



# DCTA Slate

## Celebrating Teacher and Educator Appreciation Week

COLORADO  
EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION  
est. 1875

## National Teacher Appreciation Week

May 8-12, 2023

#ThankATeacher

This week we are proud to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week! However we want to take a moment to recognize the hard work and dedication of all educators who play vital roles in creating high quality learning environments for our students. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to Denver Public Schools students.

## Sign the Petition: Bring Athletic Trainers into DCTA

SIGN THE PETITION Bring Athletic Trainers into DCTA

**CERTIFIED  
ATHLETIC  
TRAINERS  
DESERVE A  
UNION!**



One hundred percent of the DPS Certified Athletic Trainers signed a petition expressing their desire to have a say in their working conditions, evaluation structure and professional compensation as DCTA members. These essential employees provide critical medical care to our student athletes. Their current situation is untenable with DPS. The district doesn't know how to classify, evaluate or equitably pay the Athletic Trainers. Sign the petition below and show your support for Certified Athletic Trainers joining DCTA!

[Sign the Petition >](#)

## DCTA School Safety Demands

Last week we released our school safety demands after compiling feedback from our members and reviewing [version one of the district's safety plan](#). We are asking the district to consider the following throughout the process of developing the plan:

- Expanding mental health supports in every school
- Reducing class sizes and caseloads
- Enforcing Article 18 of the DCTA Contract
- Reviewing district-wide discipline matrix
- Creating protocols for educators to identify and address student safety needs
- Provide staff with training around restorative practices and de-escalation
- Allow for school-based decisions on building safety needs

As the district moves forward with developing the safety plan, we will continue to gather feedback from members through various channels. Please keep an eye out for updates regarding our advocacy around school safety plans.

[Full DCTA Safety Statement >](#)

## School Finance Act Update

We are proud to report that the School Finance Act that passed yesterday shows that our legislators listened to the voices of educators from across the state! Because our members lobbied for a significant buydown of the budget stabilization factor (B.S Factor), The 2023-2024 School Finance Act bought the B.S. Factor down by \$180 million. This figure is more than five times the original estimate outlined in Governor Jared Polis' initial budget proposal late last year. This is a monumental victory for Colorado educators, students, and communities, and a critical infusion of funding for our public schools.

## DCTA Officer Election Results

We'd like to thank all of the candidates that ran for office and all of the voters who participated in this year's election. As a democratically run organization, DCTA is enhanced by diversity of thought and philosophy as can be evidenced in elections. Additionally, a core pillar of democracy is to unify around the will of the majority and come together as one after an election. Please join your fellow members in supporting our newly elected leaders. Below are your newly elected officers:

- **Treasurer** - Amy DeFusco
- **Secretary** - Kathryn Fleegal
- **NEA Delegates** - Virginia Delgado, Jennifer Holtzmann, Timothy Brown, Robert Armagost and Kristen Coffelt
- **Board of Directors Sector A** - Rae Jones and Patrick Jiner
- **Board of Directors Sector B** - Clint Moore
- **Board of Directors Sector C** - Destini Baldonado and Alicia Lee Rhodes
- **Board of Directors Sector C Special Election** - Kris Bethscheider
- **Board of Directors Sector D** - Jennifer Holtzman and Abby Olsen
- **Board of Directors Itinerant** - Kelly Holms
- **Board of Directors Itinerant Special Election** - Mary Lintz
- **CEA Delegates Sector A** - Michelle Horwitz and Candace Sell
- **CEA Delegates Sector B** - Christina Medina, Andrea Estrada, Jamie Jackson and Katherine Kopp
- **CEA Delegates Sector C** - Robert Armagost, Dana Berge and Kris Bethscheider
- **CEA Delegates Sector D** - Timothy Brown and Callie Ludwig
- **[Bylaw Amendment #1](#)** - Pass
- **[Bylaw Amendment #2](#)** - Pass
- **[Bylaw Amendment #3](#)** - Pass
- **[Bylaw Amendment #4](#)** - Pass
- **[Bylaw Amendment #5](#)** - Pass

[Colorado Educator Mental Health and Support Services](#)

CEA partnered with the University of Colorado to provide mental health and support services to educators at no cost through the Colorado Educator Mental Health and Support Services program. This program offers educators group therapy sessions, workshops, individual support sessions and online programs.

