

# TEA Tidbits--April 9, 2021

Dear TEA members,

## TEA Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

Dear members,

The TEA Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship given by TEA each year to the children of TEA or TESPA members. All children of TEA/TESPA members who are seniors in high school are eligible to apply. They must attend college or trade school in the fall 2021 semester in order to receive the scholarship. The scholarship is merit-based--students are evaluated on certain criteria. TEA has set aside $3,000 for scholarship awards.

[Please view these instructions](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/P8Elou2Rvc0qoMPEUZrMXcOpy_XqN4R2ZGjoK-5zZnnYnpkaStNX9Wr02v9MR3-8I-zIIozHZIiCsJkjUtU9o19TObi0KPerUYbhXKolmvvir4Y8d36yqd3Mu2oG3lgPCOsRFib2H_SNlT-OTzBEuUPXnZoDTWVmZT9ESx-I4v6Ru3W53lVNWdHTghQ5o5VutE1ok5zpQDHJagpID2U-cvO1sgEAZsS_3408tIzuYxhW8sI2J6DfiaPH6QK7nVx-Hc6wWVN2usWfDfVtWFVN1ZDq6uiZiBm5JCasgFA4bc1IgykpQcntAfF1kazq8i7qYdmNjpJEyF2yelNzo_ngMSqnlF2E1C825-BN6C1bJn0/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h0/INWB5VBjxS4wA6nnmWahy_P46zDSaQ_XmvSxETn4g54) before completing the application. You can download the application [here.](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/P8Elou2Rvc0qoMPEUZrMXcOpy_XqN4R2ZGjoK-5zZnnYnpkaStNX9Wr02v9MR3-8lPhagiI6S2dtXJm7KUL-Fthef-ETCvMr3jSzqP15tRDqLO5o3YXDh2Uijc-qOgeSbJZsykhBWjtIaWRjsT8kvMBxwT0A9olJ2P7c8AjK2TiZhv_FNqK5ehaMPzKyZoGMsl2KqXLg7mTdAykjiQ3j0CX91ssPHxYm2Y4PnIJP23Evu4N5RGzzDYFqcjMk8edh2tvJKth7gplCRvi7pxLixZPg5D9ow4hvphZzuUCpUlb4ypcsCm9ezcQwxkaoXAzPOiChQ25WlIgakDeMDxIkbNKCI3iIe0CH0hSdN9J0sA8cXRXW8KQIx8cNgGh-KKsHnTCEcH0ZC53qNvpfDTwIlLZj8Q7mwFmhPBf-er-mT6TrDZL0JntO0JfzPYCJlHF3IuXxHwk8paJz387Cl3vllZCMzv7zFwQwyk8TQh8-jS54ComozJ6ZH0HQiBGd9sBb/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h1/aZ-LjrB1KfiLucAX86Rkk5nwvoPRPbRwlZ-OlU_YF0Q)

Scholarship applications are due to the TEA office by the end of the day on Monday, April 19. Winning students will be notified no later than Friday, May 7. If you have any questions about the scholarship program, please contact William Sherman, TEA scholarship chair, at [william.sherman@thompsonschools.org](mailto:william.sherman@thompsonschools.org)

**Protecting Our Schools Together (POST) Tool!**

We’re facing challenges we never expected and you're rising to the occasion.

Remember you’re not alone. TEA and NEA have recently launched a Protect Our Schools Together (POST) tool that aims to identify health and safety concerns in your workplace.

