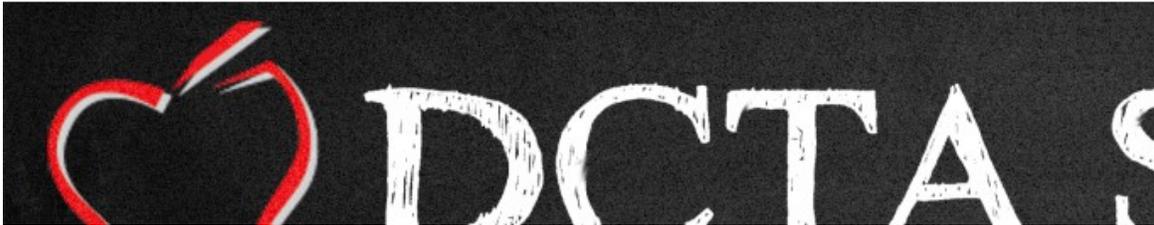


Ursetta, Angelina [CO]

From: DCTA <DCTA@coloradoea.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 7:38 PM
To: Ursetta, Angelina [CO]
Subject: [test] DCTA Slate - February 24, 2021



Thursday, February 25th from 4:30-5:30

CEA DELEGATE INFORMATION SESSION 1



Register: <https://bit.ly/2M9dGLm>

Become a CEA Delegate! - CEA Delegate Information Sessions

Are you interested in being more involved with the Association? Do you want to know more about how DCTA and CEA can work together to address issues facing public education in Denver and across Colorado? Then run to be a CEA Delegate!

Being a DCTA Delegate to the CEA Delegate Assembly has a relatively low time commitment and is a good way to be a part of the decision-making process of the Association at the state-level.

To learn more about this role and how to get involved, please attend one of the two scheduled info sessions hosted by our CEA Board Members on either Thursday, February 25th from 4:30-5:30 p.m. or Monday, March 8th from 4:30-5:30 p.m. [Register here](#) and a calendar invite for the training will be sent to you!

DCTA 2021 Elections

On Tuesday, February 16, 2021, Representative Council approved the official 2021 set of DCTA Election Rules/Procedures and Calendar. Therefore, as of February 16, our election season has begun! We encourage more members to become involved in our elections and our governance, so please consider nominating yourself or someone you know for an open position!

Election Documents:

[Available Positions](#)

[Election Rules and Procedures](#)

[DCTA 2021 Election Calendar](#)

[Election Nomination Form](#)

Hiring Fair for Unassigned Teachers March 2-4

Next week, on March 2-4 the district is hosting virtual hiring fairs for unassigned teachers from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Teachers are encouraged to attend and interview for openings at the fair. Non-probationary teachers get two priority interviews. If a RiB occurs after the date of the hiring fair, or if you won't be able to attend the hiring fair, contact your HR Partner to arrange your two interviews(district needs to know you are actively pursuing a positions).

We will also be in attendance the entire duration of event to address any questions or issues you are experiencing! Please feel free to pop into our [zoom room](#).

The district has told us that unassigned educators should be receiving emails with more details about the fair, so please keep a look out for that communication coming from the district. Following the district's email, and you have any further questions about these events, they can email careers@dpsk12.org.

Biden's Decision to Mandate State Testing

On Monday President Joe Biden's administration issued guidance to states on assessments and accountability this spring. This was a disappointing decision made by the president as students and educators continue to struggle through the realities that this pandemic has faced us with. We and CEA are continuing to work with elected officials, asking that school time is used for direct instruction and provides students with mental health support **not** standardized testing!

We highly encourage you to take action and [email our legislators!](#) In your email include the following pieces:

1. Ask them to support HB21-1125 to waive CMAS this year
2. Let them know that our priorities **must** focus on student instruction
3. Inform them that our most recent CEA poll data shows that parents want schools to prioritize instruction and mental health for our students (not standardized testing)

Potential Places to Receive COVID Vaccines

As an employee of a K-12 education provider in Colorado, all DPS employees are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. We want to make sure everyone who wants to receive the vaccine can get one as soon as possible, so as it becomes more available, please note you do not have to get the vaccine through Children's Colorado or another DPS partner provider and may work with other health care providers.

Please be mindful that signing up for multiple vaccine waiting lists and making multiple appointments can create inefficiencies. **If you have multiple appointments, please make sure to cancel in advance those that you will not attend.**

Below are some available waitlist options:

- **Kaiser Permanente**
 - [Member](#)
 - [Non-Member](#)
- **Wal-Mart**
 - [Schedule Now](#)
- **Sam's Club**
 - [Schedule Now](#)
- **King Soopers**
 - [Make an Appointment](#)
- **Additional vaccination options**
 - [CO VaccineFinder](#)

- **Call your personal health care provider**



Know Your Contract

10-4 LEAP Fairness Guide: In addition to the requirements set forth in this Article 10, LEAP Evaluations shall follow the requirements set forth in the “LEAP Fairness Guide – Evaluation Expectations and Rights for Teachers.”

