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COLORADO LEAGUE of  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
*focus on achievement*



**September 30, 2016**

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**

**2016 Preliminary School and District Performance Frameworks Released  
September 30**

The new revised preliminary School and District Performance Frameworks are being provided to districts today (Friday, September 30). Contact the District Assessment Coordinator at your district/authorizer to obtain yours. Alternative Education Campuses (AECs) frameworks are expected to be released at the end of October. If you have questions or need assistance in accessing these reports, please reach out to Tisha Bouwmeester, Performance and Accountability Manager at the League at [tbouwmeester@coloradoleague.org](mailto:tbouwmeester@coloradoleague.org). **The League is hosting a variety of workshops on Assessments, Accountability and the UIP; see the Community Calendar section of the Friday Wire (below) for more details.**

**Student Desks For Sale**

Hertz Furniture, a League Trusted Partner, has 360 new desks available for sale. [Click here](#) to view. Ordered by a charter school in Colorado, the desks were shipped with a slight error in the finish. The school that originally ordered the desks will receive replacements but in the interim will use them. They will be available mid-November and can be sold separately to multiple schools. The cost of the original desks was \$128 but they will now be sold for \$65. If interested, please contact Shane Ronay at

shane@hertzfurniture.com.

### **Fall Fundraiser Idea**

Chinook Book is a healthy coupon book and app for metro Denver and Boulder, with a fundraising program for schools that's easy, profitable and risk-free. Chinook Book helps you raise money for your school while saving money at popular places like Safeway, Natural Grocers, Modern Market, Illegal Pete's, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Butterfly Pavilion, Children's Museum of Denver and many more. Earn 50% or more of every sale, with free promotional materials and personalized attention from local staff. Visit the Chinook Book fundraising website to [learn more and sign up](#) for a fall fundraiser.

### **2017 Colorado Charter Schools Conference - Registration Now Open!**

Registration is now open for the 2017 Colorado Charter Schools Conference scheduled for February 23 and 24 in Broomfield. The Conference is one of the most comprehensive professional development opportunities for new and veteran charter public school staff, boards, administrators and teachers. Visit [www.cocharterconference.org](http://www.cocharterconference.org) for more information and to register.

## **News Articles**

### Helping poor families afford child care used to be about working parents, but recent changes focus on kids

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 29, 2016*

New federal rules that demand more of child care providers are the latest example of a growing push to ensure that children, especially those from low-income families, are getting high-quality care.

### U.S. Supreme Court will hear Douglas County student with disabilities case

*The Denver Post - September 29, 2016*

The U.S. Supreme Court announced Thursday morning that it will hear a potentially groundbreaking case brought by a Douglas County couple who claim that their autistic son was not provided an adequate education in the public school system as required by federal law.

### Colorado Will Use Extra Marijuana Revenue to Prevent Bullying in Schools

*Time - September 28, 2016*

Colorado plans to distribute millions of dollars in surplus marijuana tax revenues to schools in an effort to prevent bullying.

### Denver's DSST charter network, in the midst of major expansion, lands \$4 million grant

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 28, 2016*

Denver's largest charter school network has won a \$4 million federal grant to expand three of its schools and build four more by 2021, according to announcements Wednesday.

### Colorado's RE-1 Valley District Sees Closing The Funding Gap As A Voter Education Challenge

*Colorado Public Radio - September 28, 2016*

How schools are funded in Colorado is so complex, there's a joke that only five people in the state truly understand it.

### HOPE alumnus starts graduate school

*YourHub - September 28, 2016*

Jared Hudson, the 2011 HOPE Online Learning Academy Co-Op Valedictorian graduate from Victory at Hillcrest Learning Center (now known as Parkhill Academy) in Denver, earned a Bachelor of Arts in English with a triple minor in Women's Studies, Africana Studies and Writing from the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in Greeley in December 2015.

### No participation ribbons here: Six Colorado schools win national recognition for high test scores

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 28, 2016*

Two Colorado public schools that serve large numbers of at-risk students are being honored in a national program that recognizes both public and private schools for their achievements.

### Most states, including Colorado, invest less in kindergarten than other grades, report says

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 27, 2016*

Even with a major push in Colorado and the nation to capitalize on the early childhood years so that kids are reading well by third grade, kindergarten still gets short shrift.

### Interim superintendent eyes culture change

*Douglas County News-Press - September 26, 2016*

Erin Kane took over as the interim superintendent of the Douglas County School District on Sept. 1.

### Why teachers of color are missing from this year's Colorado Teacher of the Year finalists

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 26, 2016*

This year's half-dozen finalists for Colorado Teacher of the Year feature no shortage of stories of inspiration and dedication.

### Colorado Springs-area school districts look for financial help with ballot measures

*The Gazette - September 25, 2016*

Citing cuts since 2009 from state education funding as adversely affecting school budgets and the ability to make needed improvements, the Pikes Peak region's three largest school districts and two small rural ones to are bringing financing measures to the Nov. 8 ballot.

