Colorado League of Charter Schools

News

insights for Colorado's charter schools

www.coloradoleague.org

September 25, 2026

🧭 Choices, change & new paths

This week's headlines explore parents' decisions about choosing the right school and questions surrounding a new federal tax-credit scholarship program. Closer to home, proposed school closures in Boulder Valley, upcoming audits of Colorado education programs and a look inside High Rockies Community School's outdoor learning model highlight the choices, challenges and innovations shaping education across the state.

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

Top News



24th September 2026

Parents should not feel guilty about choosing a good school

The 74

Nikole Hannah-Jones' new essay about her daughter's school offers lessons

about education, standards and parent choice.



23rd September 2026

Federal tax credits for K-12 scholarships: What we know (and don't)

EdWeek

The Trump admin. is preparing to issue rules for its new, ambitious school choice program.



23rd September 2026

Boulder Valley School District plans to close four schools

NPR

The Boulder Valley School Board voted Tuesday night to move forward with a school consolidation plan that has stirred up anger among parents and caused sometimes raucous community pushback.



22nd September 2026

Controversial Colorado education group will be audited

Chalkbeat

Colorado officials plan to seek third-party

audits of a controversial public education group and its homeschool enrichment program.



21st September 2026

High Rockies Community School: “A whole forest instead of a playground.”

Boardhawk

One recent sun-kissed morning, 16 middle-schoolers sat on tree stumps in a semi-circle in a flower-strewn meadow, as teacher and school cofounder Kristine Helsper, working on a portable whiteboard perched on an easel, ran through a lesson on number patterns.

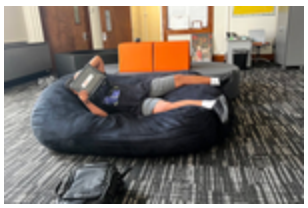
Local Views

****Stone Creek Charter School hosts their 20th annual Jog-a-Thon Friday**

VailDaily | September 23

Stone Creek Charter School is inviting the community to rally with them to raise $55,000 to help fund field trips and activities for students from kindergarten through eighth grade. The school’s annual Jog-a-Thon will take place at the Edwards Recreation Center Friday, Sept. 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Denver is opening more specialized classrooms as the number of students with autism grows



Chalkbeat | September 22

The autism center at Denver’s West High School is twice as big as a typical classroom and more than half as empty.

The Denver school board drama drags on — investigation into alleged antisemitic comments OK'd

Boardhawk | September 18

The Denver school board on Thursday, Sept. 17, voted unanimously to launch an investigation into allegations that board Director Monica Hunter made antisemitic comments about fellow board member Amy Klein Molk, who is Jewish.

Denver school board authorizes investigation into alleged use of antisemitic language



Chalkbeat | September 17

The Denver school board has ordered an investigation into allegations that Vice President Monica Hunter used a derogatory term to refer to a Jewish board member.

Strong remarks at tonight's Denver school 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, with an assist from Superintendent Alex Marrero.

***Member Schools*

National Views

Jewish charter school approved to open in Oklahoma amid legal disputes

KOCO | September 24

A federal court has ruled that the Ben Gamla Jewish Charter School can operate in Oklahoma while legal challenges over public funding for religious schools continue.

Bishops ask Supreme Court for Catholic inclusion in Colorado universal preschool program

EWTN News | September 24

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Catholic schools in Colorado that want to be included in the state's universal preschool program.

Teach For America was once a movement. What happened?



Fordham Institute | September 24

Few organizations have shaped education reform as profoundly as Teach For America.

As White House reviews new education tax credit rules, questions remain

The 74 | September 23

Experts gathered at Harvard University last week to discuss what one speaker said will be the 'largest and least-regulated' federal K-12 program.

Feds target school internet subsidies in ed-tech backlash even as Trump touts AI



Chalkbeat | September 23

Like many parents, Arielle Roth has concerns about her children's screen time at school. But unlike her peers, she's in a position to influence the issue at nearly every school in America.

The academic year is getting Longer, but students aren't getting more school

The 74 | September 21

With vacation breaks, long weekends and religious holidays, 180 days of instruction in Fairfax County, Virginia, stretch out over 297 days.

Did You Know?



Leadership Summit 2026 Is Next Week!

There's still time to register for this one-day gathering of charter school leaders focused on learning, connection, and forward-thinking conversations. Don't miss it!

Community Announcements

****Charter Network Releases RFP for BEST Grant Services**

Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools, Inc. has released an RFP for BEST

Grant Services. Learn more on their website.

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

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.

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

Golden Triangle Construction

GTC is a full-service, commercial general contractor that has successfully completed a wide variety of projects along the Colorado Front Range since 1977.

Upcoming Events



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



5 November 2026

Regional Gathering: Fort Collins

Join your Fort Collins Charter School leaders for a League Hosted Happy Hour.

Regional Gatherings

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 18, 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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Colorado League of Charter Schools

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