Fellow DCTA Members,

Thank you all for taking action and fighting alongside your colleagues at the Bargaining table to reach a tremendous agreement! While the membership still needs to ratify the agreement, there remains a fight we all must take on together – DPS School Board Elections.

As many of you know, the school board is one of the first, if not most important, areas in which education policy is implemented. We as educators are directly affected by what happens at the board level and our students’ futures are at stake. The school board members are the decision makers with regard to upcoming ProComp negotiations. As a family, I encourage all DCTA members to get involved in some capacity with this election. It’s OUR responsibility as teachers to continue to make an impact on education in this city.

The best way to get involved is by volunteering to go door-to-door canvassing and phone banking. Many of your fellow teachers and parents in Denver share the same beliefs of getting involved in education; they just need to be informed. When it comes to education, teachers are consistently the most trusted source of information, so we hold a powerful voice in the community. Volunteering in these aspects is the best and most efficient way to enact the change we want to see in our classrooms and district.

Click here to view the volunteer canvassing schedule and to sign up for shifts. And if you would like political updates from DCTA, text @dctapol to 81010.

Now is the time to pursue the change we so desire and get involved.

~ Henry Roman, DCTA President

Ratification of our new Master Contract

If you have not yet voted, VOTE!

You received an email last Thursday (9/7) from denvercta@gmail.com via SurveyMonkey with the subject "We Need Your Opinion" which was your ballot for the ratification of our Master Agreement. The online vote closes at 6:00 pm this Thursday. Only DCTA members can vote. If you are not a member, and you would like to vote, join DCTA and we will send you a link to the ballot.
March for Schools Students Deserve

On Thursday, September 28, after school lets out, we will March for the Schools Denver Students Deserve! Join the resistance as we march to save public education. We will meet at the west steps of the Capitol Building starting at 4pm and march at 4:30pm.

We need volunteers to help facilitate a successful march and rally. March marshals will be trained in crowd management. If you are interested in being a marshal, email Corey.

REP COUNCIL

The September Rep Council meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19 at DCIS Baker from 4:30 pm—6 pm.

All members are welcome to attend. We will be training March Marshalls.

It is important for all Reps to attend monthly Rep Council meetings this year. Rep Training is occurring at each Rep Council versus at a weekend training.

The ProComp Agreement expires in 111 days on December 31!

The DCTA Bargaining Team will have had just a few weeks of rest between the end of negotiating the master contract and starting negotiations on the Professional Compensation System for Teachers (ProComp). Stay tuned for updates on when and where bargaining sessions will take place.

Read the ProComp Agreement here.

Pueblo Education Association needs your support!

PEA was bargaining their 2017-2018 contract at the same time we were bargaining ours. On August 30, instead of continuing to negotiate with members of PEA, the Pueblo City Schools walked away from the table and let the teachers’ contract expire. Now D60 teachers are working without a contract.

Click here to take action and tell the Pueblo City Schools Board of Education and the Superintendent to respect teachers and return to the bargaining table!
School Visits

Last week: We spent time at DCIS Montbello, Hill Middle School, Inspire Elementary, Kunsmiller, Noel Community Arts, Slavens, and Vista Academy.

This week: We will be visiting Collegiate Prep Academy, Goldrick, Hamilton, High Tech Elementary, Kunsmiller, Pascual LeDoux, Samuels, Shoemaker, Southmoor, and Steele.

If you have not had your DCTA Back to School meeting yet, email your Uniserv Director—Darnell Tingle, Jesus Altamirano, or Kate Martin—to schedule one.

Regional “Open Houses”

We are hosting regional open houses to make it more convenient for all members to remain up to date on everything happening with DCTA. Drop in to an open house near you to receive current information on your contract, upcoming events, etcetera from a Uniserv Director. This first round of meetings will also have an NEA Member Benefits Specialist discuss ways to take advantage of the various discounts available to all Union members!

Northeast Region: Wednesday, Sept 13, 3:45—6:00 pm GVR Beer Garden (4995 Argonne St.)

Southwest Region: Wednesday, Sept 20, 3:45—6:00 pm Crown Lanes Bowling Center and Sports Bar (2325 S Federal Blvd)

Central Region: Wednesday, Sept 27, 3:45—6:00 pm DCTA Office/CEA Building (1500 Grant St.)

Are you an Early Career Educator?

Rise Up is a diverse and active group of early career educators providing practical and emotional supports. We are active, social justice-oriented educators working to engage and empower others in advocating for our students and communities! Come join teachers from across the district and let’s work together to be the change we want to see for our students!

Rise Up Happy Hour, Thursday, September 21, 5:00 pm

Join Rise Up and other early career educators at Blackbird Public House (305 S Downing St)! Eat, drink, and connect with colleagues across the district. Appetizers will be provided.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

You have the right to say NO to being video taped while teaching.
Would you like to earn 15 hours of recertification credit?
ASIST Suicide Prevention Training, Friday & Saturday, Nov. 3 & 4

ASIST is an Evidence-Based Practice designed to teach professionals and non-professionals alike how to recognize suicide risk and what to say and do to keep the person safe until the next level of help can become involved. The $60 registration fee (payable to DCTA) includes 2-day interactive training, all participants’ materials, a certificate of completion, as well as continental breakfasts and lunches both days. RSVP here.

ASIST is the world’s leading suicide intervention workshop. It is a scientifically proven intervention model where participants learn to intervene and help prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Many of your colleagues have already taken this training and carried out life-saving interventions. It has saved and changed hundreds of thousands of lives around the world!

Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund & Hurricane Irma Relief Fund

We have all heard stories and seen pictures and video of the devastation Hurricane Harvey has caused. NEA and the NEA Foundation have created the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, and your support in encouraging donations to this fund is desperately needed. It is estimated that as many as 30 percent of the NEA members in Texas may be impacted and it is going to take months, and in many cases, years to recover from this historic storm. Please consider donating to the relief fund to help our Texas and Louisiana NEA family members.

Just in the past few days we have watched Hurricane Irma torment all of Florida. NEA has joined forces with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) in establishing the Hurricane Irma Relief Fund for members living in Florida. Please consider donating to the relief fund to help our Florida Union family members.
Welcome to the new DCTA members who joined in the last two weeks!

AMANDA BAUER  JENNIFER GAFF  MICHAEL OPFERMAN
MELISSA BISHOP  RONNIE GARCIA  JONATHAN PSIHOULES
MALLORY BOWDISH  TREVOR GIRTEN  BLAKE RIDER
SANDER BREGMAN  JOHN GRAVES  CHELSEA SHERMAN
ROBYN BURROWS  SHELIA HUGHES  AURORA SIMONEAU
CHRISTINE CARUSO  ROBIN JAMES  RACHELL SINEX
LESLIE COSTLEY  MEGHAN KERRIGAN  DANETTE SLATER
TEOFLO DE LA CRUZ GONZALEZ  KELSEY KIRKPATRICK  MARTA SOTO ORTIZ
JOSE ESPINOSA-SANTIAGO  RACHEL LEWIS  BRIAN SWEENEY
MIA FURTADO  ALMA OLAECHEA  WILLIAM TALLMADGE

#DefendDACA!

Call Congress and tell them to pass the bipartisan Dreamers Act of 2017!

855-764-1010

Here are some additional resources for educators, including additional ways you can help!

Our Students.  Our Profession.  Our Careers.