Welcome

Dear New School Developers,

The decision to start a charter public school is a monumental one and indicates a commitment to taking the time necessary to research, build support, assemble a team and ultimately design a school that meets a need in your community. When asked what the most critical element is in developing a successful school, we have learned that it always comes back to TIME!

*It typically takes 18 months to three years to bring a school from theory to reality.* The first phase alone, if done well, is very time consuming as you research charter school law and best practice, visit other schools, learn about the state accountability system, garner support in the community and build a team with a diverse set of skills. To learn more about the many steps involved in charter school development, please visit the Start a Charter Colorado Flowchart to gain quick access to many of the resources necessary to start a school.

No matter what phase of development you are in, this monthly newsletter will offer you critical resources, helpful tips and information about important events and trainings so that your school can have a solid foundation with a high likelihood of success.

If you haven't scheduled a face to face meeting with us yet, please do so at your convenience!

Lori Ventimiglia, Director, New School Development
Colorado League of Charter Schools
303-989-5356, ext. 113
lventimiglia@coloradoleague.org

Kathy Zlomke, Program Manager, New School Development
Colorado League of Charter Schools
303-989-5356, ext. 104
New Date! Onboarding Your Charter School
(for Fall 2016 Cohort of Approved or Nearly Approved Schools)

Date: Wednesday, November 30
Time: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Cost: Special new school pricing - $75 per group! Please bring more than one person to this training (ideally two board members and administrator, if hired).
Location: Colorado League of Charter Schools' Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver
Description: Fall 2016 Cohort of Approved Charter Schools Scheduled to Open in 2017 or Beyond - Sign Up Now for Onboarding Your Charter School

Now that your charter application has been approved, what's next? This training will help you navigate through the complexities of the startup phase; presenting a clear path forward as your school moves from theory to reality. With a combination of sessions and personalized office hours with various League staff across all of the critical areas of Year-0, Onboarding is designed to help you effectively identify next steps and understand how to implement them across the following critical areas of school startup:

- Navigating the Facilities Maze
- Entering into and Negotiating Contracts
- Hiring and Developing a Strong Leadership Team
- Transitioning to a Formal Governing Board

You may be eligible for planning grants to cover the cost of this training (contact Lori Ventimiglia).

Registration: Click here to register. Deadline: Friday, November 25.
This event is contingent on a minimum of 5 registrants.

Planning Grants

The process of developing a school is a mammoth undertaking and best accomplished when taken in steps. These steps should be sequential and...
Tip and Resources for Schools in the Planning Phase

**Charter School Startup Plan: Phases 0-2**

This resource addresses charter public schools at their very earliest stage of development all the way through application submission. The Phase 0-2 Startup Plan guides developing groups in navigating the vast and complex tasks and activities that go into developing a charter public school and is structured so that groups can see the ideal timing of each task and keep track of who is responsible for each activity.

Tip and Resources for Schools in the Startup Phase

**Charter School Startup Plan: Phase 3**

This resource guides newly approved charter public schools through the variety of tasks that are involved in moving a charter school from theory to reality. From hiring a Head of School, to purchasing equipment, this startup plan will help you understand the steps involved in turning the charter application into a charter school.

**Stand Out: A School Guide to Marketing**

An important part of ensuring that Colorado children get the quality education they deserve is letting them know about the options available to them. Stand Out: A Guide to School Marketing includes tips and tricks on spreading the word about your school to the community.

In Every Issue

The following information is included in each newsletter as they are valuable resources to keep on your radar.

**New School Development Resources**

Visit the League's New School Development page for sample model documents, upcoming events, information about grants and much more. Check back frequently for updates!

**Community Presentation Resources**

- Video: [http://coloradoleague.org/?page=aboutcharterschool](http://coloradoleague.org/?page=aboutcharterschool)
- FACTS: [http://coloradoleague.org/?charterschoolfacts](http://coloradoleague.org/?charterschoolfacts)
- Infographics: [http://coloradoleague.org/?infographics](http://coloradoleague.org/?infographics)
- Website: [http://www.charterpublic.org/](http://www.charterpublic.org/)
  (Great for messaging your charter school)
Information from CDE Schools of Choice Office
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdechart/chartregstart.asp - This is the events page for the Schools of Choice unit at CDE. This site should also be checked frequently as there are always important and relevant workshops and seminars for developing schools that CDE Schools of Choice offers.

