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COLORADO LEAGUE *of*  
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**September 15, 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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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Save The Date - 2018 Colorado Charter Schools Conference**

Registration Coming Soon.



### **Last Chance To Register - The 2017 Charter School Policy & Facility Summit**

Registration closes Monday 9/18 for this year's event so register today! The Summit 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.](#) [Click here for agenda.](#)

### **Family And School Partnership In Education Month**

For the sixth consecutive year, Governor John Hickenlooper has proclaimed October Family and School Partnership in Education Month. The Colorado Department of Education and the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education will host a kickoff event to celebrate the month. Senator Evie Hudak will be the Master of Ceremonies for the event and Colorado State Representative Janet Buckner will be the keynote. The event is Thursday, October 5 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at the Tivoli (Zenith Room) located at 900 Auraria Parkway, Denver. A brief program will be followed by light refreshments, mingling, and resource sharing.

### **The Green Schools Summit**

Don't miss this year's Green Schools Summit on November 2 and November 3! The Green Schools Summit is Colorado's only conference dedicated to convening green building industry professionals, school decision makers, educators and parents to further advance healthy, safe and sustainable schools statewide. The annual education and networking event, hosted by USGBC Colorado and organized in partnership with volunteers from the Green Schools Initiative, provides a unique opportunity to discuss how we can create better learning environments for students. This year's Summit theme is "Making Green Schools Add Up" and programming will focus on resource efficiency in schools. Early bird pricing ends September 22. [Click here to register.](#)

### **Campus Companions: How To Handle Requests For Service And Assistance**

**Animals** - *Notice provided by Fisher Phillips*

School officials often receive requests from students with disabilities to bring "service animals" and "assistance animals" on campus as an accommodation. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Fair Housing Act (FHA), virtually all institutions are required to accommodate students with disabilities by allowing service animals nearly everywhere on campus, including public spaces, academic buildings, dwelling units, and other facilities. [Click here to read](#)

[more](#). For more information, contact the author at [MPost@fisherphillips.com](mailto:MPost@fisherphillips.com) or 610-230-2146.

### **The Charter Leader Forum**

The Douglas County Charter Public School Alliance is hosting an all Charter School Forum on September 28 at 6:00 PM. American Academy - Lincoln Meadows in Parker will host this first of its kind event in Douglas County. The hope is to bring together people from every charter school community to hear and share points of view on the state of charter public schools in DCSD. [Click here to learn more](#).

### **Reading Volunteers Needed**

Roots Elementary in Denver needs YOU, a member of your family or your neighbor to be a reading volunteer. Together they'd like to build a reading community for their children. Volunteers share books with a student one-on-one, one hour, once a week. Volunteers are needed Tuesdays and Fridays (volunteers choose one day) from 8:30 AM - 9:15 AM. Program begins on September 12 and volunteers will be working with 3rd grade students. Only an enjoyment of being with kids is needed. They will help you choose the books and provide on-going support. If you are interested, please call the Roots office at 720-593-1338 or email [Julie@partnersinliteracy.org](mailto:Julie@partnersinliteracy.org).

## **News Articles**

### [New Fort Collins charter school applies to join PSD](#)

*The Coloradoan - September 13, 2017*

A new charter school focused on preparing students to meet Colorado's workforce needs hopes to join Poudre School District's ranks.

### [Education Secretary Betsy DeVos tours Air Force Academy, touts innovation](#)

*The Colorado Springs Gazette - September 13, 2017*

The U.S. secretary of education toured the Air Force Academy campus, chatted with cadets over lunch and even hopped into the cockpit of a T-53 aircraft training simulator during a visit to the school on Wednesday.

### [Boasberg to DeVos: 'Use all the efforts of your office' to protect DACA](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 13, 2017*

U.S. Education Betsy DeVos may have skipped Denver Public Schools during her spin through Colorado on Wednesday, but that didn't stop Superintendent Tom Boasberg from getting his point across.

### [66 percent by 2025: State pushes for more post-secondary degrees, certificates for Coloradans](#)

*The Denver Post - September 12, 2017*

State officials want 66 percent of Colorado's adults to attain a post-secondary education by 2025, helping to ensure their employment in a rapidly changing world.

