

Union Pulse

Colorado Springs Education Association
November 2, 2023

Dark Money Aims to Corrupt the D11 Board Of Education Races

Board of Education members for many years were unpaid public servants, dedicated to the difficult work of improving education for the thousands of children in El Paso County. Board meetings were generally uneventful affairs, focused on policy changes that reflect real concerns of the community and that provide basic direction for the management to take the district. That is no longer the case. We have all been witness to BOE members using the position to pursue political agendas and phantom issues. This year, right wing extremists, under the dark money group [Springs Opportunity Fund](#), have already allocated \$500,000 to the Board of Ed elections in D11 and D20—over \$400,000 to the D11 election alone. They plopped down *\$250,000 in the past two weeks* to try to dupe voters. **Don't be fooled by their rhetoric!** You, as CSEA, fought for your raises despite their resistance. You, as CSEA, fought for intentional professional development. You successfully pushed back on Pay for Performance. You, as CSEA, fight for actual collaboration. You and your work through your union have canvassed neighborhoods, spoken with neighbors, and selected candidates that are focused on the improvement of our public schools rather than on political ideology. We are now in the final days of the election cycle. Give every effort you have left to elect people who believe in and support public education.

VOTE!!

This is it! Election day is Tuesday, November 7. Members living in D11--cast your vote and have your voice heard! Teachers *must* win this election.

It is now too late to *mail* in a ballot for this election and postmarks do not count. If you are delivering your ballot, you will find the list of voting centers and secure ballot drop-off sites [here](#).

If you would like to have your ballot picked up and delivered to a secure ballot drop-off site by a CSEA volunteer, reply [here](#) with your name and location, and we'll arrange it for November 7th. There are strict rules around how many ballots a single person can collect, so let us know with plenty of time, so we can organize it.

Another Successful but Cold Boo at the Zoo!

CSEA volunteers, stepped up once again to meet and connect with the community and to pass out goodies to kids at the annual Cheyenne Mountain Zoo this past Sunday, October 29. Thank you to for volunteering your time on this cold and snowy Sunday!



Announcements & Upcoming Events

Canvassing Schedule: Final Days!!

There are 5 days until election day, and we are making our final push to the finish line. It's so very important, now, that we vote and encourage everyone we know to do the same. We are canvassing 4 of the next 5 days and need all hands on deck. If you can make one of these final canvasses and bring a colleague, that would go a long way towards helping us across the line. Please share these sign-up links with anyone who may be willing to help. CSEA members have

poured a lot of energy into this campaign. We cannot underestimate the importance of educators speaking to community members about this election. We appreciate the work you all do every day for our students and community. You deserve a board that cares about you and our students. We have 5 days left to make that happen.

[Thursday, November 2nd, 4-5:30 – Twain Elementary School](#)

[Saturday, November 4th, 9-11:30 am – Stratton Elementary School](#)

[Sunday, November 5th – West Elementary/Middle School](#)

[Monday, November 6th – Keller Elementary School](#)

November 15 - Melting Pot Educator Appreciation Night

30-A East Pikes Peak Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Get together over delicious dips and sips for the annual Melting Pot Educator Appreciation Night on Wednesday, November 15. Start with your choice of cheese fondue with special dippers including artisanal cured meats along with the classic dippers you love. Enjoy a fresh salad and finish with your choice of chocolate fondue and another round of extra-special dippers! **3**

Courses: \$34 per person which includes cheese fondue, salad, and chocolate fondue. Or you can make it a **4-course** by adding an entrée for \$50 per person.

Reservations are required by calling 719.385.0300. Let the host know you are booking for the Educator Appreciation Night to receive the special pricing.

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