CDE’s Schools of Choice Office provides a variety of Technical Assistance events for developing, new, and continuing charter schools. You can learn more about these offerings, see their schedule of events, and register for their trainings at http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdechart/charlecalendar

CDE’s Schools of Choice Office puts out a twice-monthly "SOC Update" email and other important announcements through its Charter School ListServ. To sign up visit: http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdechart/joinlistserv

Mark Your Calendar

Whether you are in the planning phase, have been approved or are a Year-1 school, there are critical professional development opportunities listed below. If you are unclear as to whether or not you should attend a training listed below, please contact the New School Development department to inquire further. Please continue to check the League Calendar for upcoming trainings.

Implementing Effective Data Teams

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

**Note: Registration and payment covers three separate "events." Please make sure you can attend each one.**

Dates/Times:
- Thursday, November 3 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM
- Friday, January 13 | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 14 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Location: Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue., Denver
Cost: League Members and New School Developers: $350 per person for all three sessions. | Non-Members: $450 per person for all three sessions | $200 for each additional attendee.
Target Audience: Teachers, Administrators, Instructional Coaches, Support Staff, Interventionists
Description: In this series of professional development sessions, participants will create a Professional Development product called the "Data Team Action Research Plan". Participants will be asked to gather formative and summative assessment data to bring to each PD session, set goals that drive the data team, analyze student work samples, engage in learning intervention based instructional strategies, and participate in a lesson vs. assessment study.
Registration: Click here for more information and to register.
Deadline: Monday, October 31.

Colorado Literacy Symposium
Hosted by McGraw Hill Education  
**Date:** Thursday, November 3  
**Time:** 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM  
**Location:** Courtyard Marriott Denver Cherry Creek, 475 Colorado Blvd., Denver  
**Cost:** Free (lunch provided)  
**Description:** McGraw Hill Education would like you to join them for a day of learning. The workshop's morning session, Teaching Reading With Complex Text, will feature guest speaker Dr. Timothy Shanahan. The afternoon session will focus on the resources Open Court/Imagine It User Group.  
7:30-8:30: Breakfast  
8:30-11:30: National Literacy Expert, Dr. Timothy Shanahan speaks on Text Complexity  
11:30-12:30: Lunch  
12:30-3:30: Open Court/Imagine It Users Group  
Come for the afternoon or the full day. The choice is yours!  
**Registration:** [Click here for more information and to register.](#)  

Lunch & Learn: Increase Your College Student Stats with these Pros  
*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*  
**Date:** Friday, November 4  
**Time:** 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver  
**Description:** Get your students successfully into college with the power of these 3 innovative tools:  
**Story2College:** Help students conquer college admission essays all in one place.  
**Brigidit2College:** Move students from acceptance to enrollment with this interactive roadmap.  
**Mountain Financial:** Show students how to afford/pay for the college of their choice.  
Join us for live presentations and demos from each of these providers. You'll get a great lunch, too.  
**Registration:** [Click here to register.](#) **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 2.  

Introduction to the UIP  
*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 9  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (with optional office hours from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)  
**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver  
**Cost:** League Members: $50 for one person and $25 for each additional attendee; Non-Members: $75 for one person and $25 for each additional attendee.  
**Note:** Lunch will not be provided, but light refreshments will be available.  
**Description:** Come to this session if you are new to the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP). We will give an overview of the UIP, walk through the timeline, template, and how to access the information you need to
complete yours.

Review the State’s Accountability System (SPF, etc.), timelines and how they fit into the goals of school improvement planning, discover what you need to know about the UIP for 2016-17, receive updates with State Assessment Transition, reporting, access to your data and tools and resources available to you. Time will NOT be given to work in the UIP (see UIP workshops).

**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Monday, November 7.
Event is contingent on a minimum of 5 registrants.

---

**Writing SMART Goals for Colorado’s Accountability System (Denver/Metro)**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Thursday, November 10  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (with optional work time from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)  
**Cost:** League Members and New School Developers: $50 for one person and $25 each additional attendee; Non-Members: $75 for one person and $25 each additional attendee  
**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Description:** The focus of this session will be to establish realistic, yet challenging targets that are aligned to your new PARCC data and increasing your awareness of tools you have access to. We will also look at tools you can use to set targets for some of your local data (including K-3 data, DIBELS, STAR, NWEA-MAP, etc) to inform decision making and begin the Action Planning process. The goal will be to develop a plan that is focused, thorough, and measurable in order to produce a document that can be used to monitor progress.