### [Education Secretary Betsy DeVos will visit private autism center, Air Force Academy on Colorado leg of tour](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 12, 2017*

U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos on Wednesday will visit a Denver private autism center that played a key role in a historic U.S. Supreme Court case over how public schools should care for students with special needs.

### [Colorado's Teacher Of The Year: Here's What We Can Learn From Schools In Finland](#)

*Colorado Public Radio - September 12, 2017*

Colorado's 2017 Teacher of the Year, Sean Wybrant, traveled to Finland this summer to

see what he could learn from a school system that is consistently ranked one of the best in the world.

#### [U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to visit Colorado this week](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 11, 2017*

U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos will visit Colorado this week as part of her first major tour of schools since being confirmed, the federal education department announced Monday.

#### [Building trade skill classes taking off in Colorado Springs high schools, Pikes Peak Community College](#)

*The Colorado Springs Gazette - September 11, 2017*

An aging workforce, a shortage of skilled craftsmen and the need to help noncollege-bound youths find their destiny have created a first in the nation: a construction trades certificate program for high school students that is funded by those working in the industry.

#### [From passionate to politics-free, here's how Colorado school districts responded to Trump's DACA decision](#)

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 8, 2017*

Even before the Trump administration announced the rollback of an Obama-era program that provides protections to young undocumented immigrants, Tom Boasberg didn't hold back.

## **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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#### [North Star Academy Announces School Tour Dates and Annual Character Education Theme](#)

*North Star Academy - September 14, 2017*

Since opening its doors in 2006, North Star Academy (NSA) continues to remain true to its founding vision of creating a strong character education program which was a hallmark the school's founders were passionate about.

#### **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

### **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 for two full-day PD sessions and On-Site 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:** [Click here to view agenda.](#)

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, September 18.

### **Formative and Summative Assessment 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:**

Wednesday, September 27 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Wednesday, November 8 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Wednesday, December 13 | 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

**Note:** Lunch will be provided at each session.

**Target Audience:** Teachers, Specialists, Instructional Coaches, Support Staff, Interventionists, Administration

**Description:** In this series of professional development sessions, participants will build background knowledge creating and using effective formative and summative assessment practices in their classroom. Attendees will be asked to bring assessment data, sample assessments, school-based lesson plans, and student work samples. In each of the sessions, participants will:

- Build background knowledge on various types of assessments
- Plan and implement assessment practices to support quality instruction
- Create structures for systematic checks for understanding
- Create quality criteria to discover what you want to learn from the assessment

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, September 22.

### **2017 Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Intervention Symposium**

*Hosted by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center*

**Date:** Thursday, September 28

**Time:** 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**Location:** Adams 12 Conference Center, 1500 E. 128th Ave., Thornton

**Description:** The School Safety Resource Center team will meet on September 28 to present a day of training on child sexual abuse prevention. This annual symposium assists school professionals, communities and law enforcement in identifying, preventing, responding to and reporting child sexual abuse. Expert presenters will train on trauma-informed practices, current research and trends, and pertinent legislation. Be sure to attend this important and supportive event that is open to the public! Watch for registration information on future E-Updates.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, September 1.

### **Instructional Coaching Practices**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, September 29

**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

#### **References:**

Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, *Leverage Leadership: A Practical Guide to Building Exceptional Schools*, 2012.

Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, *Get Better Faster: A 90 Day Plan for Coaching New Teachers*, 2016.

Doug Lemov, *Practice Perfect: 42 Rules for Getting Better and Getting Better*, 2012.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, September 27.

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

#### **Implementing Effective Data Teams**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Wednesday, October 4

**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, September 29.

### **Charter Communicators Network Meeting**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

*Sponsored by Edlio*

**Date:** Thursday, October 5

**Time:** 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

**Cost:** League Members: \$25 per person; Non-members: \$75 per person

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

**Meals:** Includes coffee and lunch

**Description:** Charter Communicators Network Meetings take place three times per year. This is a chance for charter school communications staff, or any staff interested in building school communications and marketing efforts, to come together. During these meetings, attendees will network and share best practices, as well as hear from experts in the field.

