Colorado League of Charter Schools

News
insights for Colorado's charter schools
www.coloradoleague.org

September 18, 2026

🐝 Back-to-school buzz

As the new school year gets underway, this week's headlines explore parent advocacy for students with autism, family engagement for English learners, and new data on microschools. Closer to home, a charter school relocation, educator homebuying assistance, and vaccination rates across the state are making an impact.

Please submit your articles and updates by Thursday at noon each week for inclusion.

Top News



17th September 2026

Microschool students keep pace academically on national test

The 74

Students attending microschools are progressing at the same rate as their peers nationally and sometimes a whole lot faster than expected.



15th September 2026

How Boulder parents rewrote school rules on autism therapy

The 74

Jenny Thamer had low hopes for the meeting called by the superintendent of the Boulder Valley School District to hear from families of autistic students.



14th September 2026

Heat, fires, hurricanes, floods: how climate change is keeping kids from school

The 74

With five simple words last year, Maine issued guidance that speaks volumes about how extreme weather is changing school.



14th September 2026

Students are self-censoring in civics class

The Dallas Morning News

When asked what would have improved her high school civics education, Caroline T. of California answered in five words: “Students not being so judgmental.”



14th September 2026

Colorado educators can get homebuying help through new state program

Chalkbeat

Colorado teachers and other public school employees can now get help with down payments and closing costs through a new state program aimed at making homeownership more attainable.

Local Views



****Colorado Board of Education rejects STEM School High School relocation into LPS**

Littleton Independent | September 16

The Colorado State Board of Education voted 6-3 to reject an appeal from KOSON Schools to relocate the high school portion of STEM School Highlands Ranch within the Littleton Public Schools (LPS) district at its Sept. 10 meeting.

Strong remarks at tonight's DPS board public comment session

Boardhawk | September 17

At the September 17 Denver Public Schools Board of Education public comment session, 14 people addressed the board and community about allegations leveled against two board members by the board President, Xóchitl Gaytán…

Colorado has 6th-lowest rate of kindergarteners vaccinated against measles [Paywall]

The Denver Post | September 14

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated about 87.7% of kindergarteners in Colorado had received both measles shots.

‘Essential infrastructure’: education groups raise concerns about FCC’s e-rate review



EdWeek | September 11

The modern school is extremely reliant on the internet.

Our guide to schools in Glenwood Springs

City Lifestyle

Glenwood Springs is considered the resort city of Colorado. This city in Garfield County is known for its hot springs and provides countless activities no matter the season.

***Colorado Charter Schools in the News*

National Views

Try these strategies to engage parents of English learners



EdWeek | September 14

Family engagement is a critical part of education, and engaging with parents or guardians of English learners offers unique challenges and opportunities.

We organized the National Civics Bee — it’s where to start if you want better workers

Fortune | September 13

Students are heading back to school in the 250th year since our nation’s founding.

‘Responsive teaching’ has never been more important, or harder



The 74 | September 13

I once walked into a second-grade classroom where the teacher, Mrs. Johnson, was introducing a new concept.

Proposed Head Start changes could cut jobs, raise family costs, analysis shows

The 74 | September 11

A little over a month after the Trump administration debuted its proposal to

dramatically reduce Head Start standards, a clearer picture is emerging of what those changes might mean for the 1,600 local programs across the country and the families they serve.



Report: how Gen Z views school and what a sense of belonging means to them

The 74 | September 11

When a 20-year-old New Yorker recently reflected on her high school experience, she said the things she learned weren't "very helpful to where I am now."

Did You Know?



Submit a workshop proposal for Annual Conference 2027

Have an idea to share at Annual Conference 2027? Submit your workshop proposal by September 30 for the opportunity to share your expertise with Colorado's charter school community.

Community Announcements

The League's Fall **Leadership Summit** is taking off in two weeks - tickets still available here.

Colorado Early Colleges Celebrates 20 Years

Colorado Early Colleges invites the community to celebrate its 20th anniversary at the Cleared for Takeoff Gala, honoring two decades of student impact and looking ahead to the future. Learn more about tickets, sponsorships, and silent auction opportunities.

Honor Charter School Celebrates Groundbreaking

Honor Charter School will celebrate the construction kickoff of Marzano Academies' newest K–8 charter school with a groundbreaking ceremony on September 29 at 3:00 PM in

Peyton. Community members are invited to join the celebration and mark the beginning of the school's new campus.

Learning Opportunities

Navigating the School Finance "Run" (Sept. 24)

Join Glenn Gustafson (CDE) and Justin Silverstein (Colorado School Finance Project) for a webinar on navigating the School Finance "Run" and understanding how the 2024 School Finance Act interacts with the 1994 School Finance Act during the phase-in period on September 24 from 9:00-10:30 AM

Education Communications Summit in Dallas (Oct. 6)

Join the K-12 Marketing & Communications Excellence Summit in Dallas on October 6. This event will bring together K-12 marketing, communications, and enrollment leaders from across the country for a full day of learning and connection. League members receive a 20% discount on registration by using code K12CONGRP at checkout. Check out the speakers, explore the sessions, and register here.

2026 Elevating Excellence Conference (Nov. 17-18)

Join CDE on November 17–18 for the free Elevating Excellence Conference. The conference will bring together educators and leaders to explore high-leverage practices, effective improvement systems, and strategies for leveraging state and federal funds to improve student outcomes.

