

## Announcements

### Sean Wybrant Named Colorado Teacher Of The Year

**Sean Wybrant**, CSEA member and CTE teacher at Palmer High was named the 2017 Colorado Teacher of the Year. To many, this is no surprise as his imagination, attitude, professionalism, and willingness to push boundaries are well known and highly successful.

In his acceptance, Sean identified many great attributes that have helped him be successful. Academic freedom and the comfort of knowing that it is encouraged in D11, the ability to collaborate with colleagues to imagine possibility and determine paths to achieve these ideas. He notes that to empower students to succeed, we must be empowered and trusted ourselves. He also identified that we need to engage the community as partners in learning.

This is a tremendous honor for Sean. Please join us in congratulating Sean and rooting for him to become National Teacher of the Year.

You can watch Sean receiving this award [here](#) and read Chalkbeat's article on the award [here](#).

### Volunteer To Help Pass The Mill And Bond

If everyone takes a shift, we can make sure that these measures pass in November. Sign up by emailing [tgemski@coloradoea.org](mailto:tgemski@coloradoea.org) or [here](#)! You can now access the volunteer sign-up link from your computer without being blocked. Please sign up to help us.

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Meet at the parking lot for Sabin Middle (3605 N. Carefree Cir., 80917) at 4 p.m. We will be walking the Village Seven area. We have a special shout out to our Sabin ARs, **Julia Chung** and **Janet Melton** for organizing this walk. Thank you Julia and Janet!

Thursday, October 13, 2016

Meet at the parking lot for CSEA (2520 N. Tejon, 80907) at 4pm. We will continue walking the central section of the District.

### **Saturday, October 15, 2016 This is a very important walk and we need your help!**

Meet at the parking lot for Russell Middle School (3825 E. Montebello Dr., 80918) at 9 a.m. We will walk targeted precincts. We are hoping for a very large turnout of support this day, and urge **everyone** who hasn't yet participated come for a couple of hours this day. There is so much at stake, and we need every member to help by giving their time. Please let us know you're coming by emailing Thad at [tgemski@coloradoea.org](mailto:tgemski@coloradoea.org) or [here](#)! Please join us for the Oktoberfest afterwards.

Additional dates and times for walks will be announced next week.

### Voter Registration

If you aren't registered to vote in El Paso County, please do so now. If you have a Colorado State driver's license or ID card issued by the Colorado Department of Revenue, you may register online at [Register Online](#). If you have not been issued a Colorado State driver's license or ID card issued by the Colorado Department of Revenue, you may register to

vote by completing a Voter Registration Form. You will need to print and sign the form then return by fax, email, mail, or hand delivery. Here is the [Voter Registration Form](#). Please fax, email, or mail completed forms to:

Fax [\(719\) 520-7327](tel:7195207327) Email [elections@elpasoco.com](mailto:elections@elpasoco.com)  
Mail Election Department, PO Box 2007, Colorado Springs, CO 80901

## Free App!

[Kahoot](#) makes learning awesome by creating, playing, and sharing learning games for free. Teachers can create their own quiz based on the current topic of study. Students can also create quizzes for their classmates to practice or review before a test. The instant feedback is sure to be a hit!

## Events

### Oktoberfest Festivities!

October 15th 11:30 am till 3:00 pm

CSEA parking lot 2520 N. Tejon St.

CSEA and ESPA members and their significant others are invited to join together for an afternoon of festivity and fun! We'll have free beer and snack food! (Past local craft beer donors include Bristol, Fieldhouse, Colorado Mountain, Red Leg, Rocky Mountain and Smiling Toad.) We will be giving away at least ten growlers to lucky guests! Food trucks will be here with food to purchase. Bring your own camp chair for comfortable seating.

Join us to celebrate the beginning of fall with this great time to gather with friends and fellow educators.

### Youth Documentary Academy Premier Screening

October 26 6:00 pm

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center 30 West Dale Street

Nine short films will be presented ranging in topics from teenage suicide, self-image, and the politics of hair. Since the founding of the Youth Documentary in 2013, dozens of young people in the Colorado Springs area have received fellowships totaling \$200,000 to train intensively in documentary filmmaking. The breadth of their work has been phenomenal and YDA, along with its partners at the Bemis School of Art and the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Institute, is proud to showcase another collection of extraordinary works produced by the next generation of filmmakers from our region. Suggested donation: \$10 adults; \$4 students

## Contract Fact

### Article XI. B. 1. Academic Freedom

The appropriate exercise of academic freedom is essential to the fulfillment of the purposes of the District. The actions of an individual teacher in carrying out an educational program appropriate to the curriculum can properly involve controversial issues which may be questioned, provided both the issue and the treatment of the issue are within the range, knowledge, maturity, and competence of the students. It is the teacher's responsibility to model respectful dialogue and critical thinking skills that allow the student to form an educated opinion. The teacher has the right to express or defer his/her opinion, but in doing so it is imperative that the teacher states that it is the teacher's own opinion and is not to be accepted as an authoritative answer. When discussing controversial issues, the student has the right to have free access to relevant information, including

materials that circulate freely in the community; to study under competent instruction in an atmosphere of freedom from bias and prejudice; and to form and express his/her own opinion on controversial issues without thereby jeopardizing his/her relationship with the teacher or the school. Teachers are assured of the support of the District when the actions of the teacher are in accord with the law and the terms and provisions of this Agreement. Furthermore, no teacher will be subject to disciplinary action for discussing controversial issues when his/her conduct is the result of professional judgment by the teacher, in accordance with District policy and regulation.

## **Articles**

### **[If We Stop Telling Kids What To Read, They Might Start Reading Again](#)**

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