**Agenda:** [Click here for tentative agenda.](#)

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Tuesday, October 3.

### **Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Planning**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, October 6

**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, October 4.

### **Social and Emotional Learning: A Practical Guide to School-Wide Implementation**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Tuesday, October 10

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Cost:** League Members: \$75 for one person and \$50 per additional attendee; Non-members: \$125 for one person and \$50 per additional attendee

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

**Meals:** A light breakfast and snacks will be offered; lunch will not be provided.

**Audience:** Teachers, Administrators, MTSS support staff, counselors, support staff

**Description:** Effective Socio-Emotional Learning, as described by CASEL, includes: Explicit SEL Skills Instruction, Teacher Instructional Practices, Integration with Academic Curriculum Areas, and Organization, Climate and Cultural Strategies. Moving beyond the content of any one curriculum, this workshop explores nine critical factors for high-quality, school-wide SEL. Participants will develop a clear understanding of the "what, why, and how" of SEL and will work together in small groups to apply the 9 critical factors to their unique school setting. An exploration on the use of active engagement strategies and assessing the strengths and growth points of your setting in all aspects of SEL integration will occur.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, October 9.

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

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Wednesday, October 11

**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:** 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.

#### **Participants will learn:**

- The key elements of an effective English Language Development Plan;
- The basics of WIDA standards and how to incorporate them into your daily learning objectives;
- Instructional research-based strategies that you can use the next day in your classroom.

**Audience:** ELA teachers, ELD teachers, ELD Coordinators, Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Interventionists

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, October 6. Event is contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

### **Independent Charter School Symposium in New York**

*Hosted by The Coalition of Community Charter Schools*

**Dates:** Thursday, October 12 - Friday, October 13

**Location:** Long Island City, New York

**Cost:** \$399 for Early Birds

**Description:** C3S is proud to host the first-ever Independent Charter School Symposium (ICSS) in NYC's hottest new spot- Long Island City. This exciting event will convene school leaders, social visionaries and policy-makers from across the country in a groundbreaking, two-day conference to articulate a collective vision for the direction

of the charter movement and all of public education.

**Registration:** [Click here for Early Bird Registration.](#)

### **Gifted Education 101**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, October 12

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$100 per additional attendee; Non-members: \$250 for one person and \$100 per additional attendee

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

**Meals:** A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

**Description:** Academy for Advanced and Creative Learning invites you to join us for a Gifted Education 101 course in Colorado Springs. Nikki Myers, founding principal and Academy Director and Teresa Brown, founding teacher and gifted education specialist will guide participants in the following objectives:

- Understanding the definition of giftedness and requirements for each charter and traditional public school in the state of Colorado
- Recognition 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
- Learn about Advanced Learning Plan formats that meet requirements for Colorado

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Tuesday, October 10. Event is contingent on a minimum of 10 registrants.

### **Specially Designed Instruction in Literacy**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, October 13

**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 that includes:

- Collecting various screeners that assess the different processes of reading.
- Plotting and analyzing screening data to determine root cause gaps.
- Triangulating data with other assessment and observational sources.
- Prioritizing instruction through a problem solving process.
- Implementing prioritized instruction and progress monitoring goals/objectives.
- Reviewing progress monitoring and adjusting 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, October 11.

### **Colorado Alternative Education Campuses Conference**

*Hosted by the Colorado Coalition for Alternative Education Campuses*

**Date:** Friday, October 13

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** New America School, 5806 W. Alameda Ave., Lakewood

**Description:** Join AEC schools across the state to improve your learning and understanding for supporting high-risk students. This conference is designed for teachers, principals, counselors and support staff and will feature multiple breakout sessions on a variety of topics such as dropout prevention, instructional strategies and resources, addressing social/emotional needs, accountability updates and best practices. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network with each other and learn from consultants and experts in the field.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, October 6.

**Let us know if your school is in the news! Please send any articles, comments, or questions to [Kerri Barclay](#).**

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