

# Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association  
August 27, 2020

## How Is Your Virtual Classroom Looking?

As we develop new expertise and mastery in distance-education, it will be important to create a visible marker of the professional environment our students enter. Just like we present inviting physical classrooms, so, too, we want our students and families to meet engaging virtual classrooms that inspire that same confidence in the instruction they'll receive from our D11 teachers. [Here](#) are a few ideas on virtual classrooms, but if you have something that you think will help others, please send it to us with a brief description. We'd like to share our members' favorite ideas and resources with everyone!

## Professional Development Opportunities

### CEA Is Having A Sale On COpilot Classes!

If you haven't yet taken one of CEA's online classes through COpilot, this is the perfect time to try one! COpilot offers some of the best professional learning in Colorado and now through August 31, CEA is offering a buy one, get one-half off sale on any of its one-credit classes. Not only are the classes on the cutting edge of professional development, they are eligible for graduate credit from Adams State University. There are plenty of classes still open for September and October. Please visit the [COpilot](#) website to view the class catalog and learn more. Don't let time run out on this money-saving offer!

### Blended Learning 101                      Tuesday, September 8, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Our sister organization, the Pikes Peak Education Association, is inviting CSEA members to participate in this opportunity to learn the essentials of integrating online discussion, activities and learning with face-to-face instruction. This is a virtual Zoom session and participants will need their device, a pen or pencil, and a notebook or printer paper. For more information, and to learn about credit options, please contact Maryann Barrett at [mbarrett@coloradoea.org](mailto:mbarrett@coloradoea.org). You can register [here](#).

## Thumbs Up!



Thumbs up to our **new members** and welcome to the Association! Please be sure to check with your building's Association Representative (AR) if you have questions about the Association or your workplace. If you don't know who your AR is, you are welcome to contact us at [csea@coloradoea.org](mailto:csea@coloradoea.org) or call 471.1190. Also, please be sure you visit the member section of [www.cseateacher.org](http://www.cseateacher.org) for information and resources available only to members.

## Announcements

### Election Time Is Just Around The Corner!

Before we know it, it will be time to get those ballots in the mail! You can confirm your voter registration [here](#), register to vote [here](#), and see the Colorado Secretary of State's FAQ sheet [here](#). Every registered voter receives a mail ballot. The ballot will be sent to

the mailing address you provided for your voter registration file. If you prefer to vote at the polls, you can vote in-person at a voter service and polling center.

### **Whistle Blower Protections**

Colorado's new law protects you from discrimination or retaliation at work for raising health and safety concerns related to COVID-19. Learn more in the member section at [www.cseateacher.org](http://www.cseateacher.org).

### **Member Benefits**

#### [Legitimate Ways To Reduce Your Student Loan Debt](#)

NEA members have access to Savi through the [NEA Student Debt Navigator](#). This tool can help you assess whether you qualify for free federal loan forgiveness programs, among other options. **There is no cost to use the evaluation tool**, and you'll have access to expert assistance via telephone or chat.

### **Articles Of Note**

#### [Education A Key Issue In 2020 Race Even Before the Pandemic, Poll Finds](#)

#### [Connecting With Reluctant Remote Learners](#)

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