Here’s a link to the tool you can use or share with your colleagues:

[http://www.thompsoneducationassociation.org/post.html](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/mRshnjzLbfRUAJcmEcvG03xPgN-IGkuQShJp1-DHp7IO-ZdzwMMEryXQf3Jh3Ar1EVLJWHQcCPWEeg8Y6eKqq7CCUs2qwOm6JBeTpZ18ZaamcRExfFItjoidLfXaU3co6V4ToJwweQJyUDjSXU-tKMq3hc5EpBKExKnWhswbyUuZ8dE8UCCpLxWq77FUsvK9jqbsUdPVZsxQN5feTd3ebWnEDUcpJC_Fqt6koTBvzUIUSUCUjS5UEWSinm5QN0SbXlPsr1D020UxdGglVKF1IN5lacuZrBrB56nyfhG-040/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h2/7RIudhAcMEvcaxSPx8pOsbrfNwZawPRwoSFqtwicsEo)

When you complete the form, you’ll receive a variety of resources

that you can use immediately to address your concerns. We’ll also

connect with you and other educators to figure out how to best advocate for our schools, our students, and our community.   
Together we can ensure the funding, resources, and support we need, and our students deserve.

[http://www.thompsoneducationassociation.org/post.html](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/mRshnjzLbfRUAJcmEcvG03xPgN-IGkuQShJp1-DHp7IO-ZdzwMMEryXQf3Jh3Ar1EVLJWHQcCPWEeg8Y6eKqq96AwuI7KL9szclNMbl2OSPk1TYxc_pilkH-zbbEBcMVrg7tcUnEt94jr5a1guVjN0EVOjnH98CHjTNSJymyck1t2VtGUnofNKtvMdN8QBUGIfbH8slLYai2ZZmCV0IZZyL5HJZRYswwH01b-v4C2ze1jSIxhUmPosuJQcTDOi7XLyxBvRBY70-oRrmixUaej6N8fVJecCzR39C0rAFMx2M/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h3/KlmVyaPxEhhcdj3Ohp6f2XvIhDCoCCtnwCVhar5xpT0)

## Write to Congress!

**Fully fund programs for low-income students and students with disabilities**

o   The Keep Our Pact Act (S. 72/H.R. 764) would create a mandatory 10-year path to fully funding both Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)—critical programs for the students most in need. Title I programs for low-income students and schools were shortchanged by nearly $30 billion in the 2019-20 school year. Congress promised to pay 40 percent of the excess costs of special education services when IDEA was first passed, but has never come close—the federal share is now less than 14 percent. The COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the unfortunate consequences of these funding gaps, draining resources from cash-strapped schools and reducing access to support programs. Students from low-income households ill-equipped for remote learning have been hit especially hard, as have students with disabilities who need extra support. Now is the time to fulfill America’s promise of equal opportunity for all our students.NEA provided our principles for strengthening child nutrition programs to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry in connection with the committee hearing last week on Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR). [Email your members of Congress and tell them to cosponsor and support the Keep Our PACT Act](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/XlxiKm-amnZREMhISCI1HVVLR_qT_0S7OZtbrfhXYm6l82DNRAot53_Zih4TPGCLGg5QnpaaOiiWe26SeP5qQ2ZVDzZBv4HcbJFWJ-7IYEL33PYpgKY9yfOihp_edLqA1GQAQrSrg3maYod2ww6J9k4Aw7vgprdbJPS6wZ_qjrVxRLA1lnL-_EP62GKY3FMoRvzcNavX6JuKvfTwjuwCtfVr2cACFgva2fI84xQQl9o2g5yxC8xKeISO8LK_CNX5pPkT7MGm5ttkV9BObZJ0RpE-ssEMYkktweJmEQ89UYyPgQf4xsmNjVH1pM40qBOO32U0qU8noQD3GL_BFO6r-s2qzZFRhqcRwOSeGjmS174YFOQZaF5pZj-N3wzRuepB/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h4/Z-_cXDDZ1FVBim4A0dh_8h6zJY374BA67NZR1MQ9OAs).

