

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
March 31, 2022

Finding a New Superintendent

The Board of Education has hired a firm to organize the search for a new superintendent. The process will involve various employee-group, student, and community focus groups, in which CSEA will take part. Indeed, all staff will be able to participate in the undertaking through an on-line comment form that will be announced soon. Keep an eye out for the communication from D11.

Bargaining Continues....

The next bargaining session is scheduled for Monday, April 4 from 1:00 until 8:00 pm. The teams will be spending time in work groups and developing proposals for whole-team consideration, but early discussion will involve some information from the Board team on extended contract time and how they believe it might affect student success. Bargaining is in Room 250, Tesla Educational Center/International Circle or streaming [online](#). Other topics (in whole group or breakout) include voluntary reassignment and emergency coverage.



What D11 Should Look for in a New Superintendent –

[Joint Statement – Citizens Project and Neighbors for Education](#)

School boards in Colorado are elected bodies with substantial powers, including control of instruction in the public schools of their respective districts, as well as powers over staffing, financial resources, and school facilities.

The board members' obligations include governing on behalf of everyone in that school district—not just those who look like, believe as, worship as, or agree with the board members.

Recent actions in several school boards in the Pikes Peak Region undermine that standard. – Citizens Project

Know Your Rights

Anonymous Complaints – A rising number of members have contacted CSEA after management indicated that there were “several complaints” lodged against them. Often, management asserts that sharing complaints is limited to only parents. This is not accurate as the language in the Master Agreement applies to **any** complaint. These vague attacks on professionalism (which feel like ambushes) are not reasonable. Further, any anonymous complaint should not be used as evidence against a teacher either for disciplinary or evaluative

purposes. (Article IV.B. "Complaints Against Teachers") **If you are subjected to this type of innuendo, demand (in writing) the names of the complainants, when the complaints were made, and whether they were written. Any written and signed complaints must be provided to a teacher prior to any discussion with the manager. If the manager will not provide names or details, again in writing, have them confirm their position and that these attacks are not true.**

Upcoming Events & Announcements

CSEA First Friday

This Friday, **April 1**, CSEA will host our next First Friday event at **Cerberus Brewing Company**, 702 W. Colorado Ave from 4:00- 7:00pm. We'll provide the first round of appetizers... no foolin'!

D-11 Students Speak Up!

Saturday, **April 2** – **Palmer High School Cafeteria**, 301 N. Nevada Ave

There will be a two-hour moderated conversation between D11 High School and Middle School students and the D11 BOE regarding "what a new superintendent needs to know about D11." This event is free and open to the public.

Course and Material Public Review Window

In case you missed it, new courses and materials are being examined by the District. As the knowledgeable professionals in this mix, teachers absolutely should consider examining them and sharing their thoughts. The materials will soon be part of your professional life, so you want the best selection to be made! From D11:

The Spring D11 School Board Course and Material public review window is **NOW OPEN** and will remain open until 5pm on April 7th, 2022. This public review window includes a very important adoption process for our K-8 Mathematics Tier 1 core material and Tier 2 supplemental material. We encourage all stakeholders to review all requests.

There are 2 options to review and give feedback to D11 staff and school board members.

1. Online: any stakeholder can review all online accessible material and offer feedback at this website: <https://www.d11.org/PublicReview>.
2. In-Person: any stakeholder can visit the D11 Administration Office at: 1115 N. El Paso St. 80903 between the hours of 8am and 4pm. When checking in at the front desk, ask to visit the Curriculum and Instruction Office to look over all hard copy materials. You will be directed to a public review room that will also have feedback forms available.

AR Elections

Look for information in the coming week regarding AR elections. Consider if you are interested representing the members in your building on the AR Council.

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