

## Announcements

### Where did our steps, lanes, and raises come from last year?

This is a great question because it illustrates an important source of CSEA's and CEA's power and effectiveness – the ability of our organization to influence and craft legislation that helps you in your classroom and with your family. This is made possible by the small contribution to political activities that we ask of members. Specifically, last year, the most important reason CSEA was able to negotiate a raise and unfreeze steps and lanes was a law called the Student Success Act. We, in collaboration with CASE and CASB, were able to work with state legislators and the Governor to reduce the “negative factor” by \$110 million. Thus, CSEA's political engagement benefitted our members with thousands of dollars in recurring compensation. That is one example of a remarkable return on investment!

### Legislative Action Leaders

Are you interested in being informed about events in the legislature as they unfold throughout the legislative session, in participating in making our voices heard at the Capitol, or in becoming a Legislative Action Leader? This year's session will undoubtedly bring twists and turns of which we will need to be aware, and will have a couple of opportunities for our Legislative Action Leaders to visit the legislature in session. If this interests you, please contact Kevin at [kvick@coloradoea.org](mailto:kvick@coloradoea.org) for more information and to learn about leadership opportunities in this area.

### Delegate Assembly Elections

In January we will be providing information on upcoming Delegate Assembly Elections. Delegate Assembly will be held in Denver from April 24-26. It is at Delegate Assembly that delegates from across the state make important CEA policy decisions. All members are encouraged to get involved in our Association by running for election to the Assembly. The Assembly will begin Friday evening, which means that substitutes will not be necessary. Look for more information after the first of the year.

### Congratulations, Brian Kachel!

Delegates to last year's Delegate Assembly recently participated in an election for a new CSEA representative to the CEA Board of Directors. Brian Kachel has been elected as CSEA's representative on the CEA Board.

## Articles

Feeling Burned Out? Especially at this time of year it is easy to feel overwhelmed and burned out. This article offers some tips for maintaining your life balance and avoiding burnout.

[http://www.edutopia.org/blog/5-tips-avoiding-teacher-burnout-mary-beth-hertz?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=post&utm\\_campaign=blog-5-tips-avoiding-teacher-burnout-link-november-repost](http://www.edutopia.org/blog/5-tips-avoiding-teacher-burnout-mary-beth-hertz?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=blog-5-tips-avoiding-teacher-burnout-link-november-repost)

## Events

### CEA Member Forum on Standardized Testing

December 18, 2014 6:00 pm. – 8:00 p.m. Tesla Building, 2560 International Circle

On December 18, CEA President Kerrie Dallman and Vice President Amie Baca-Oehlert will be hosting a forum in Colorado Springs to hear directly from educators in our area about your vision for the kind of public schools that students, families, educators, and communities deserve. The forum will provide an opportunity for educators to come together and explore solutions to many of the challenges we currently experience and to develop a plan for how we will stand together to achieve our collective vision. Dinner will be provided. If you would like to attend, please RSVP [here](#).

### North Pole Tickets

We only have a few tickets left, so call or email now to reserve your tickets. Celebrate the holidays at Santa's Workshop! The price is \$16 per ticket which is a \$5 discount over regular price and they are available at the CSEA office.

[www.cseateacher.org](http://www.cseateacher.org)

[csea@coloradoea.org](mailto:csea@coloradoea.org)