If needed, we will review the State’s Accountability System (SPF, etc.), timelines and how they fit into the goals of school improvement planning, discover what you need to know about the UIP for 2016-17, receive updates with State Assessment Transition, reporting, access to your data and tools and resources available to you. Time will NOT be given to work in the UIP (unless you stay for office hours or attend a UIP workshop).

**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Monday, November 7.
Event is contingent on a minimum of 5 attendees.

---

**Lunch & Learn: Encourage Learning with the Right Furniture Selections**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, November 11  
**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Description:** In the last 3 or 4 years there has been an explosion of product supporting 21st century learning and collaborative learning. There are also products that can save schools a lot of money, and products that will encourage kids to want to stay on campus. OfficeScapes is passionate about the fact that, for the first time, it offers products that encourage
learning and increase test scores versus just providing combo desks that provide crowd control. Attend this Lunch and Learn to hear about the latest innovations in learning environments.

**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 9.

## Writing SMART Goals for Colorado's Accountability System (Colorado Springs)

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Monday, November 14  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (with optional work time from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM)  
**Cost:** League Members and New School Developers: $50 for one person and $25 each additional attendee; Non-Members: $75 for one person and $25 each additional attendee  
**Location:** James Irwin Charter Schools, 5525 Astrozon Blvd., Colorado Springs  

**Description:** The focus of this session will be to establish realistic, yet challenging targets that are aligned to your new PARCC data and increasing your awareness of tools you have access to. We will also look at tools you can use to set targets for some of your local data (including K-3 data, DIBELS, STAR, NWEA-MAP, etc) to inform decision making and begin the Action Planning process. The goal will be to develop a plan that is focused, thorough, and measurable in order to produce a document that can be used to monitor progress.

If needed, we will review the State's Accountability System (SPF, etc), timelines and how they fit into the goals of school improvement planning, discover what you need to know about the UIP for 2016-17, receive updates with State Assessment Transition, reporting, access to your data and tools and resources available to you. Time will NOT be given to work in the UIP (unless you stay for office hours or attend a UIP workshop).

**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 9.  
Event is contingent on a minimum of 5 attendees.

## Webinar Series: The School Safety Plan (Webinar 3 of 5)

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Tuesday, November 15  
**Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
**Cost:** Free  

**Description:** The Safe Schools Act for Colorado can be read in C.R.S. 22-32-109.1: http://schoolsafetysummit.org/safe-schools/  
The Act requires all schools, including charter public schools, to adopt and implement a safe school plan. This School Safety Plan webinar series focuses on subsection (4) of the Act and will lead each participating charter public school through a step-by-step process to build and complete their school-specific plan by June 30, 2017. This webinar series (5 webinars) will help schools establish a school response framework consisting of policies described in subsection (4) of the Act. By satisfying the requirements of subsection (4), a school shall be in compliance with the national incident management system, referred to in this subsection (4) as "NIMS", developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
Registration: Click here to register. **Deadline:** Monday, November 14.
Please register using a valid email address and the URL will be sent to you before November 15.

**Business Manager Network Meeting**
In Conjunction with Tech Talk Quarterly

*Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools and CDE Schools of Choice Unit*

**Date:** Friday, November 18

**Time:** Registration 8:45 AM; Meeting 9:15 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Lowry Conference Center, 1061 Akron Way, Denver

**Cost:** $35 per person

**Description:** These meetings are hosted jointly by the SOC Unit and the Colorado League of Charter Schools and occur bi-monthly on Fridays during the school year. Each meeting includes the Business Manager 101 course for those with less than three years’ experience, networking and troubleshooting for more experienced managers, and Responsive and Technical Expert presentations on key issues of relevance to all business managers.

Registration: Click here to register. **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 16.
Event is contingent on a minimum of 5 attendees.

**Tech Talk Quarterly**
In Conjunction with Business Manager Network Meeting

*Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Date:** Friday, November 18

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Lowry Conference Center, 1061 Akron Way, Denver

**Cost:** $25 per person

**Audience:** IT Managers, Administrators, Business Managers

**Description:** These meetings enable charter school technology personnel to regularly network and share best practices with one another. The Colorado League of Charter Schools hosts, facilitates and coordinates these quarterly meetings in an effort to learn about and provide the resources and tools needed by schools to: 1) Develop effective technology plans for their organizations; 2) Develop efficient and cost-effective methods of implementation; and 3) Maximize the performance of their technology in growing student achievement levels.