10-4-1 The LEAP Fairness Guide will be released each year and made available to teachers at the beginning of the year. It will provide a detailed description of the entire evaluation process and is intended to make the process transparent so that Teachers know what to expect for that year.

10-4-2 The District is committed to the continuous improvement of its growth and performance system for Teachers. Teachers are encouraged to participate in the District’s annual survey regarding the LEAP Evaluation in order to provide feedback on potential improvements to the process.

10-4-3 Absent mutual agreement between the District and the Association, the LEAP Fairness Guide cannot change any of the requirements set forth in this Article 10. However, the LEAP Fairness Guide is not a negotiated document.

10-4-4 A failure to follow any of the requirements

[Full language of the DCTA Contract](#)

Know Your Rights

The LEAP Fairness Guide details the expectations and rights of teachers in their evaluation process. It includes information on:

Types of observations, frequency, feedback, disagreement, support, professionalism, Student Perceptions Surveys, student growth (SLOs), Mid and End-of-Year conversations, as well as how ratings are calculated. It is very important that you familiarize yourself with this document that is updated yearly. DCTA members are part of the LEAP Collaboration Committee that reviews and revises this document.

[LEAP Fairness Guide](#)



Member Spotlight - Kevin Adams

This week we'd like to highlight a social studies educator at the Denver Center for International Studies, ½ of the Too Dope Teachers and one of the newest members of the DCTA Bargaining Team, Kevin Adams! Kevin and one of his fellow educators host a podcast where they talk about racial justice, social justice, advocacy for educators of color and any other prominent issues that our students and educators face. He is a major advocate for racial and social justice in our schools while elevating the voices of BIPOC individuals. He exemplifies leadership in his classroom by constantly putting equity in mind while teaching. Thank you, Kevin for all you do!

NEA Member Benefits

When travel becomes safe again, we encourage you to book your next vacation through the NEA Member Benefits! They offer great prices on resort vacations, where you can book 7 day all-inclusive stays for under \$400. The best part about this benefit is that right now, you are given a \$500 enrollment credit when you register for travel benefits (this costs nothing to you). The enrollment credit will go toward a vacation you book with them!

The DCTA members who have booked travel through the NEA Member Benefit preferred resorts, have said the vacations are amazing, affordable and a blast!

How to get started:

1. If you have not already, create a [NEA Member Benefit Account](#)
2. [Create an account for NEA Travel](#)
3. Check under the "account tab" and there should be a \$500 credit.
4. Please call 800-637-4636 if you have any questions

Our Meeting with the District and Denver Health Doctors

At last week's rep council, educators had many questions centered on the meetings that Dr. Burman and Dr. Frederico have with the district. We brought your questions to their most recent meeting and here are some of the notes we've taken:

- We expressed members' concerns about a recent [New York Times](#) article titled "Covid-Linked Syndrome in Children Is Growing, and Cases Are More Severe."

Doctors' Correspondence: They were not aware of the article's findings.

- Members were curious about how the district was protecting teachers, students and families once all educators are vaccinated and what their thoughts were about children receiving vaccines

Doctors' Correspondence: The district said they predicted on having vaccines available to students the ages of 12+ by the Fall.

- Educators were curious about the new CDC guidelines and how they can affect social distancing protocols.

Doctors' Correspondence: Denver Health still believes that 3 feet of social distancing between students is a sufficient amount of social distance based on most recent data.

- A few questions were asked centered around social distancing and what to do when students are eating in rooms without masks.

Doctors' Correspondence: The doctors advise educators to when you can, do it outside. Each school needs to analyze what can be done when masks come off to increase ventilation, increase social distance and decrease the amount of talking.

Superintendent Survey

Our members know what qualities are important in the next DPS superintendent. We want to know what those qualities are so we can advocate for them in them in the upcoming superintendent search. Please [fill out this survey](#), your voice is important!



Solidarity Corner

We stand in solidarity with the Vocational Teachers' Federation (VTF) as they bargain with the district on their master agreement on Friday at noon. We will post their [live bargaining link](#) on the DCTA Facebook!

DCTA Fair Housing Committee Update

Monday, February 8th, City Council voted to change the group living standards in Denver. 150 people signed up to speak at council, and the majority of speakers were in favor.

524 letters in opposition were sent in while 619 letters of support! Many of those letters of support came from DCTA teachers. The meeting lasted until the wee hours of the morning - a special shout out to Nik Arnoldi and Tiffany Choi who stayed on that long meeting to give their public comment.

In the end, city council voted to support the change! Yet, despite the outpouring of support, 2 council members still voted no Kevin Flynn in the South West and Amanda Sawyer in the East. However, due to the outpouring of support, 3 members who were strong no votes actually flipped to a yes. The work you did was very crucial in their decision.



VTF Bargaining - Friday, February 26 at 12:00 p.m [watch live!](#)

DPS Unassigned Virtual Teacher Hiring Fair - Tuesday, March 2 through Thursday, March 4 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

DCTA Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 9 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Sent via ActionNetwork.org. To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Denver Classroom Teachers Association, please [click here](#).