

# Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association  
May 12, 2020

## Six Reasons To Belong To A Union

Why belong to your union? [This article](#) discusses the impact unions have on the economy. Here are the six bullet points:

- Unions strengthen businesses and the economically vital middle class by **giving workers a voice in both the workplace and our democracy.**
- Unions balance structures of power in the workplace, resulting in greater justice and efficiency.
- Unions improve workplace policies and have beneficial policy effects.
- Unionization increases income—not just for union workers but also for the entire middle class.
- In *non*-“right-to-work” states, workers are more likely to receive employer-provided health insurance and pensions.
- “Right-to-work” legislation fails to grow state economies.

Every professional educator should belong to their union.

## Keep Pressure on Capitol Budget Negotiators

Educators around the state are standing in **solidarity** to make our voices heard at the Capitol. The **professionals** in the classrooms know that the state cannot continue to balance the state budget on the backs of students and teachers.

Colorado’s underfunding of education has resulted in Colorado ranking 42<sup>nd</sup> in per-pupil funding, while exacerbating an educator shortage. It also means that Colorado is 51<sup>st</sup> in educator wage competitiveness, resulting in 18% teacher turnover and 29% paraprofessional turnover.

The legislature’s Joint Budget Committee needs to be overwhelmed by educator emails this week. Stand up for **justice** for students who have never attended a fully funded school and deserve better than four-day school weeks, larger class sizes, fewer educators and reduced programs.

We are asking that all CSEA members [use this link](#) to join your fellow CEA members in a collective action to **use our voices in our democracy** by telling JBC members to fill the budget gap somewhere else.

## Colorado Teachers Will Lead Literacy Lessons On Public Television

“Gov. Jared Polis announced the [“Read With Me At Home”](#) initiative Monday morning, saying in a press release, “This programming will be available to families across Colorado to help close the digital divide and prevent learning loss during this critical time for children.” (This is a *Chalkbeat* article.)

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

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



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