**Announcements
Help Our Colorado Springs Firefighters!**
We are canvassing with them this Saturday to secure collective bargaining rights. On municipal ballot question #1, we ask you to vote YES for a safer Colorado Springs. Let’s recognize that these dedicated public servants are entitled to bargain their working conditions and salary.  Since ballots are mailed next week, this weekend is critical.  Please help them and support our brothers and sisters in IAFF Local #5. Sign up [here](https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/70a0a44a5a828a3ff2-issue) for a three hour shift!



**Thumbs Up!** Thumbs Up to **Molly Pargas, Madison**, for being awarded the CEA Johnson Memorial Scholarship! The scholarship recognizes an Association member who is committed to improving his or her professional skills. The cash award of $1,500 is to be used for expenses directly related to the recipient’s educational program. Teacher applicants must be working on a graduate degree; support staff applicants must be working on an undergraduate degree or other education program related to their employment.



**Thumbs Up!** Thumbs Up to **Brenda Voorhees, Jenkins**, for receiving a grant from CEA to attend the NEA ESP Conference next month in Las Vegas, Nevada. The NEA ESP conference is the premier professional development opportunity for Education Support Professionals across the nation. The goal of the conference is to grow and strengthen the professional excellence of ESP members through Association-convened, educator-led, and student-centered learning experiences.



**Thumbs Up!** Thumbs Up to **Carolyn Figueroa, Taylor**, for arranging a great member meeting and organizing a group of members to attend the first negotiations session on March 4th at Tesla. She also arranged for Read Across America volunteers to take a seat in the big, red chair and read to students.

**St. Patrick’s Day Parade**

*Join in the Parade!* CSEA is teaming with D11 to march, walk, ride, jog, or dance as we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day at the annual St. Patrick’s Day Festival on March 16! Invite ESP, administrators, students and parents, and other teachers to participate in this community event. Come join us wearing your school shirts, CSEA colors, or lots of green and orange! There is a way for everyone to participate. We’ll have people marching, running, and cycling. Talk to your principal and students and ask them to encourage their families to participate as we proudly join together to represent CSEA and District 11! We will gather at Palmer High School—parking ***will*** be provided for CSEA and D11 participants—and take part in the parade, which starts at noon. See details [below](#Parade).

**Elections For CSEA Board of Directors, NEA Representative Assembly, CSEA Revised Bylaws (Tentative) Will Be Held April 5-9**

Members of CSEA will receive information, including the paperwork necessary to nominate themselves, on March 1. Nominations are due on March 11 at 5:00 p.m. This election is only for members of CSEA (the teachers’ association). Members of ESPA (the support personnel association) do not participate in CSEA elections.

**You’re Never Too Old, Too Wacky, Too Wild**NEA’s Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading through our theme: Celebrating a Nation of Diverse Readers. Many schools and libraries celebrate with an annual event on March 2, the birthday of children’s author Dr. Seuss, but NEA’s Read Across America also provides NEA members, parents, caregivers, and children the resources and activities they need to keep reading on the calendar 365 days a year. Learn more [below](#Read).

**CEA And State Wide News**

See [below](#CEA).

**Events**

**Paired Dinner and Beer Tasting Only A Few Spaces Left**

**Thursday, March 14, 2019 6:00 p.m. Peaks N Pines, 4005 Tutt Blvd.**

The cost is $30 per member and $35 for non-members. Reservations are required and may be made here. There are only a few spaces left, so if you’re interested in coming, please RSVP now. Please let us know how many will be in your party. See details [below](#Paired).

**Contract Fact**

**Article X.A.2.c Duty Free Lunch**

 Teachers shall have a continuous duty-free lunch period of at least thirty (30) minutes.