### Schools ground zero for campaign tackling 'average' fitness ranking of Colorado kids

*Times Call - September 24, 2016*

Colorado ranks as the No. 1 healthiest state in the nation if you overlook its children, who rank 24th nationally in terms of physical activity.

### Data privacy worries shield thousands of Colorado test scores from public scrutiny

*Chalkbeat Colorado - September 23, 2016*

The public will never know how Smoky Hill High School ninth-graders scored last spring on English tests that challenged them to do things like interpret ancient Greek poetry.

## **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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It's important for schools to post minutes

*The Tribune - September 27, 2016*

There's a 2-year-old state law that requires Colorado school districts to post meeting minutes within 10 days of the minutes being approved.

Global Village Academy-Douglas County Celebrates International Day-Mexico

*Global Village Academy - September 23, 2016*

The purpose of our International Day is to engage and excite our students in learning the history and cultural aspects of the chosen country. We encourage students to dress in cultural clothing.

The many problems with "free" college for everyone

*The Denver Post - September 23, 2016*

Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont has "Berned out" as a presidential candidate, but he raised one proposal that many politicians will resurrect in upcoming elections.

More school innovations ahead

*The Pueblo Chieftain - September 22, 2016*

The Pueblo City Schools (D60) is working frantically to avoid the state taking action against the school district - maybe taking it over - due to low student test scores.

**Education Blogs, Forums and Resources**

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

[Chalkbeat Colorado](#)

[Charter School Solutions Blog](#)

[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

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

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Monday, October 3

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$175 for one person and \$100 for each additional attendee; Non-Members: \$250 for one person and \$100 for 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 strategies that can be used with all levels of English Language Learners.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Friday, September 30.

### **Family and School Partnership in Education Month Kickoff**

*Hosted by the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education*

**Date:** Thursday, October 6

**Time:** 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**Location:** Colorado Department of Education Lobby, 201 E. Colfax Avenue, Denver

**Description:** The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) is pleased to announce that for the fifth consecutive year, Governor John Hickenlooper has designated October as Family and School Partnership in Education Month. The goal of this special month is to actively share information and support families and educators working together to ensure learning success for every student, from pre-school to post-secondary and workforce readiness. There will be a kick-off event on October 6th from 11:00 - 11:30 in the CDE lobby at 201 E. Colfax Avenue.

**Information:** For information, see this [event flyer](#) (PDF).

### **Noche Latina**

*Hosted by Lotus School for Excellence*

**Date:** Thursday, October 6

**Time:** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Location:** Lotus School for Excellence, 11001 E. Alameda Avenue, Aurora

**Description:** Please join Lotus School for a celebration of Latin heritage on Oct. 6 from 6-8p in the large gym. There will be artwork, dances, family-style potluck and more. Please bring a Latin-inspired dish to share.

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

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

*Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, October 7

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

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

**Cost:** League Member: \$175, additional attendees \$100; Non-Member: \$225, additional attendees \$100

**Description:** Is the honeymoon period over? 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: data collection tools, behavior change monitoring tools, strategies for FAIR Plans and BIPS, social emotional learning intervention programs, and sample MTSS structures for behavior/social emotional learning.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, October 5.

Event contingent on a minimum of 8 registrants.

## "The 'No-Maybe-Yes' Years: Preparing for Parenting Tweens and Teens" with Kim John Payne, author of *Simplicity Parenting*

*Hosted by Mountain Phoenix Community School*

**Date:** Wednesday, October 12

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Location:** Wheat Ridge High School Auditorium, 9505 W. 32nd Avenue, Wheat Ridge

**Cost:** \$15 for one guest | \$25 for two guests (or pay what is meaningful)

**Description:** This presentation is designed to help parents who have tweenagers and teenagers and to prepare parents of younger children for the years ahead. It will highlight issues affecting young people, between the ages of 8 and 18, and offer workable strategies for navigating what can be one of the most difficult periods for parents, teachers, and teenagers alike.

### **Some topics include:**

*Navigating the squalls* - The phases of adolescence and how these may be expressed and anticipated.

*Venus & Mars* - The similarities and the differing needs of boys and girls.

*Coming of Age* - Rethinking how to help the 12- to 14-year-old children prepare for a changing world.

*Threshold Issues* - An overview of addictive tendencies and how to meet them in creative ways.

*"But they are my friends!"* - The peer group and defining the roles played within it.

How the can adult work with the peer group and not against it?

Kim John Payne is the author of the #1 best selling book, *Simplicity Parenting*. A consultant and trainer to over 200 North American independent and public schools, Kim has been a school counselor, adult educator, consultant, researcher, educator, and private family counselor for 28 years. He regularly gives keynote addresses at international conferences for educators, parents, and therapists and runs workshops and trainings around the world.

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

[Click here](#) to download event flier.

## **2016 Colorado Safe Schools Summit**

*Hosted by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center in collaboration with the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at CU Boulder and Safe2Tell of the Colorado Office of the Attorney General*

**Dates:** Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13

**Location:** The Conference Center at Adams 12 Five Star Schools, 1500 E. 128th Avenue, Thornton

**Cost:** Early Bird Rate: \$80 per person for both days (\$50 per person per day if registering for individual days). Rates increase September 1.

