



DCTA Slate

SAVE THE DATE: October 7th School Board Kickoff Canvass

You're Invited!

Although we have not fully concluded our endorsements for the three open school board seats, we will host our first **School Board Campaign Kickoff Event on Saturday, October 7th beginning at 9:30 AM** at the CEA Building (1500 Grant Street) followed by a community canvass. We must come together and fight for the schools educators and students deserve!

Mark your calendar and SAVE THE DATE!

I'll be there!

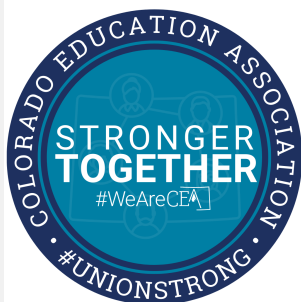
Volunteer and Support Pro-Public Education Candidates and Ballot Measures

We are quickly approaching the November 2023 Elections and some of our largest priorities are on the ballot: Denver School Board Election in the At-Large, District 1 and District 5 races and Proposition HH. CEA has recommended a ["YES" vote on Proposition HH](#) to all Colorado educators. The DCTA Fund and DCTA board are going through our endorsement process and will come out with a recommendation decisions soon!

These elections impact our work and students' education as the school board makes decisions that directly impact our working conditions and our students' learning conditions. By having partners on the board, we can ensure that our voices are valued in the decision making process. Proposition HH deals with parts of TABOR and could mean more funding for our schools. Please sign up below and let us know how you can help us win these elections.

Volunteer Sign Up >>

We Are #StrongerTogether



By standing united, you and your colleagues stay strong and have a **powerful collective voice** that cannot be ignored. We are powerful. That's why we're a target. Education is the last great frontier. It's an opportunity for big business to try to privatize education and make money off of our students and our public schools.

The latest in a series of attacks on public education working people by corporate CEOs, the wealthiest 1 percent, and the politicians who do their bidding is "Opt Out Today", a failed multi-million dollar political operation run by the dark-money "Freedom" Foundation. They send unwanted, deceptive emails to union members at work and mailers to their home, pushing them to drop union membership in an effort to to decrease union membership among educators and public workers in our state.

Thankfully, you and your fellow members quickly see through their misleading leaflets, phone calls, and door knocking campaigns. In fact, far from detracting from our membership and power, the CEA has seen record membership growth over the last decade in which these organizations have been operative. **More and more, educators like you and your colleagues have realized that joining your union means becoming a part of the largest Colorado movement to fight for the schools our students deserve.**

[More about #StrongerTogether >>](#)

School Safety Update: Union-wide Safety Matrix Campaign

In our recent Rep Council meeting, association representatives continued important discussions on school safety, emphasizing the importance of creating an environment where both educators and students can feel safe in our schools. Over the coming weeks, you may be approached by association representatives seeking your input on school safety. These conversations will play an important role in shaping our approach to school safety and will be shared with DCTA members who have been chosen to serve on the DPS discipline matrix committee. If you would like to be a part of these conversations, please set some time with your association rep to discuss your vision for school safety.

CCG Meeting with DPD Chief, Ron Thomas



As DCTA members, we are also members of [Coloradans for the Common Good](#) (CCG). Last week we met with fellow CCG members and Denver Police Chief, Ron Thomas in efforts to build a local partnership with The National Gun Safety Consortium (NGC) to reduce the incidence of theft, unauthorized use, and accidental and suicide-related discharge of firearms. We look forward to continuing these conversations and taking the lead on school and community safety.

Student Learning Objectives (SLO) are Due This Friday, September 29th

The deadline for teachers to complete Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) is Friday, Sept. 29. SSPs and other educators with limited student contact time (1-3 days a week) can submit by Oct. 31. The district highly recommends taking the Schoology [SLO 101](#) course (use access code: K2SV9-H5429).

Please see the [SLO one-pager](#) to preview the SLO process. Your school's SLO lead will be able to support you throughout the process. Please see the [SLO Handbook](#) or visit the [SLO page](#) on The Commons for more information. If you have questions, email slohelp@dpsk12.org.

DPS Required Mandatory Reporter Trainings

This is your reminder that all DPS employees are required to complete the mandatory training listed below in Learning Space for the 2023-24 school year. School Leadership teams should be making time for educators to complete this work outside of self directed planning time!

