March 19 Walkout

DPS has designated March 19th to be a non-student contact day. Please request a Personal Day and join educators across the state as we march on the Capitol to demand changes to SB 191, the evaluation law, and to fully funded education for our students. Englewood and Jefferson County schools have also already called for a non-Student contact day as well. Let’s make sure Denver is well-represented!

Lobby Days This Week And Next

It’s not too late to join us on either of the first 2 Thursdays in March (the 5th or the 12th) for Lobby Days! Join us at 8 AM in the Columbine Room of the CEA Building, 1500 Grant St. On March 5th you and your colleagues across the state can lobby legislators to address the Budget Stabilization Factor and the needs of our Educational Support Professionals. If you are passionate about revising sections of SB 191 along with its impact on your evaluation system, then March 12th is the day you want to join us! This is an opportunity for teachers on the ground to speak directly to legislators and let them know what is needed to create the schools Denver students deserve. Email DCTA@coloradoea.org for information on how to secure your substitute.

DCTA Elections Are Underway

Thank you to those of you who have submitted nomination forms. We look forward to active participation in our election process to promote growth and build the strength of our union. If you are interested in running for a position, complete and submit the Nomination Form below. Positions are open for DCTA Secretary, DCTA Treasurer, Sector Directors, Non-Sector Directors (for members assigned to more than one school), CEA Delegates and NEA Representative Assembly Delegates. Nominations will be accepted until March 13th.

DCTA Electronic Nomination Form

Election Calendar
DCTA Fund Passes New Bylaws

The DCTA Fund met last night and passed new Fund bylaws. The new bylaws require four of the DCTA Fund positions to be elected by the DCTA membership, one per sector. In addition, the new bylaws require membership approval for future changes to the bylaws and contain both a confidentiality policy and a conflict of interest policy. If you are interested in running for one of the four open seats on the DCTA FUND Committee, please complete the electronic nomination form below by Friday, March 13th at 11:59 p.m. The FUND Committee member election will follow the same timeline as the regular DCTA election.

DCTA FUND Electronic Nomination Form

New DCTA FUND Bylaws

Update On Special Rep Council

We did not have quorum, but had a productive discussion with representatives from PERA as well as DPS Central Office that were in attendance. Your next opportunity to reach a decision is at the March Rep Council on March 17th. Please plan on joining us at this very important Rep Council where your voice can make a difference.

Today Is Super Tuesday In Colorado

If you haven’t already done so, this is your final opportunity to cast a ballot for a presidential candidate for one major political party. It’s too late to mail your ballots. All ballots must be dropped off, in person at a voting center, by 7 p.m. tonight.

If you have already returned your ballot by mail or at a dropbox for a candidate who dropped out, you MAY NOT vote again. Casting two ballots in an election is a crime. Upon discovering that a voter has cast two ballots, the clerk and recorder must refer the matter to the appropriate District Attorney’s office or to the Colorado Attorney General for investigation and prosecution.

If you marked your ballot for a candidate who has dropped out but have NOT YET RETURNED YOUR BALLOT, you can visit a VSPC and get a replacement ballot or vote in person before 7 p.m. today or read the instructions on how to correct an error in completing your ballot.

Train Up To Caucus This Weekend

One way for candidates to get on the ballot for the June Primary is via the Republican and Democratic Party Caucuses, Sat., March 7. Need some caucus training? CEA will conduct a live, online caucus training information session sometime after school ends Thur., March 5. If you’re interested, please fill out this quick form and as soon as details are finalized, you’ll receive info about how to participate. You can also download a copy of CEA's 2020 Caucus
Guide for what a caucus-goer can expect.

Statistics In Schools Week: Everyone Counts, March 2-6

In this weeklong series of activities, students will learn about the 2020 Census and its value through creating a classroom diversity collage, drawing what they want to see in their community’s future, joining a Twitter chat with Census Bureau experts, and watching interactive videos. Teacher guides and other resources for each day’s activities are provided. SIS Week takes place just before the start of the 2020 Census, the official population count of the United States that will impact how federal funds are distributed for important programs and services in your school and community each year for the next 10 years. Spread the message about the census by giving students this take-home flyer, available in 13 languages. Now is the time to emphasize the importance of counting everyone in every home.

International Women’s Day Is March 8th

Happy International Women’s Day! Women’s Day started in the US in 1909 when garment workers who protested inhumane working conditions were honored. It wasn’t until 1975 that the United Nations celebrated it as an official holiday on March 8th. While the world has made advances, no country has achieved gender equality. Let’s celebrate women’s progress and unite in empowering them to continue to rise up to the challenges they face every day. Let’s wear purple as a reminder of our collective support of a gender equal world. Let’s not forget the actions of courage and determination of ordinary women who have played a role in the history of our classrooms, our communities and our country and who continue to do so, every day.
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.
- **DCTA Lobby Day**, Thursday March 5th, 8:00 a.m-2:00 p.m. CEA-1500 Grant Street
- **DCTA Board**, Tuesday March 10th, 4:30-6:30 p.m. CEA Boardroom-1500 Grant Street
- **DCTA Lobby Day**, Thursday March 12th, 8:00 a.m-2:00 p.m. CEA-1500 Grant Street
- **DCTA Rep Council**, Thursday March 17th, 4:30-6:30 p.m. East High School Cafeteria-1600 City Park Esplanade
- **Day Of Action**, Thursday March 19th, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. State Capital

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Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](http://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](http://click here).