

Announcements

Is Your Household Financially Impacted By The Government Shutdown?

CSEA has a Financial Assistance Plan that we will make available to members whose households are experiencing challenges as a direct result of a family member being furloughed or not receiving a paycheck because of the shutdown. Please contact [us](#) if you would like additional information.

Labor Action Update - Denver

After many months of unsuccessful negotiations, the Denver Classroom Teachers Association (DCTA) has scheduled a strike vote, with voting sessions to be held on January 19 and 22. Among the outstanding issues and concerns are:

- Denver Public Schools (DPS) has failed to prioritize educators' compensation and spends more of its budget on middle management than comparable districts.
- There is a lack of predictability, stability, and transparency in educators' compensation. The DPS compensation structure (ProComp) minimizes base salary and makes educators financially dependent on one-time "bonuses" that are outside of their control.
- Wages are not comparable to surrounding districts, making it difficult for teachers to stay with DPS. Nine surrounding districts pay substantially higher base salaries, which leaves Denver educators no choice but to leave.
- The system does not value education that is supportive of student needs. When ProComp was first created, the district created a professional development program designed to give Denver educators access to high quality, highly relevant trainings without the need to pay tens of thousands of dollars to universities for additional degrees. Now, the District is punishing Denver educators by proposing that salary increases be locked behind completed degrees (Masters, PhD, etc.).
- Management has refused to bargain. The teachers have consistently expressed a willingness to exchange proposals, make movement, and to sit at the bargaining table in a public setting. Management has stalled for nearly a year on exchanging proposals and has consistently failed to move closer toward a middle ground.

Labor Action Update - Los Angeles

As the situation in Denver escalates, we are also thinking about our brothers and sisters in Los Angeles who have been on strike since the beginning of the week. The strike vote was taken last summer after two years of on-going negotiations with the School District, and passed with 98% support. While schools remain open, with substitutes and administrators "covering" classes, student attendance is reported at a third of normal levels. Los Angeles mayor Eric Garcetti has supported teachers and has stated that talks will resume today with his office serving as a mediator.

Please see the two articles [below](#) for more information on the Denver and Los Angeles labor actions.

Legislative Lobby Days

CSEA will once again be visiting the Capitol to engage legislators in conversations about the wide variety of bills that impact teachers, students, and education. If you're interested in participating, please contact [Joe Schott](#).

Election for Delegates to the 2018-2019 CEA Delegate Assembly

Elections for CSEA delegates to this year's Delegate Assembly will be conducted February 8-12. The deadline to nominate yourself is 5 p.m. on January 25. Additional information is available [below](#) and in the member section of our [website](#).



Thumbs Up! Thumbs Up to the **CSEA Association Representatives (ARs)** who showed tremendous support and commitment to the Colorado Springs Firefighters as they work to gain a Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Events

Introduction To Mindfulness For Educators (Yoga)

January 24 5:30 – 7:00 CSEA basement, 2520 North Tejon

Jan Pratt, Columbia and Henry, will be introducing educators to using yoga and mindfulness to help find balance and a sense of peace in their busy lives, as well as in their classrooms. Additional information is available [below](#).

Blended and Flipped Learning Professional Development

January 27th

Clint Knox, Doherty, is conducting a class on blended and flipped learning through the CEA COpilot online professional development platform www.ceacopilot.org. COpilot is teacher led professional development with Adams State credit available.

The class could also be **FREE** for you. Because the Brainitz Level 1 Certification meets the CO state required for English Learner Professional Development, the Colorado Education Association is offering \$45 off the course, making the class free for union members. Find out more and register for the Brainitz Level 1 Certification course at <https://ceacopilot.org/courses/177> or contact Clint Knox at clint@brainitz.com for questions.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Participation

Saturday, March 16 Details to be announced later

Please join us as we celebrate St. Paddy's Day by participating in our community's annual parade. Come rain or shine, we'll be walking, marching, jogging...there will be many modes of celebrating. This will also be the first "ride" of the spring for CSEA Members Who Bike. We hope to see you there!

Contract Fact

Article XII.F.1 Conferences

Mid-Year Conference – The conference must be completed by January 31.

Articles

[Denver Teachers Union Poll Shows Strong Support For A Strike, Even Among Parents](#)

[I Won't See You Because I'm Going to Stop Working: How A Los Angeles Teacher Prepared Her Students For The Strike](#)

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This correspondence is intended for members of CSEA, ESPA, CEA, and their families. It is not intended for public distribution.

Details From Links Above

Election for Delegates to the 2018-2019 CEA Delegate Assembly

We anticipate that CSEA will be allotted 26 delegates, 12 of whom are automatically elected by virtue of having been elected to the CSEA Board of Directors by the members at large, as the CSEA Bylaws provide. Delegate Assembly will begin at 6 p.m. Friday evening, April 12 and adjourn when all business has been completed on Saturday, April 13.

Members have received a complete timeline, approved election procedures, and a nomination form electronically. Self-nominations will be accepted electronically using the form provided. No other method of nomination may be used. Write-in votes will not be allowed.

CEA policy is established at this 650 person assembly of members from across the state that convenes each spring. At CEA Delegate Assembly, representatives make decisions regarding school reform issues, legislative agendas, philosophical resolutions and member rights advocacy. All members are encouraged to consider running to serve as a delegate.

Self-nominations and campaign statements will be accepted electronically using the form provided. No other method of nomination may be used. Write-in votes will not be allowed.

Introduction To Mindfulness For Educators (Yoga)

Members are invited to attend, and may bring their children. While the focus of the class is on adults, there will be a segment at the end of the class which will include children. There will be a \$5 fee for the class (please bring a check for \$5 made payable to CSEA with you the night of the class), and reservations are required. Please reserve your spot [here](#), and if you are bringing children, please let us know how many and their ages.

This is an introduction to a full course that will be available to members in February (described briefly [here](#)). Complete course information and registration will be distributed after this introductory class.