

Ursetta, Angelina [CO]

From: DCTA <DCTA@coloradoea.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:48 PM
To: Ursetta, Angelina [CO]
Subject: [test] DCTA Slate 4/6/21



We Stand in Solidarity with UFCW!

As many know, on March 22 our state experienced another senseless act of gun violence at a King Soopers in Boulder. We offer our condolences to the UFCW members who lost their fellow union brothers and sisters. We also offer our condolences and thoughts to the Boulder community. Coloradans, no matter their race, class, age or profession deserve to feel safe in public and we are counting on our elected officials to take action in preventing future tragedies like this from happening.

Officer Elections and Voting Process

The voting period for our DCTA Spring 2021 Election is going on now until April 19, 2021. You should have received an email with your ballot from a company by the name of YES Elections. If you still have not yet voted, YES Elections will send you a reminder email with your ballot every Friday until you've submitted your ballot. If you experience any technical difficulties with voting, please contact YES Elections by phone at (866) 384-9978 or by email at Help+DCTA@yeselections.com.

As an additional reminder, all and any campaign literature coming from DCTA on behalf of election candidates is being sent to your personal email addresses that we have on file with NEA360. If you do not believe you have not received these emails, please check your spam/junk folders. For any additional concerns, please contact Rita Haecker (rhaecker@coloradoea.org) and Brian Mulryan (brianzote@hotmail.com).

Attention Non-Probationary Teachers!

With the decrease in DPS enrollment numbers, there has unfortunately been an increase in educator RiBs. As a reminder to non probationary teachers who have been RiBed, you are **guaranteed** two interviews! It is extremely important to let us know if you have not yet received two interviews so we can advocate for you at the district level.

What to Do if You are told you are Being Non-Renewed?

Immediately request letters of recommendation from supportive district administrators and colleagues. Do not wait for board action to take this step. Obtain these letters immediately and do not wait until the end of the school year.

The district may pressure you to resign "voluntarily" rather than face non-renewal by asserting that a resignation will look better to prospective employers on their resumes. We advise teachers to reject the "voluntary resignation" offer in these situations because the act of resigning may make you ineligible for unemployment compensation and may also affect your future teaching license renewal. Prospective new employers understand lay-offs, while employment applications will ask you if you resigned in lieu of a non-renewal.

We recommend you apply for unemployment the day after the last day of school, as summer pay is for work already performed and you are essentially "laid off."

If your unemployment benefit is denied, contact DCTA immediately so we can appeal the decision within 20 calendar days from the date the denial was mailed. It is important to maintain your CEA/NEA membership in case we need to seek legal help for you. If you feel that the evaluation process was violated, contact DCTA immediately; however, this will not affect the non-renewal, but can change your evaluation as you seek other employment.

Lastly, if you choose to resign. You must provide 30 calendar days' notice (30 days before the next academic year resumes) or risk losing up to a month's pay. Only probationary teachers can be non-renewed. Contact DCTA if you are a non-probationary teacher and you have been told you are being non-renewed.

DPS 2021-22 and 2022-23 Calendars Approved

The DPS School Board has voted to approve the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school year calendars. You can now [access these calendars on the commons](#).



NEA Member Benefits

Did you know that as a DCTA member you have access to NEA Member Benefits? NEA Member Benefits is a program offered to union affiliated educators and ESPs. Every week in the slate we will cover different benefits educators can take advantage of through this program.

NEA Member Benefits allows members to save on wireless services through AT&T! Because of this partnership, you can receive 15% off of monthly service charges, as well as 20% off of accessories with AT&T. If you are interested in taking advantage of this discount, please make sure you are [registered for NEA Member Benefits](#) and find this deal under the “everyday savings” tab.

Cancel Student Debt for Public Sector Workers

NEA is urging Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to cancel the student loan debt of qualified public sector workers on the frontlines of our response to COVID-19—teachers, nurses, and other essential workers serving communities all across America. Created in 2007, the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) was designed to encourage college graduates to pursue careers in education, health care, firefighting, and other forms of public service. The program promised to wipe away federal student debt after 120 qualifying monthly payments—10 years’ worth of payments. Instead, under the failed leadership of Betsy DeVos, the Department of Education rejected 98 percent of the PSLF applications filed since 2017, when the first public sector workers became eligible for relief. And that’s just the tip of the iceberg—for every qualified borrower whose application has been rejected, tens of thousands more have been knocked off course or never sought relief. A letter to Cardona signed by more than a dozen leading public sector unions, including NEA, urges immediate relief for qualified borrowers who already have a decade of public service. [Email Education Secretary Cardona and tell him to provide relief NOW.](#)

School Counselors, School Social Workers, and School Psychologists: Check your email for a survey from CEA Educator Burnout!

This survey is conducted by CEA Graduate Research Intern Lena Knechtel, in conjunction with another Graduate Intern from MSU Denver, as part of a capstone project for the MSU Denver MSW Program. It will investigate how burnt-out respondents are, how supported they feel at their schools, and how supported they feel by their union. Results will focus on how survey respondents can be better supported and on what factors (such as demographic criteria) are associated with higher rates of burnout or higher rates of support. It should take

approximately 15 minutes to complete. **If you're a school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist and you did not receive an email inviting you to take this survey, please access the survey here:**

https://coloradoea.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bPL4CQwffnMN2FU



Board Meeting - April 13 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Last Day to Vote in DCTA Elections - April 19

Rep Council - April 20 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](#).