READ Act Training Informational Webinars (ongoing)

CDE is offering live informational webinars on required READ Act training for K-3 teachers, reading interventionists and school administrators. Visit the READ Act Teacher Training page or Principal/Administrator Training page for upcoming webinar dates, times and more information.

Paid: Join nXu's Colorado Educator Advisory Council by October 2

nXu is recruiting Colorado educators for the second cohort of its Educator Advisory Council for 2026-27. Council members deliver nXu lessons with their own students and give feedback that shapes future versions of the curriculum. Open to all grade

levels and subject areas. Features five virtual sessions across the year and a $2,000 stipend. Applications close Friday, October 2.

New Colorado IEP Parent Training Available (On-demand)

CDE has launched a new online Colorado IEP Parent Training designed to support families' meaningful participation in the special education process. The training includes 10 modules covering the IEP process, parent and student rights, and state and federal special education requirements. Schools may wish to share this resource with families and special education staff.

Resources & Grants

Colorado Free Application Days Return Oct. 20-22

The Colorado Department of Higher Education's Free Application Days are coming up next month! Visit the website for a communications toolkit to use in your community.

Safe2Tell Student Ambassadors

Safe2Tell is accepting Student Ambassador applications for students in grades 10–12. Selected ambassadors help promote the program through creative projects in their schools and communities.

Special Education Advisory Committee

Applications are open for several vacancies on the Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee, including representatives from education, administration, and transition-focused organizations. Applications will remain open through January 2027.

High School Success Partnerships

Colorado high schools can partner with the Center for High School Success (CHSS), a national nonprofit focused on improving student outcomes through 9th grade. With significant funding available to offset implementation costs, participating schools can access proven strategies to boost attendance, increase on-track rates, strengthen

school culture, and improve graduation outcomes. To learn more or express interest, contact Gina Yacovetta at gyacovetta@highschoolsuccess.org.

Free State Grant Database for Charter Schools

Charter schools can access a free, centralized state grant database through Communities Lead Communities Thrive. The tool streamlines the search for state grants to support school programs and initiatives, with free access available after creating an account.

CDE Schools of Choice Updates

2026 Preliminary School Performance Frameworks Released

CDE has released the 2026 Preliminary School Performance Frameworks, giving schools an early look at performance results and key accountability indicators. Charter school leaders are encouraged to review their data, connect with their authorizer about next steps, and explore the Request to Reconsider process if applicable.

TLCC Data Relaunch Webinar Series

CDE is offering a three-part webinar series this fall to help schools and districts use TLCC educator feedback to strengthen culture, retention, and improvement planning. Sessions will be held October 8, November 5, and December 3.

Public Hearing on State Publications Rules

The State Board of Education will hold a public hearing during its Oct. 14–15 meeting on proposed updates to the State Publications Depository and Distribution Center rules. The revisions would modernize the rules, reflect current library practices, and align them with state accessibility requirements; members of the public may submit written comments or sign up to testify.

Partner Spotlight

Zen Educate

Zen Educate is a tech-driven platform that connects schools with substitute teachers and paraprofessionals, offering a streamlined alternative to traditional staffing agencies.

Upcoming Events



24 September 2026

Regional Gathering: Colorado Springs

Join your Colorado Springs Charter School leaders for a League Hosted Happy Hour.

Regional Gatherings, 2 E Pikes Peak Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903



2 October 2026

Leadership Summit 2026

Join charter school leaders, advocates, and partners from across Colorado for a day focused on the future of education, leadership, advocacy, and innovation.

Major events, 1672 Lawrence St, Denver, CO 80202



16 October 2026

Town Hall October 2026

Stay informed with timely, expert-led conversations on the issues shaping Colorado charter schools.

Town Hall

View more

Health & Wellness

Build a Sustainable Wellness Program

During this session, we will explore strategies for building, supporting, and sustaining a wellness champion program that can drive meaningful impact at your school over time. Register now.

Out-of-School Time + Youth Well-Being: A Panel Conversation

In this free virtual panel, out-of-school time leaders, mental health partners and young people will discuss what a healthy afterschool environment looks like in youth's own words. Register now.

School Staff Wellbeing Meetings

The CoP brings together professionals from across Colorado who are passionate about supporting the wellbeing of school staff for the 2026-27 Colorado School Staff Wellbeing Community of Practice (CoP).

More Health & Wellness

Careers

5-8 Counselor - Student Support Services/Guidance Counselor

Contract type: Full-Time

Salary: $52,378 - 75,848 per year

Closing date: Jun 17, 2026 02:20 PM

New Vision Charter School, Loveland, CO

Assistant Principal - Elementary

Contract type: Full-Time

Salary: $65,000 - 85,000 per year

Closing date: Jun 21, 2026 04:32 PM

Legacy Academy, Legacy Academy

Business Manager

Contract type: Full-Time

Salary: $65,000 - 75,000 per year

Closing date: Jun 30, 2026 12:00 AM

Compass for Lifelong Discovery, Compass for Lifelong Discovery

View all jobs

Recent League Newsletters

Stay connected with the latest charter school news, events, policy updates, and resources by logging in to subscribe to the League's newsletters.

- ADVOCACY NETWORK (August 20, 2026)
- NEWS (September 4, 2026) (weekly)
- MOVE (September 11, 2026) (monthly)
- LEGISLATIVE MATTERS (May 13, 2026)
- CONNECT COHORT (May 28, 2026)
- GREAT SCHOOLS COLORADO (September 17, 2026)
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