- **[Mandatory Reporter Training](#)**: This is a required, annual training for all DPS employees to understand their reporting obligations when it comes to protecting children from abuse and/or neglect. This training must be completed by Oct. 16.
- **[Privacy and Protection of Confidential Student Information Training](#)**: This is a required, annual training for all DPS employees to learn about laws that dictate how student data can be used and shared, along with district requirements that protect employees and the confidential information of DPS students. This training must be completed by Oct. 31.
- **[Emergency Management Training](#)**: This is a required, annual training for all DPS employees to gain an understanding of the Emergency Management Cycle and how you can take action to help the Climate and Safety Department. This training must be completed by Oct. 31.

Save the Date: 2023 Teachers of Color and Allies Summit on Wednesday, November 14, 2023



The Teachers of Color and Allies (TOCA) Summit is a free event that gathers education students, local educators of color, and allies to provide collegial support, opportunities for networking and mentoring, and insights into best practices in education.

The 2023 Teachers of Color and Allies (TOCA) Summit will be held in-person on Wednesday, November 14, 2023 at the University Memorial Center on the CU Boulder campus. The theme for this year's summit is "Elevating Teachers of Color and Allies' Voices: Practices and Strategies for Advocacy"

Come together with fellow education students, local educators of color, and allies for a day of camaraderie, networking, and mentoring. Gain valuable insights into the best practices in education that will empower and uplift you on your journey.

DCTA members may ask for a union business day to attend the training. We can accommodate up to 20 DCTA members. Please click below if you are interested in participating.

[TOCA Summit Interest Form >>](#)

COVID Leave

The DCTA office is receiving many questions about sick leave for educators who may have COVID or caring for their family members who are ill. The district has stated that educators will need to take their personal sick leave and quarantine for 5 days if an educator tests positive. We are concerned about this protocol due to early career educators having limited sick leave. We continue to advocate for more appropriate avenues to address COVID leave.

[DPS Guidance on Positive Test Results >>](#)

**Get four free at-home COVID-19 tests this fall on
COVIDTests.gov**

As of September 25, 2023, residential households in the U.S. can order one set of #4 free at-home tests from USPS.com again. Here's what you need to know about your order:

- Limit of one order per residential address

- One order includes #4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests (COVIDTests.gov has more details about at-home tests, including extended shelf life and updated expiration dates)
- Orders will ship free starting the week of October 2, 2023

[Order 4 Free COVID Tests >>](#)

Consider Applying for the Whole Child Distinguished Schools Award

Every year, 10 schools are awarded the Whole Child Distinguished Schools Award. The goal of the Distinguished Schools Award is to ensure schools across the district are excelling in providing equitable and inclusive environments where students are healthy, supported, engaged, challenged, safe and socially and emotionally intelligent.

Thanks to the hard work of the bargaining team during negotiations in 2019, DPS is leading the nation in focusing this level of effort and attention around Whole Child supports because it will not only improve academic outcomes, but also ensures that students have the supports they need to thrive in the classroom and beyond.

The selection process is conducted by the ProComp Implementation Team, a collaboration between district and DCTA members. They will be looking at various aspects, including:

- Health Education
- Physical Education and Physical Activity
- Nutrition Environment and Services
- Health Services
- Counseling, Psychology, and Social Support Services
- Physical Environments
- Social and Emotional School Climate
- Employee Wellness
- Family Engagement
- Community Involvement
- Support for historically marginalized student groups
- Implementation of the Black Excellence Resolution
- Implementation of the Know Justice Know Peace Resolution
- Recruitment and Retention of BIPOC Educators

Don't miss this opportunity to show your school's outstanding efforts in supporting the whole child. Stay tuned for more information on when the applications open and how your school can apply!



Whole Child Distinguished Schools 2022-2023:

- Compassion Road Academy High
- Contemporary Learning Academy
- Denver Center for International Studies
- Florence Crittenton High
- Manual High School
- Morey Middle School
- North High School
- Thomas Jefferson High School
- Trevista at Horace Mann ECE-8

- Valdez Elementary

Teachers: A Friendly Message from the Leap Collaborative Committee (LCC)

A friendly message from your LCC: Make sure that you take the time to complete the LEAP training which can be found at <http://thecommons.dpsk12.org/LEAP> under LEAP Changes and Requirements 2023-2024 (30 min). This is mandatory for all teachers and it helps you take ownership in your evaluation. If you don't know the changes then you don't know if your rights are being violated.

ILT members, if your team has not yet calibrated on LEAP this year, talk to your team and consider opting in to have a peer observer host that calibration and take some of the lift and planning off your team and meet this mandatory requirement.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/u/1/d/e/1FAIpQLSe75EsK2lq0Nei33bOm1XFNQpKcp4he6zP2WKHoJXbDggLaSQ/viewform>



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