**Articles**

# [How Should School Boards Map Out Negotiating Strategy? Colorado Bill Would Allow Them To Meet Privately.](https://www.chalkbeat.org/posts/co/2019/02/26/colorado-school-boards-might-take-negotiating-strategy-back-behind-closed-doors/)

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

csea@coloradoea.org



February 28, 2019

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

**Details From Above**

**St. Patrick’s Day Parade**

**Marchers:**

Those who want to march in the parade only – we will gather at Palmer High School (free parking for D11 employees, bring your ID!) in the Eagle Wing and/or courtyard. We’ll walk up to the start of the parade (near Colorado College and Tejon) and then march behind CSEA and D11 banners! Gather at Palmer by 11:00 am and we’ll walk up to the parade start. Bring your family and enjoy the good times! This is a great way to support both CSEA and D11 – and enjoy the parade up close!!

**Runners**

A flat and easy route to ease back into the running season on one of the fastest 5K courses in Colorado Springs! Starting and ending at Acacia Park (Tejon and Bijou Streets), the course runs through downtown Colorado Springs mainly on Tejon Street. Come for the Run, and stay for the Parade that follows at Noon! For youngsters there is a one mile course for ages 6 to 12, and a half-mile course for those 5 and under. A parent may tag along with the 5 and under runners. Sorry, No refunds. Individuals runners are responsible for their own entry fee) and then join the parade! Register at http://csgrandprix.com/

**Cyclists:**

Join hundreds of cyclists for a ride across the city. The CSEA cyclists will participate in our first group ride of the season and ride the intermediate course, which is 21.7 miles long. After the ride you are welcome to ride or walk in the parade (cyclists are responsible for your own entry fee). Register here: <https://csstpats.com/pedaling-for-st-pats/>

**Read Across America**
In our diverse and complex society, students need books that provide both windows and mirrors if we are going to create more readers, writers, and people who feel included and recognized, and who understand that the world is far richer than just their experiences alone. We know it is challenging to find the time to seek out new books to share, let alone create fun, exciting learning experiences around them. NEA has compiled a “book calendar” to celebrate a nation of diverse readers with recommended books, authors, and teaching resources that represent an array of experiences and cultures. We hope you’ll find the books and resources we’ve provided here and online can blend effectively into existing classroom activities and units of study. [Welcome to NEA’s Read Across America 2018-19 Calendar](https://www.readacrossamerica.org/)

**CEA And Statewide News**

**Center For Teaching And Learning**
Want to learn how to create a trauma-informed school? [Sign up](http://click.email.nea.org/?qs=6b4eff8854105c20ad3d70e04b674eaa3e6b656b44c6d26d5d9bafdc76c38ed313daf3f1870b04cb8e4477effd6077f3b30f9805be4ad9aa) for the March 14th webinar now! Understand how trauma can affect student behaviors and responses within the school context and learn leveled intervention strategies to meet students’ needs.

**Equity Council Silent Art Auction**

Help us spread the word! The CEA Equity Council for Race and Culture is soliciting Racial and Social Justice centered artwork from Association members and friends of public education for the Annual Silent Art Auction at CEA’s Delegate Assembly on April 12 & 13, 2019.This year the Art Auction proceeds will go to the CEA Equity Council for Race and Culture to fund initiatives and programs that work to dismantle racism in our schools and communities. If you would like to donate a piece of original artwork (paintings, drawing, etchings, sculptures, photography, etc…) for this worthy cause, please contact Ali Cochran (acochran@coloradoea.org) or Susie Hidalgo-Fahring (fahring5@gmail.com) by April 8, 2019. We will also be accepting pottery and jewelry of all types for this auction.

**Paired Dinner And Beer Tasting**

We hope you’ll join in the fun at this popular event. We’re excited to once again have this year’s pairing at Peaks N Pines Brewing. CSEA members **Mike Hagen, Palmer,** and **Delia Medberry-Hagen, Mitchell**, are part owners of Peaks N Pines, and Mike is the head brewer. This will be a four course dinner, with an amazing new food truck (owned by the family of **Laura Yslas, Audubon**), preparing the meal. They are excited to share their awesome food with teachers, and each beer will be carefully selected to pair with the planned menu.