Colorado Military Academy Takes to the Skies!*Colorado Military Academy - August 4, 2017*

On Friday August 4th, teachers from the Colorado Military Academy flew over Colorado Springs in a Stearman biplane and Cessna 182.

Ribbon-Cutting Event Scheduled to Celebrate New Location for Thomas MacLaren School*Thomas MacLaren School - August 2, 2017*

Thomas MacLaren School, a 6th-12th grade charter public school in Colorado Springs, will celebrate the purchase of their new campus at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sunday, August 6, at 12:30 p.m. Light refreshments and tours of the school will follow.

Education Blogs, Forums and Resources

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

Another ViewChalkbeat ColoradoCharter Schools In PerspectiveChartering Quality Blog (National Association for Charter School Authorizers)Democrats for Education Reform BlogEdisWatching.org (Independence Institute)Education PostNational Alliance for Public Charter Schools - The Charter BlogNational Charter School Resource Center**Community Calendar**

Colorado Charter School Start-up Grant (and Expansion Grant) Application Training

Hosted by CDE Schools of Choice Department

Date: Wednesday, August 16

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Community First Foundation, 5855 Wadsworth Bypass, Unit A, Arvada

Description: A required training for Colorado Charter School Program (CCSP) grant applicants that takes place 6-8 weeks before the grant application is due. CDE highly recommends that two or more individuals from each applicant charter school attend this training.

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

Tech Talk Quarterly

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, September 6

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Cost: League Members: \$25; Non-Members: \$50

Location: CounterTrade Products, 7585 West 66th Ave., Arvada

Description: These meetings enable charter school technology personnel to regularly network and share best practices with one another. The Colorado League of Charter Schools hosts, facilitates and coordinates these quarterly meetings in an effort to learn about and provide the resources and tools needed by schools to: 1) Develop effective technology plans for their organizations; 2) Develop efficient and cost-effective methods of implementation; and 3) Maximize the performance of their technology in growing student achievement levels.

Registration: [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, September 4.

CDE's Annual Finance Seminar and CCSP Grant Budget Workshop

Hosted by CDE Schools of Choice Office

Date: Friday, September 8

Time: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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

Cost: No cost to attend.

Description: Held in the fall of each year, this training is designed to give business managers, school leaders and board members an opportunity to learn about changes in policy or innovations in the field of operations and finance management (required for all CCSP grant recipients).

Registration: Coming soon. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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.

CDE Administrator Mentoring Cohort

Hosted by CDE Schools of Choice Office

Date: Wednesday, September 13

Time: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Rocky Mountain Academy, 2959 Royale Elk Way, Evergreen

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.

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

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.

Novice Teachers: Effective Instructional Strategies to Support Positive Student Outcomes 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/Locations:

Wednesday, September 20 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

Date TBD (after September 20) | On-Site Observation and Instructional Coaching Sessions

Wednesday, November 29 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue., Denver

Cost: \$500 per person for both PD sessions and On-Site Observation and Instructional Coaching

Target Audience: Teachers in years 1-3 of teaching, Interventionists who teach larger groups of students, and anyone who is looking to improve their instructional practices in the classroom

Description: In this series of professional development sessions (one includes an on-site observation and instructional coaching segment), participants will engage in a variety of effective instructional strategies to practice and then implement in the classroom. Research states that instructional strategies need to be practiced over 20 times in order to become an automatic part of instructional practice. This workshop provides opportunities for practice, feedback and mentorship, planning and development of teaching routines, on-going support, and a risk-taking learning environment that supports teachers with a growth mindset.

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

Charter School Policy & Facility Summit

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Monday, September 25

Time: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada

Cost: League Members: \$90 per person | Non-Members: \$130 per person | New School Developers*: \$50 per person.

Meals: Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Description: The 2017 Charter School Policy and Facility Summit will provide charter school leaders with the option of attending sessions related to policy and legal topics or facilities management and financing. This is an opportunity for charter school leaders to:

- Obtain important information about ongoing policy, legal updates and issues affecting their individual charter school and the sector at large
- Hear from legislators and State Board of Education members on issues these decision makers believe will impact the upcoming legislative session
- Share with League staff issues impacting their school and education community
- Gain valuable information about all stages of the facilities and financing process, from small projects to large construction and how to prepare your leadership for

best practice decision making regarding facilities projects

- Learn about local and national stakeholders and experts in the areas of charter school policy, legal and facilities issues will be present to share their expertise and knowledge
- Determine outcomes from the Colorado Charter School Facilities Initiative Survey, and how this data will impact policy and technical assistance from the League and others in the sector

Agenda: Coming soon.

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

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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