[More Information >](#)

## National Board stipend applications are open!

Per our collective bargaining agreement, DCTA and the district have agreed to support five candidates in their National Board Certification process with grant money.

***27-2-1** The District will support up to five (5) candidates for National Board Certification with a grant of \$1,267 each. The Association will support up to five (5) candidates for National Board Certification who are members of the Association with a grant of \$633 each.*

DCTA Members who are candidates to earn their National Board Certification this year, can apply for this money. If there are less than five candidates for this year, we will likely open applications up to educators who went through the process last year. We are additionally pleased to announce that we have allotted legacy money left over from last year's budget to support members who have gone through the National Board renewal process over the past few years.

**To apply:** Please submit one to two paragraphs showing your commitment to and/or realization of one (or more) of the National Board's Five Core Propositions. [See short essay prompt here.](#)

[Apply >](#)

## Celebrating 100 Years of DCTA - Interview with past President, Gordon Heaton



**CEA-R Pre-Retirement Seminar on May 13th**

CEA and CEA-R INVITE YOU

# PRE-RETIREMENT VIRTUAL SEMINAR

Learn the benefits of retired association  
membership.

May 13th  
9:00 to 11:00 am



PERA REPRESENTATIVE WILL  
SHARE INFORMATION &  
STEPS TO RETIRE



NEA MEMBER BENEFITS WILL  
SHARE INFORMATION &  
WAYS TO SAVE MONEY IN  
RETIREMENT



CALIFORNIA CASUALTY  
REPRESENTATIVE WILL SHARE  
INFORMATION & STEPS TO  
KEEPING YOUR INSURANCE



**ZOOM  
Webinar**

Register here:  
[bit.ly/3J5uCf7](https://bit.ly/3J5uCf7)

As some of our members begin to enter their retirement phase, we invite you to learn about the benefits of joining DCTA/CEA Retired. PERA will join and share information about how to retire. NEA Member Benefits will share about how to save money in retirement! There will also be a representative with California Casualty present to share information and steps to keep your insurance benefits.

Members who choose to join CEA/DCTA retired as members before May 17th will receive a \$50 incentive for joining.

[Register >](#)

[Join DCTA Retired >](#)

## CEA CoPilot Summer Classes are Here!

Summer is right around the corner, which means many of you will enjoy a well deserved break full of swimming, cookouts, vacations, and professional learning! CEA COPilot is here to help with the professional learning piece! Summer 2023 enrollment is officially open, and we're featuring over 150 classes that can help you take your teaching and learning to the next level. CEA COPilot has classes that focus on real strategies you can use in your classrooms right away regardless of what time of year it is. Every class is taught by someone like you: a full-time educator who is always looking for new strategies and ideas to use in classrooms and schools. Take some time and look through our [Summer 2023 Course Catalog](#) and find some professional development from real educators that meets your needs.

[Enroll >](#)

## Mayoral Forum with Coloradans for the Common Good on May 25th

Join us for a Mayoral Forum with the Denver Mayor candidates Kelly Brough and Mike Johnston in partnership with Coloradans for the Common Good. The forum will be on May 25th at Bruce Randolph from 6-7:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to hear directly from the candidates on important topics including education, eviction defense, gun safety, mental health, and workers rights for immigrants.

[RSVP >](#)

## DCTA Membership Spring-O!

Over the past month, association reps have been engaged in conversations with potential DCTA members in their buildings as a part of our "Spring-O" membership drive. Spring is a great time to get ready for the coming year by making connections with new hires, electing representation for your 23-24 committees and shoring up member lists. We also want to celebrate all the hard and important work Reps are doing during this time of year and create opportunities for fun and community in buildings even as we tackle serious issues like safety.



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Email published by the Denver Classroom Teachers Association

