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COLORADO LEAGUE *of*  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
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**August 4, 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**

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

This year's event will take place on Monday, September 25 from 4:00 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 and learn more.](#)

**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

**News Articles**

Colorado's new director of school choice: If we hold all schools accountable, divisiveness over charters will go away

*Chalkbeat Colorado - August 3, 2017*

For decades, both Republicans and Democrats in Colorado have embraced charter schools. And it can stay that way if the state continues to hold all schools accountable and push for better quality, said the new director of school choice at the Colorado Department of Education.

Colorado Takes Notes To Solve Looming Teacher Shortage

*Chalkbeat Colorado - August 2, 2017*

As teachers gear up for the new school year, state education officials have spent months trying to figure out how to close a growing teacher shortage. It's estimated that 3,000 people are needed to fill open positions in Colorado.

When Charter Schools Open, Neighboring Schools Get Better: A New Study Finds 7 Reasons Why

*The 74 - August 1, 2017*

Few education policy battles have burned as hot as debate over the practice of requiring traditional public schools to share under-used space with charter schools.

Colorado's online schools might see funding upswing in coming year

*Chalkbeat Colorado - August 1, 2017*

Online schools in Colorado could see more dollars after the State Board of Education voted to change how it allocates federal money that subsidizes the cost of educating low-income kids.

Northern Colorado teachers tick off ways to end shortage of colleagues

*The Denver Post - July 30, 2017*

Colorado can do a lot of things, big and small, to end a massive K-12 teacher shortage, including respecting and helping people working in the state's classrooms, officials learned at a town hall meeting Friday.

It's hard to find qualified early childhood teachers. Here's what one Denver provider is doing about it.

*Chalkbeat Colorado - July 28, 2017*

Scattered around a meeting room in groups of three or four, 13 women bent over laptop computers and smartphones, squinting at Colorado's hundreds of child care regulations.

## **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 Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy

*Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy - August 2, 2017*

Banning Lewis Ranch Academy, a charter public school in Colorado Springs serving students from K-8, is expanding to include a new high school starting in the fall of

2017. There will be a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, tours and press conference in order to showcase our new facility, Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy.

Vail Daily column: Serving on school board is a labor of love

*Vail Daily - August 2, 2017*

All school board directors in Colorado serve without pay, and this volunteer position is considered by some to be one of the most valuable and challenging in the community.

News Analysis: Coming Full Circle

*Greater Park Hill Community - July 31, 2017*

"We believe that high-quality, integrated schools not only offer the best educational outcomes for our children but also serve a vital function in promoting and sustaining vibrant neighborhoods."

Why not Salt Creek?

*The Pueblo Chieftain - July 28, 2017*

You've got to love Brian Repola's attitude. Faced with a long waiting list of prospective students, the executive director of the Pueblo School for Arts and Sciences made the bold decision to add another campus.

Public Charter School Students Graduate From College at Three to Five Times National Average

*National Alliance for Public Charter Schools - July 27, 2017*

New research from The 74 Million finds that public charter school students are graduating from college at three to five times the national average for children from the lowest-income families.

### **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**

### **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.

### **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.](#)

### **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.

### **The Colorado SAT Suite of Assessments Introduction and Refresher**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Tuesday, August 29

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

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

**Note:** Lunch will not be provided

**Cost:** Free

**Description:** Attend this event for an introduction to the SAT Suite for Colorado (PSAT9, PSAT10, SAT). During this interactive workshop attendees will:

- Learn how to manage and create school/district access to reporting tools and an overview of available reports
- Explore a student's College Board account
- Understand College Board resources, including BigFuture™
- Leave with tips and guidelines for engaging more students with creating College Board student accounts to access and connect student scores to Khan Academy®

**Audience:** All Colorado educators who will be involved in the administration of PSAT 9, PSAT10 or SAT are encouraged to attend including instructional coaches, school leaders, assistant principals, and lead teachers.

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

### **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.

### **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.

### **Webinar: A Deep Dive Into the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP)**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Tuesday, September 19

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

**Location:** Online/Webinar

**Description:** The Unified Improvement Planning (UIP) doesn't have to be an intimidating process! In this session, attendees will review essential data components of the School Performance Frameworks (SPF) and State Accountability in order to understand how it impacts the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP). Participants will review where to find your schools' SPF and UIP, what components make up the UIP and understand how it impacts school wide improvement planning for internal purposes and external purposes such as your Board or School Accountability Committees (SACs).

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

### **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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