

# Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association  
January 13, 2022

## Welcome Back

Dear Members,

We welcome you to second semester. First semester certainly gave everyone a run for their money, and this one promises its own challenges. And yet teachers continue to connect with students, fostering their understanding and engagement and even their sense of self. Kids look to teachers for validation of their value and place in a world they're just getting a grip on. It's something to see.

Teachers are learning to take better care of themselves, too. We share the work of educating our students with a very large team, all of whom have important roles to play in the success of D11. Recognizing that we can't take responsibility for everything required of public education is important, as is setting realistic limits on how far we can extend ourselves. Establishing manageable substitute plans and approaches to supporting students who have missed class, for instance, allows staff to maintain a consistent effort for the long run. That keeps teachers strong and students in professionally staffed classrooms.

Take steps to take care of yourselves, so you can take care of your students and have a great finish to the year!



**Thumbs Up!** To Mann Middle School, whose members really “showed up” to our 1<sup>st</sup> First Friday since before the pandemic began. It's been a long time and we enjoyed spending time together!

## President's Corner

[President's Corner](#) contains thoughts and observations regarding topics going on in or affecting education, CSEA, unions, and so forth.

## Announcements

### Upcoming Election for CEA DA

Detailed information regarding this year's CEA Delegate Assembly election will be emailed out later this afternoon. The CEA DA is a statewide assembly of members from around the state that gather to establish policy.

### CalCas Athletics Grant

Give your athletes a sporting chance with a Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant. Apply to receive \$1,000 for your middle/high school's team. The California Casualty Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant was established to provide support to public school sports programs impacted by reduced budgets. As an employee of the school and a member of CSEA, you can [apply](#) for a grant award for your school's sports program.

## **Know Your Rights**

The 2021-2022 Evaluation "At a Glance" document is available under the members section on the CSEA [website](#). This check list will help members know when things should happen, questions to ask, and references to essential documents. There are additional evaluation resources available to assist you in understanding and navigating the evaluation process.

## **Articles**

[Cartoon: What is "right to work"?](#)

[Parents' Concerns about D11 Board Members' Comments](#)

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