

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
February 2, 2023

OK, What is BFI?

To quote the superintendent, “BFI is not a thing; it’s a philosophy.” This is important, based on the numerous comments we hear from teachers who say their administrators are telling them they have to do specific things. Sometimes that’s lesson plans by template, sometimes it’s mandating that teachers be on the same page on the same day, and it may be other such prescriptive assertions in the name of BFI. Really, though, this is supposed to be about revitalizing a purposeful, intentional, concerted approach to planning instruction. There is no single way to teach—no one, right way, and there is no mandate from the superintendent that everybody be compliant with that kind of stricture. Take a look at the DOs and DON’Ts sheet we sent to all members a couple weeks back and you’ll see it in writing.

TALES OF THE ABSURD - A NEW FEATURE OF THE UNION PULSE



“We care about you!”

Management recently has come down with a severe case of “*Mens Incusans*” – a rare condition that allows them to assert that people intentionally schedule sickness and tragedy. As many times as management asks for “grace” – to cover a class, to take that IEP meeting after school, to do some extra duty, to waive timelines – they don’t seem to be willing to offer it. Take, for example, the application of Hot Zone Days. Indeed, these days, when the absence is reasonably known in advance, require notification and planning to be provided at least five days in advance. But getting sick on a Friday before a long weekend or predicting the tragedy of a hospitalized child without the requisite 5 days’ notice means that you will be charged additional time because you have inconvenienced them. No grace for you. Such an attitude should be embarrassing. If you have a tale of the absurd—we know they’re out there-- feel free to reach out [here](#), and we will get in touch with you. Finally, if there is any question in your mind, we are working with these members.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

First Friday

Join us tomorrow, Friday, February 3 at Dublin House from 4 - 7! Bring a friend or two. CSEA will provide appetizers. Dublin House; 1850 Dominion Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80918
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100028942136947>

Debunking the Myths, What SEL Is and Isn't

Neighbors for Education is pleased to offer a free community talk by Dr. Avi Lessing, an SEL expert, called "[Debunking the Myths, What SEL Is and Isn't](#)." This presentation is **Saturday, Feb 4th** from 2-3:30 in the Wasson auditorium at 2115 Afton Way.

Teacher Advocacy Workshop – Credit Available

CSEA will offer opportunities intended to strengthen your leadership in D11 (counting towards your teacher evaluation Standard IV) and to build educators' confidence and voice in promoting the teaching profession in a positive way. Reaching our community through this work is critical to create change and improve public perceptions regarding public schools. Credit available and spaces are limited. Use [THIS FORM](#) to sign up.

Member Benefits

California Casualty has a new quote portal available for CSEA members to use in requesting an insurance quote. Check it out by clicking the image below.



Article of Note

<https://krdo.com/top-stories/2023/01/27/petition-against-changes-to-school-hours-starts-for-colorado-springs-academy-district-20/>

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