

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
December 17, 2020

Dear Members,

We've arrived at the end of a challenging semester and approach the end of an even more challenging 2020. Years from now we'll all assess it with sage perspective, but recently a Care and Share staff member gave some immediate perspective, when he noted the humility of children's wishes for the season: a job for their parents, food, a place to live. Teachers proudly engage in building better lives every day, too, and we do it with core values that make us humbly aware of what matters.

In the once-aired, original ending to *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, our hero Yukon Cornelius got what he'd always wanted—and it wasn't monetary riches: [YUKON!](#)

You've really earned your break. We at CSEA hope you find in it rest and enjoyment.

Sincerely,
Joe Schott, Ph.D., President



Thumbs Up – To **YOU!** Semester 1 of 2020-2021 is in the books. Take a deep breath and enjoy a well-earned break. “See” you all in January.

Announcements

Well-Being Survey Follow-Up

Thank you to all members who participated in the well-being survey. CSEA brought your perspectives to administration, where we described the exhaustion and frustrations you cited repeatedly. Teachers also confirmed a need and desire for development of online pedagogy, as well as calls for collegial human interaction beyond regular work scenarios.

In January, Cory Notestine will be rolling out some options to address the social and emotional needs of staff. There is a concrete aim to deal with concerns that have emerged from the months of pandemic fatigue. CSEA will join the District in supporting these efforts.

Redefining Reading

The READ Act COpilot course, *Redefining Reading*, will launch with four sections at the beginning of January 2021. CEA hopes to offer four additional sections in March 2021 and at least eight more sections during the Summer 2021 term. For additional information or to sign up, click [here](#).

Additionally, there are many new online, professional development classes starting on COpilot on December 28th. As a thank you for your hard work this semester, CEA is offering a 25% discount on your final shopping cart total at checkout. Make sure to use the code **HOLIDAY25**. *This special runs through January 11th, so don't miss out!*

Facilities & Academic Master Plan Survey

The D-11 Facilities & Academic Master Plan Survey will close on Sunday, December 20. Please use this [link](#) the complete survey if you haven't already done so. Your voice is vital in planning for the future of District 11.

Virtual Events

Trauma-Sensitive Practices for Educators

Saturday, January 9 & 16, 2021; 9am-1pm

Learn how to build a foundation for understanding adolescent neurological development, the impacts of adverse childhood experiences on learning and development, and practical, research-based classroom practices to nurture safety and healing through positive childhood experiences. Cost is \$60 for members and credit is included. Register [here](#).

Help for Early Career Educators

Mentors assist across contents and grade levels to provide confidential support. Mentees receive weekly touch points at their convenience to help them grow and manage life as a new educator.

The PPEA Center for Teaching and Learning provides development and support for area educators. Participants in the ECE Mentorship Program will receive certified development hours and optional graduate credit each semester. Visit us at <https://bit.ly/PPEAECE> or email avalon.manly@gmail.com for additional information. No cost and the new session begins January 2021.

Articles Of Note

[Some Pikes Peak area teachers pleading to get vaccinated before putting kids back in the classroom](#)

[The FAC Theatre Company is packaging up joy and merriment and sending it your way in the 2020 Holiday Cabaret!](#)

[The empty gradebook: As students struggle with remote learning, teachers grapple with Fs.](#)

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