

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
March 18, 2021

Spring Break Approaches

As CSEA reflects on the changes, challenges, and learnings of the past year, it is clear to us that *EXHAUSTED* is a most appropriate word to describe school-based staff. School staff everywhere have handled multiple restarts with students, have overcome quarantines, have internalized more than their fair share of anxiety, have stepped up to cover and help each other, and have learned many new methods to engage students. Meanwhile, in D-11, “important” decision-makers, shift additional burdens onto you from a remote environment. For example, it is easy to demand 5 days of in-person instruction with students from others when you can WebEx in. It is easy to change programs and talk of how teachers will see – as Admin puts it – the “writing on the wall” when it is not your job on that wall. The past year reinforced that schools are essential in our community, but apparently not “important.” School-based employees persevere despite public and political attacks that seem to be increasing. In sum, it appears to us that staff are both the panacea to every social and economic problem, and easy to scapegoat and blame. Maybe nothing new there, but it sure seems amplified. With all that said, we return to the key point of a respite from the year’s demands during the break. Many staff are now fully vaccinated, hopefully alleviating some anxiety. Take some time this coming week to enjoy family, open space, and a well-deserved break.

Announcements

Academic Master Plan Survey- Deadline March 31, 2021!

Members, did you know there is a district survey for everyone to supply input around the Academic Master Plan? It seems to be more for parents and less directed at staff however, all educators [really need to take the survey](#).

The survey and additional information on the Academic Master Plan can be found on the D11 [website](#). Again, the deadline is March 31, 2021.

Equity Council

The CSEA Equity Council has started a list of diverse and inclusive books to assist in library audits. Click [here](#) to access the list. Contact Carmen at cmoyer99@comcast.net if you would like to make additions to the list.

Articles Of Note

[Amazon Workers' Union Drive Reaches Far Beyond Alabama](#)

[Gov. Jared Polis signs bill to modify CMAS tests in 2021- Change depends on approval for federal government](#)

[Colorado Senate Passes School Cannabis Medicine Bill](#)

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