**Cancel the student loan debt of teachers with 10 years of public service**

o   NEA is urging Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to cancel the student loan debt of qualified public sector workers on the frontlines of our response to COVID-19—teachers, nurses, and other essential workers serving communities all across America. Created in 2007, the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) was designed to encourage college graduates to pursue careers in education, health care, firefighting, and other forms of public service. The program promised to wipe away federal student debt after 120 qualifying monthly payments—10 years’ worth of payments. Instead, under the failed leadership of Betsy DeVos, the Department of Education rejected 98 percent of the PSLF applications filed since 2017, when the first public sector workers became eligible for relief. And that’s just the tip of the iceberg—for every qualified borrower whose application has been rejected, tens of thousands more have been knocked off course or never sought relief. A letter to Cardona signed by more than a dozen leading public sector unions, including NEA, urges immediate relief for qualified borrowers who already have a decade of public service. [Email Education Secretary Cardona and tell him to provide relief NOW](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/XlxiKm-amnZREMhISCI1HVVLR_qT_0S7OZtbrfhXYm6l82DNRAot53_Zih4TPGCL9p1lwWis3Oh9g8SHCeVgyp7ebQI7tSbebtrwsAxtdgaKjMIBAZaX6O8u15uqPu5VsJAIXRDZobBcghSMxd8A-x4XWshn9TrRuUbWnNmCYkPGuMog_hTf8LqzUjtOz4UR4rtQWFVVkBdgNGfsLZR5y-oh3vxuV9oTddJIyV0ScDBIymfPWcjJcJMSgY7BEDZ3UbMAQ1N8MJCtpGL_vdYM8x81jn7jPAbX8AWlo_FkwolcBvucYe1B0--b9E2B9aZ8tbkY0WWb-0Enbz4ZYGs5k-KRCVuL2AmV4mZ4mwI7pQC6iryy4lQucjq5lKdDAdrG/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h5/2dHBrVCDEOyOTY7qGy2B1QDDMd_-1OBQriDvH2DTgs0).

### School Counselors, School Social Workers, and School Psychologists: Check your email for a survey from CEA Educator Burnout!

o   This survey is conducted by CEA Graduate Research Intern Lena Knechtel, in conjunction with another Graduate Intern from MSU Denver, as part of a capstone project for the MSU Denver MSW Program. It will investigate how burnt-out respondents are, how supported they feel at their schools, and how supported they feel by their union. Results will focus on how survey respondents can be better supported and on what factors (such as demographic criteria) are associated with higher rates of burnout or higher rates of support. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. **If you’re a school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist and you did not receive an email inviting you to take this survey, please access the survey here:** [**https://coloradoea.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_bPL4CQwffnMN2FU**](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/Mqag7sW8TIW-nixyBdulQnUxZ_25r3V4PSBDSuD9fMA030eFNN1Z3V_6aPrqfzpjtCBsAbKz4ngvbKX0EH3JNwCDuT-lIe3ubTQP01NsJsPTwxCkbtUNkkBW8px3UhsaEM5oZWGkUZu5f0Hg5uAc76bp2jGd5KY_FyvpXbmUySu69lWagkcGjAr8W-wCshByKlPCNW9LbbJWOaZn0o30FYpk5kAlnHUUFCB4Lic_mGO01t4I_TNsNDOVzLzNxl35W-KLTqrXT91ftcpL8fAgcP2djhApEDLsSsCg2r-52wj6cdxZlxJBt_NoGO0IEang/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h6/RFugECzQdvQBjz8R7X2CdpoELZrhfKgxxxZESi365Po)

## ESS/SSP Workload Calculator--please fill out!

CEA has put together a task force to develop a workload calculator for Special Educators & Specialized Service Providers (SSPs), including Itinerant Teachers, across the state of Colorado. We are currently gathering data across the state of Colorado to inform planning around the Federal Requirements portion of our workloads. Please provide your district and role; then estimate the average time required to complete the following federally-mandated tasks. Your input will help us to determine the weight of different tasks across the workload of different types of providers and different regions. Thank you for participating!