**Meals:** Continental breakfast and lunch with a plenary will be part of each day's events.

Plenary speakers scheduled to present:

- Empowering Teens to Delete Cyberbullying and Make Kindness Go Viral, Presented by: Dr. Sameer Hinduja
- Unleashing the Power of Prevention to Promote School Safety and Positive Youth, Presented by: Brian Bumbarger, Ph.D.
- Mitigating Risk and Improving Protection: A Public Health Approach to Suicide Prevention in Colorado Schools, Presented by: Jarrod Hindman
- The Impact of Marijuana Legalization, Presented by: Michael Song  
Safe2Tell Panel, Presented by: Susan Payne, Founding Executive Director, Suzi Karrer
- Essential Elements of Effective Behavioral Threat Management Programs,

Presented by: Gene Deisinger. Ph.D.

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

### **Webinar: Using NWEA MAP Data to Differentiate Instruction**

*Hosted by Otus and the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, October 13

**Time:** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Cost:** Free

**Description:** Meet Otus, NWEA's Authorized Data Partner. Otus is a Student Performance Platform, a system that combines a robust learning management system, a collection of classroom management tools, and a powerful data warehouse. With Otus, teachers have the ability to provide students with a more personalized learning experience by using NWEA data to inform their instruction.

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

### **Lunch & Learn: DIBELS Next and Core Knowledge Language Arts: Getting Results**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools and Amplify*

**Date:** Thursday, October 20

**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

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

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

**Description:** You can move the needle! Thousands of Colorado educators are using curriculum and assessment tools each day to change outcomes for kids. Join us to find out how. Learn about the Early Literacy Assessment Tool (ELAT) Project, a FREE resource to help your school in implementing the READ Act. Amplify also publishes a full ELA curriculum called Core Knowledge Language Arts (PreK-5). Get those details for your school needs.

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

### **5th Annual NWEA MAP Users Conference**

*Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools and NWEA*

**Date:** Friday, October 21

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** Cherry Creek School District Student Achievement Resource Center, 14188 E Briarwood Avenue, Centennial

**Cost:** \$175 early bird; \$225 regular rate. Early bird ends September 26.

**Group Discount:** Groups of three or more, enter promo code 2016NWEAGROUP for \$20 off per person.

**Description:** Join NWEA MAP users from more than 50 schools and districts across Colorado for this one-of-a-kind event.

Improve your use and understanding of this valuable assessment while networking and learning from users and experts in the field.

The conference will feature multiple breakout sessions on a variety of topics designed for advanced, intermediate and beginner users.

Previous attendees found presentations to be highly valuable, and 100% of those surveyed said they would return.

**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Monday, October 17.

### **Working in Your UIP**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, October 27

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

**Cost:** League Members: \$50 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee;

**Non-Members:** \$75 for one person and \$25 each additional attendee

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

**Description:** Come spend the day working in your UIP with League support and collaborate with your peers so that you may leave this workshop with some sections completed! We will go through each component of the UIP (Data Narrative, Root Cause, Target Setting and Action Planning) and review the State's Accountability System (SPF, etc), timelines and what you need to know about the UIP for 2016-17. You will also leave with numerous tools and resources that will help you complete your plan and guide you through setting targets/goals during the recent assessment transition.

**Note:** This session is designed for people who are familiar with the UIP and have written a UIP before. If you are new to the UIP, please register for that session on November 9.

**Registration:** [Click here to register](#). Deadline: Monday, October 24. Event is contingent on a minimum of 5 attendees.

### **Board Fundamentals**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools and CDE Schools of Choice Unit*

**Date:** Friday, October 28

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Location:** TBD

**Cost:** \$35 per person

**Description:** This training is offered twice a year in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education Schools of Choice office to support board members by providing a sound introduction to board practice and responsibilities, a refresher to continuing board members in board leadership roles, and an introduction to general charter school governing board practices and responsibilities for charter school leaders.

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

### **Lotus School for Excellence Fall Festival**

**Date:** Saturday, October 29

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Lotus School for Excellence, 11001 E. Alameda Avenue, Aurora

**Description:** Lotus School for Excellence is hosting a family friendly Fall Festival on October 29 from 10am - 3pm at the LSE campus (11001 East Alameda Avenue Aurora, Colo.). There will be activities for kids of all ages with painting pumpkins, bobbing for apples, carnival games and more! Tickets can be purchased at the festival for .25 cents each.

Lotus School for Excellence (LSE) is celebrating its 10 years of excellence. Founded in 2006, Lotus School's mission was to equip students interested in science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M.) for professional fields after graduation. Now in the 11th year, LSE's focus is on S.T.E.A.M. education and college-readiness that proudly supports 100% college acceptance for graduates. LSE has grown from 140 students to now over 875 students! Join us to celebrate the Aurora community, LSE's history and the festive fall season on October 29th. We look forward to seeing you!

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

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