

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
August 23, 2023

Welcome to the new school year and the first edition of the Union Pulse. We send out the Union Pulse to keep members up to date on events, celebrations of members, their rights, important issues, and so on. If you are interested in sharing content, let us know! This is your communication!

Lanyards

Wear your CSEA lanyard! Starting late last week a mandate to wear a D11 lanyard caused concern. This came after a reminder about the requirement to wear your ID when on district property—a sensible security procedure. A lanyard, though, does not answer safety questions like an ID; it didn't make sense, so people were upset. The district first agreed CSEA lanyards were acceptable and then relaxed the mandate since *the ID* is the point. To paraphrase an administration letter that's in keeping with district policy:

We received word that we DO NOT have to wear the d11 lanyard. It is required that all district employees wear their district-issued photo ID and that it is visible.

Gag Order Rises Again

Last week we alerted people not to sign the overreaching and sweeping confidentiality agreement some principals were requiring of staff. We worked with central office to pull this back and believed the issue was settled. However, these docs *keep cropping up* around the district, so we worked some more. On Tuesday administrators received this guidance, but we want teachers to know the situation, too, since it affects them directly, so here is the main part:

“...Neither the district nor the state is requiring staff, either teachers or ESP, to sign the form. If you have staff that have already signed it and would like it returned, then please feel free to return the form to them...”

As many of you noted, as was clear to us in the office, and as our lawyers confirmed, the form's language was *NOT* restricted merely to assessment data but would have suppressed discussion of essentially anything and everything you encountered in your schools.

Get yours back and dispose of it. If you see it again, or have continued concerns, DON'T SIGN IT and let us know!

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Back to School BBQ & Walk for BOE Candidates

Join fellow CSEA members and community members for our first political canvass in support of Darlene Daniels, Shay Dabney, Kate Singh, and Rachel Paul this Saturday, August 26th from 9AM-11AM at the CSEA office. To commit to knocking doors, fill out this [form](#) or use the QR code below. There will be a brief training before we head out to knock doors in the area surrounding the CSEA office. Simply bring a fully charged cell phone and a positive attitude as we begin the groundwork to elect school board candidates who support District 11's educators and students. The walk will be followed by CSEA's Back to School BBQ from 11AM-4PM at the CSEA office. We look forward to seeing you Saturday!

August 26th Canvass!!!

Commit to knock doors for CSEA's recommended school board candidates Saturday, August 26th from 9AM-11AM. For more information and to commit to helping get the right board members for District 11's educators and students, scan the QR Code.



Labor Day Lift Off

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday September 2nd - 4th:

Community Volunteers, D11 Educators and CSEA members will be giving away FREE books to the public in celebration of literacy. We value positive interactions in our community and strive to support the love of reading! Please join us in making smiles and imagination happen once again this year. On Labor Day weekend, we will have 2-hour volunteer opportunities throughout the days to hand out books to people of all ages. Come out and be part of this event! Volunteer times start at 6:00 am and finish by 8:00 pm. Please share this information in your buildings, and with your personal contacts within the district and beyond. Sign-up to volunteer [here](#).

COpilot Discount!

Earn graduate credit with CEA COpilot classes. All classes are fully facilitated by union members who work with kids every day. Fall registration is now open. Visit www.ceacopilot.org for more information and use PROMO CODE B2S23 FOR 25% DISCOUNT ** offer expires on August 31, 2023, and good 1 time per user.

Ask CSEA

Have a contract, or process, or situation, or policy question? If you've seen the "Know Your Rights" section here before, you know what we're talking about. Send us your questions and we'll answer them as (reasonable) space permits!

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