Click here to access the survey: [Workload Considerations for Educators](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/A7GQnnr_XzUYyessq5BiRO3aJQsFQyl6QV873rzn78Qsqan2VpAUGBFSUqnTaacal0lacKwdbmhFjFdAzbNgOIFgCrVbd4oGvEThN_TihI0346Gw2nA9y4J_Li-LyRlsGJhSNDX_UTcB3k4Dxbbue9lgYqyvB5I1zMFOWIl6ACt14HYiEv6cBiBx8K8S20_5Y_0wXERJMqc48YXO-Ff9QsCfnbtxP24BVbzUv4ciFncR9jMqG6ZugAt95qB276AtMj7yIo08mvL2LcriQHJ4jg/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h8/Lg46QJCxHDMlZY7Bf5mSlsuwqQqrbQ7s9jMrTPf9rRg)

**Tuition Reimbursement**

Did you know that, through a program negotiated by TEA, you can be reimbursed for up to $1,000 of your graduate level tuition each year? [Visit here](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/mRshnjzLbfRUAJcmEcvG03xPgN-IGkuQShJp1-DHp7IO-ZdzwMMEryXQf3Jh3Ar1ZGa4jFo1irD73aBqBbNbsjGlt8IySVjk4SHZ2cTuyEVCFxI8HnIoSSUDby0yvxtbCeptP2LzdCJqJbHiqBmrEiyCsazSlvveV9gMcNIv8V8RTC-Dx-vZdWN3xwlR9VX_50Lw__gY4FuP_BSrJzoBdwn9vWgItS9jzybKj8nMG1N25Pc8bww66F8InXdWDzbNfOQ7xs1KJ2XN0qIxn89QEWvbswo9js5jAm8PGfIl9GjbQkKP9YPnXczCBp32njoDIAMajqvcdWTZkd2QFek80KjE5zDVClbU3Erlz6YXPAENkfTesN0RNoUZMYHG4el6/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h9/2rbQZ0ykUsKK70Mj6sU42elO3udZpUZDginOQQdNws0) to learn more details and to see the form. It is due by June 1 of each year.

## Retirement Planning? Read this

Karl Fisch is a retired Colorado math and computer teacher, and he has written [this book](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/atcYNHk4Eh2YdGnwBh-YDPfqdXXuKe9ncCkE8ROuMoGy2mqNweBEU6IRQ3VEsufy-hm7chuSeo8-oONekBtDMHk6QPr0HWTwxGgJoyUASJBl1UuEANpTi5NfBEbrPFIL0iiR14vKFcUmvr9r6tqdJr15vrVmDdevw8VeB1B0Tszd_Ccy25UeRmCwwjym5Wr7_EhJ3Y6brPitfI-pu6c_VDUwlx4VZVhtZ6hkeSDD2mB4DU2a-n5HD_YXXJ2_BfSONz4Nq6SL_VQYan9UbfctVQ/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h10/o8jL7PCC6saU1JpY0bN8-fmMB8jJlN33ObPO0dz_D4o) especially about retirement planning for PERA employees. It's free on Kindle if you have a prime membership, and $5 if you don't. I hope it is helpful.

## Upcoming Science Education Webinar

**Phenomena-Centered Science in your Classroom--April 12, 2021**

o   Centering your K-12 science instruction around phenomena can build student engagement and understanding. We’ll explore key aspects of science instruction, share NGSS-aligned resources for the new school year, and consider strategies (like Driving Question Boards) that support science in your K-12 (possibly virtual) classrooms.

o   April 12, 5pm-6pm MT

o   Register: [https://www.mobilize.us/nea/event/376343/](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/atcYNHk4Eh2YdGnwBh-YDJoV_SUko1NvDr4CKUKq--2RFiSEQ1zTypxMCk7yPwTHlAWe4MpFjQ27hDf3r4tfd_q_N1aTL54a8fZfxuwF4H1RgXMM5ZbWB_LMXyyr6If3gZ1KoWNhY6t0a6d9Andw3yREVwmURY85fD6ZSdtIZPEI9E_1k30-3CZquEAIO4VroNw5HTnXgsaGiS333gfpDYdSJ5n9YDbGUeQbKDIQUTc1uxYdQ8IaHyAACpYIiMH9mTrBio5EA3uXycrwbACZcg/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h11/SVD-C85C_qexlY1Uz0UgKzCOFsGhixGakzIqDhRH4Gs)