Registration: Click here to register. **Deadline:** Wednesday, November 16.

**Close Reading Strategies**

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

**Note:** Registration and payment covers three separate events. Before registering please make sure you can attend all three.

**Dates/Times:**

- Close Reading Strategies 101 | Monday, November 21 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver
- Close Reading Strategies 102 | Tuesday, December 6 | 12:00 PM -
3:30 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

- Close Reading Strategies 103 | Thursday, February 2 | 12:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Cost:**
- League Members: $300 per person for all three sessions
- Non-Members: $400 per person for all three sessions | $200 for each additional attendee

**Target Audience:**
Teachers, Reading and/or Literacy Specialists and Interventionists, Reading Across the Curriculum Teachers, Instructional Coaches

**Description:**
In this series of professional development sessions, participants will learn a variety of ways to teach Common Core State Standards through close reading rituals or strategies. These strategies can be used across the content areas. Teachers will be able to experience the close reading rituals with a variety of text, adjust existing lesson plans to embed and implement the close reading strategies, promote close reading strategies and rituals, embed interventions, and receive quality feedback through peer to peer teaching and coaching of the close reading strategies.

Lunch will be provided at each session.

**Registration:**[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

**Deadline:** Friday, November 18.

---

**Onboarding Your Charter School**
(for Fall 2016 Cohort of Approved Schools)

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*

This training is offered twice a year to accommodate those groups who are approved by their authorizer in the spring as well as the groups approved in the fall.

**Date:** Wednesday, November 30

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Cost:** Special new school pricing! $75 per group: Please bring more than one person to this training (ideally two board members and administrator, if hired).

**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

**Description:**
Fall 2016 Cohort of Approved Charter Schools
Scheduled to Open in 2017 or Beyond - Sign Up Now for Onboarding Your Charter School

Now that your charter application has been approved, what's next? Attend this training as you navigate through the complexities of the startup phase; presenting a clear path forward as your school moves from theory to reality. With a combination of sessions and personalized office hours with various League staff across all of the critical areas of year-0, Onboarding is designed to help you effectively identify next steps and understand how to implement them across the following critical areas of school startup:

- Navigating the Facilities Maze
- Entering into and Negotiating Contracts
- Hiring and Developing a Strong Leadership Team
- Transitioning to a Formal Governing Board

You may be eligible for planning grants to cover the cost of this training
(contact Lori Ventimiglia).
**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Friday, November 25.
This event is contingent on a minimum of 5 registrants.

### Colorado Council on High School & College Relations Annual Conference

**Date:** Thursday, December 1 - Friday, December 2  
**Location:** Colorado Springs Marriott, 5580 Tech Center Drive, Colorado Springs  
**Description:** Featuring breakout sessions for counselors, administrators, testing coordinators, community based organizations and more. Plenty of networking opportunities abound!  
**Registration:** Click here for more information and to register.

### Building Your Formative Assessment Practice

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools*  
**Date:** Thursday, December 1  
**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
**Location:** Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool, 6857 S. Spruce Street, Centennial  
**Cost:** League Members: $175 for one person and $100 for each additional attendee; Non-Members: $225 for one person and $100 for each additional attendee  
**Description:** Participants will develop an understanding of formative assessment as part of a balanced assessment system and have opportunities to learn three key strategies for putting formative assessment to work in the classroom. Basic research behind key formative assessment strategies is shared, and educators are provided with ample time for planning focused on implementing:  
  * high-quality learning targets  
  * practices that elicit evidence of learning  
  * protocols for providing effective feedback in the classroom  

**Registration:** Click here to register. **Deadline:** Thursday, November 17.  
Event is contingent on a minimum of 20 attendees.

### Lunch & Learn: Educate and Inspire the Next Generation of Global Citizens

*Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools and EF: Education First*  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 6  
**Time:** 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
**Cost:** Free  
**Location:** Colorado League of Charter Schools Conference Room, 2696 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 250, Denver  
**Description:** Transform the way your students look at the world-and themselves. Join this energizing session to learn how to make global perspectives a reality for all your students.  
**Connect...**
With colleagues from your school and other charter schools who share a similar passion for developing global citizenship and leadership skills in students.

Engage...
With other educators in round-table discussions around what it means to be globally competent, how that impacts student success in college and career and how these skills can be fostered.

