

## Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association  
February 24, 2022

### Read Across America

Dr. Melpakam, Directors, Dr. Thomas,  
I'm Joe Schott, elected teacher representative of the Colorado Springs Education Association.

As many know, The National Education Association initiated Read Across America just over 100 years ago to combat illiteracy and developed it into an educational institution. It is indeed gratifying to know that tonight the District 11 Board of Education moves in support of this ongoing NEA project and will present a resolution enthusiastically endorsing it.

In addition to CSEA's book give-away at the Labor Day balloon festival downtown, which gets into the hands of children many thousands of books annually, and other, smaller disbursements of books throughout the first and second semesters, we participate in Read Across America each year with book donations in support of pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade children in the region. Recent recipients have included

- Urban Peak—now "The Place"--, which serves homeless youth,
- Court Care of the Pikes Peak Region, which provides free child care to families with court-related business
- and Zach's Place, which provides care for children with disabilities.

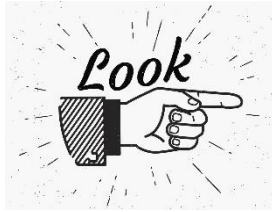
Recognizing the continuing and striking underrepresentation of diversity in children's literature, this year the teachers of the Colorado Springs Education Association will provide to each D11 elementary school a new copy of *Jump at the Sun: The True Life Tale of Unstoppable Storycatcher Zora Neale Hurston* by Alicia Williams.

A number of our CSEA Board directors and I will be in schools reading to students during Read Across America week, and we hope everyone will take the opportunity to engage a child with a favorite book whenever they get a chance.

Thank you.



**Thumbs Up** – To Bristol members, who represented as a group, and the other members who came to Wednesday's Board of Education meeting to support teachers and Public Education. A sense of solidarity—among teachers and with community members—was truly evident in advocacy for our students and profession.



**Board Watch** – Wednesday’s Board Meeting was quite the rodeo, with strong passion for the support of students on display, as well as numerous comments from the community advocating for teachers, their work, and their livelihood. There was also strong reaction to VP Jorgenson’s abusive, anti-trans social media post. You can watch the video of BoE meetings, which are posted a day or two after the live version [here](#). Don’t forget there’s a how-to on using Board Docs on the member page of [www.cseateacher.org](http://www.cseateacher.org).

### **Grass-Roots Engagement**

Teacher professionalism and public schools have been regularly under attack at D11 BoE meetings. Being physically present to show the Board and community that we are watching is imperative, even more so is our empowerment of each other to write letters and to speak at BoE meetings. Should you want to be more involved in these efforts, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/GbR2Zfirpnskra9q9>

Or you can have people contact Jaclyn Roberson (AR from Palmer High School) at [jaclynroberson@gmail.com](mailto:jaclynroberson@gmail.com)

### **Announcements**

#### **2022 Teaching and Learning Conditions in Colorado (TLCC) Survey**

The Colorado Education Association, a member of the TLCC Coalition, asks for that all Colorado educators, special service providers, education support professionals, and school leaders take the 2022 Teaching and Learning Conditions in Colorado (TLCC) Survey. The [TLCC Survey](#) is an online instrument that encourages staff to share their perception on the teaching and learning conditions in their school.

The [survey](#) window is open now through **March 4, 2022**, can be accessed on any device and should take less than 15 minutes to complete. The system will save partially completed surveys, so you can be interrupted and pick up where you left off using the same code. Complete the survey at [www.TLCCsurvey.org](http://www.TLCCsurvey.org) using a confidential access code. Codes cannot be tracked to a specific person. If you haven’t received a code, check with your building AR or contact the TLCC Help Desk.

TLCC Help Desk

- Online support form: <https://app.cedu.io/support>
- Support email: [support@cedu.io](mailto:support@cedu.io) or [contact@cedu.io](mailto:contact@cedu.io)

Toll-free number: 866-329-1530 (Mon-Fri 8am – 4pm)

#### **Reminder: Required Trainings**

Staff requests for greater Power School access to student information resulted in many things being opened up, but also increased exposure to liability. One outcome is a due-diligence training to assure educators are aware of aspects of student data privacy (which, of course, goes beyond this single facet).

Previously, only Exec Pros (all of them) were required to receive the Sexual Harassment training, unless a supervisor assigned it to someone. This has changed to all staff because the training content applies to all staff.

Principals should be working with staff to identify time to complete the trainings. It would make sense, for example, to advocate for scheduling the training on student data privacy on the data collaboration day (March 8). The district deadline to complete these trainings is April 1, 2022. Links and resources can be accessed [here](#).

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