## CEA legislative text updates

With the legislative session starting this week, make sure to sign up for **CEA text alerts**! [https://www.coloradoea.org/sign-up-for-text-alerts-from-cea/](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/atcYNHk4Eh2YdGnwBh-YDJ43VtTsBt821n1lBQUHnZKb0Ml52ife3I0wpsHaGap0M-C3cPekPwJzKF5jp4MISn2DoKXA4HZTdNCoziKlWeMBgzlKUnRWHpO6xbQNnM6AzGFJ0Nb9EBqCrThfdl6x-R5yxTW7Mt5vVMYjqcv4OystDSKjMhZxkpppz4nWIBPvB3Fn0yrRO2Pe3V_IN9zQFVWQCKYBSot9QIF6hZFvU1hCZjFAWBbJvTWGrf1-TRITEgGgJAWeT4uVpLz9T3LqD-Orey77QBlg7rsH98N388Y/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h12/-BcyuSrrml3-SDqLxXTvJKYYjwkkSggT5DcuZX9NzOY)

## CEA Bill Tracker

You can visit [this page](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/wehEm_vu1NBVXOKYSqOxTIWq1sgmLvR7cdVa4pPQXxP1JJ9rod9vKXphyAZZGGW7is6_n9sIYh74f6p7j9r8iWqRYqT-NgWtjVB9GHUMo5STjvKSyddcvoEya4y2tk69BMnvlZ7yh5RL4tJeOfjZYgSi34dXvktsmqAPfzN4d0XIosSZ8nlpNTM2n3WgZMtKoZB0ZNSqB0cMzbtcM_VVyWxxphC1YPaAA8vizXF40oSY8sjzkqT99J3cxxGalUx3dtz5NiUKIpmBuwq6skjYs4wPTOmZk1_JMyJnBRvP1Xiyxj0b_fDUAecsZhhJUM2lQtulA5feOoYjzBkDbM1Wy3lyG0YlJX2qqJ4wDmckgPI/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h13/9HfF28Q5ISayTJzEobBDzSXOhNYqItAbe75oAJTw9bw) to see all of the bills introduced this session, their current status, and to see CEA's position on them. CEA's positions are informed by CEA's continuing resolutions document, which is adopted and revised by your representatives annually at CEA's Delegate Assembly.  If you would like to offer your input on a bill, please reach out to Greg Grote, our Uniserv Director, at [ggrote@coloradoea.org](mailto:ggrote@coloradoea.org). He meets weekly with our lobbyists and can pass your opinions along, and/or give you options for advocacy.

**Solidarity!**

Sincerely,

## https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51019/c/147/images/Andy%20professional%20pic.jpg

Andy Crisman

[tea@coloradoea.org](mailto:tea@coloradoea.org)

[h](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/ss/c/zMhPeRdLSH9QavqI0KIPYbYYEpXzaTr0nk3JMyQs3ilVrsrBEQqvBO3l0oEHcMOHkgNyGkg6WlFiuJOd_wqVR6eqvh2YMPcEkWlUClqsBhW9hrKT-Xovsz_IGOcs93b-zHxNvAXzuQjEg8b361x4jOrUT_JZabzzWcmavb9foS1PXjKbt5zQ-QGsfO-30PxdQwBEqmwfW1dZEj-In3vcRYloUBr3ogLk6IGJWZxErqkhvfJwgIR5Z5gIWxLDlCcYuU8QIEDdUELrCCg6__xHxQ/3ax/yBm9XPrATw6qm0gvBs6bEA/h14/JgFC2bfpK7dqIXejAb-FrVDAGEUwM3TY_WUEC7f-U04)ttp://thompsoneducationassociation.org