Be inspired...
To take steps toward developing a global education program in your school and providing students and teachers with opportunities for experiential learning abroad.

Registration: Click here to register. Deadline: Friday, December 2.

Data Coaching and Interpretation

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Wednesday, December 7
Time: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Cost: League Members: $175 for one person and $100 each additional attendee; Non-Members: $225 for one person and $100 each additional attendee
Location: Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver
Description: Is your team analyzing data to inform instruction and help students improve? Finding meaning is the bridge between data and action. Data interpretation can be informative, empowering, and tricky too! This workshop focuses on implementing effective data analysis to inform instructional action, while avoiding unsupportable generalizations.

Participants will:

- Apply general assessment and interpretation concepts to the analysis of your data
- Understand the repercussions of making inferences not supported by data
- Implement a framework of protocols to help avoid making premature data judgments
- Interpret data to identify possible instructional actions
- Understand common challenges in accepting analyses and discuss strategies for moving past those barriers
- Identify strategies for data time

Target Audience: Assessment Staff, Curriculum Coordinators, Principals, Assistant Principals, Teachers, Special Education Staff, Instructional Coaches
Registration: Click here to register. Deadline: Monday, November 21.
Event is contingent on a minimum of 16 attendees.

PowerSchool: A Day in the Life of a Registrar

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools

Date: Thursday, December 8
Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Location: Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver
Cost: League Member: $75 for one person and $25 for each additional attendee; Non-Member: $100 for one person and $25 for each additional attendee

Meals: Snacks (lunch will not be provided).

Description: Attend this mid-year refresher and review how your systems are working, items you are struggling with, and share tips and tricks. We will discuss registration duty best practices including enrollment, data management for reporting and others. Time will be allotted for attendees to share out and work through their challenges and questions.

Audience: Registrar, secretary or anyone involved in entering or maintaining student data in PowerSchool.

Trainer: Nyssa Strom, Student Information Coordinator, Victory Preparatory Academy

Registration: Click here to register. Deadline: Friday, December 2. Event contingent on a minimum of 10 registrants.

Novice Teachers: Effective Instructional Strategies to Support Positive Student Outcomes

Hosted by the Colorado League of Charter Schools

**Note:** Registration and payment covers three separate "events". Please make sure you can attend each one before registering.**

Dates/Times/Locations:

- Tuesday, January 10 | 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver
- Dates TBD | On-Site Observation and Instructional Coaching Sessions
- Wednesday, March 15 | 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM | Colorado League of Charter Schools Training Center, 4201 E. Yale Avenue, Denver

Cost: League Members and New School Developers: $500 per person for both PD sessions and On-Site Observation and Instructional Coaching; Non-Members: $600 per person.

Target Audience: Teachers in years 1-3 of teaching, Interventionists who teach larger groups of students, and anyone who is looking to improve their instructional practices in the classroom.

Description: In this series of professional development sessions that includes an on-site observation and instructional coaching session, participants will engage in a variety of effective instructional strategies to practice and then implement in the classroom. Research states that instructional strategies need to be practiced over 20 times in order to become an automatic part of instruction practice. This takes opportunities for practice, feedback and mentorship, planning and development of teaching routines, on-going support, and a risk taking learning environment that supports teachers with a growth mindset.

Registration: [Click here for more information and to register.](#)


2017 Colorado Charter Schools Conference

*Empowering Tomorrow's Superheroes*

Hosted by Colorado League of Charter Schools
Date: Thursday, February 23 - Friday, February 24
Location: Omni Interlocken Hotel, 500 Interlocken Blvd., Broomfield
Cost: Special discounted pricing for new school developing groups
Description: The Colorado Charter Schools Conference is one of the most comprehensive professional development opportunities for new and veteran charter public school staff, boards, administrators and teachers.

After attending the Conference, you will feel:

- Able to leap tall building in a single bound thanks to knowledge from over 60 breakout sessions.
- More powerful than a locomotive with your new network of over 800 charter professionals and experts.
- Faster than the speed of light and ready to empower Tomorrow's Superheroes.

Registration and Information: [www.cocharterconference.org](http://www.cocharterconference.org)

Colorado League of Charter Schools, 2696 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 250, Denver, CO 80222

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient’s email}
Forward email | Update Profile | About our service provider
Sent by lventimiglia@coloradoleague.org in collaboration with Constant Contact®
Try it free today