

## **Announcement Election Debrief**

Last night, public education in Colorado had a challenging evening. In our region, however, you made a big difference in the outcomes of several local races. In our initial research, it appears that between 75% and 85% of CSEA members voted in this election. That is a fantastic indicator of your commitment to improve our profession.

Our local races returned Pete Lee to the State House and elected former CSEA member Michael Merrifield to the State Senate. Both of these men are staunch supporters of public education. Unfortunately, we saw former CSEA member Lois Fornander and incumbent House member Tony Exum, Sr. lose their respective races. In the context of the state, we are not sure who will control the State House or State Senate. Either way, the outcomes of yesterday's elections will have a direct impact on K-12 funding, testing, evaluation, and a variety of reform ideas. We have excellent relationships with Representative Lee and Senator-elect Merrifield, giving us confidence that we can bring your issues, needs and concerns directly to the Capitol. With Governor Hickenlooper's proposed budget offering increases to per pupil funding along with some one-time allocations, these relationships will be critical with regard to funding.

In proposition 104, it is clear that we will have open negotiations with District 11, although we must learn what this means in the context of the state. As you likely know, for the past few years CSEA and D11 engaged in open negotiations around compensation. CSEA is unsure how this proposition will alter our negotiations process and collectively bargained agreement.

In sum, although we had some disappointments, your hard work, dedication, and commitment were important to our successes this cycle. Knowing that 2015 brings a majority of the Board of Education seats up for election, we are going to continue to ask for help making sure we have a friendly, collaborative, and pro-public education majority for years to come.

## **Article**

Governor Hickenlooper's Budget Proposal for Public Education

[http://co.chalkbeat.org/2014/11/03/hick-proposes-big-k-12-spending-increase-for-a-year/#.VFgSdvnF\\_To](http://co.chalkbeat.org/2014/11/03/hick-proposes-big-k-12-spending-increase-for-a-year/#.VFgSdvnF_To)

## **Events**

### **Educator Night at the Melting Pot**

Wednesday, November 12, 4:00-10:00 p.m.

30 A East Pikes Peak Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

The menu is a three course dinner, including cheese, entree, and dessert for \$26.95 per person, not including tax or gratuity. Reservations are recommended and be sure to bring you D-11 ID to receive the special pricing.

### **North Pole Tickets**

Get ready to celebrate the holidays at Santa's Workshop! CSEA will be offering discounted North Pole tickets again this year. Tickets will be available at the CSEA office starting November 19<sup>th</sup> until they are gone. The price is \$16 per ticket which is a \$5 discount over regular price!

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