

WEEKLY UPDATE FOR JUNE 24, 2013

# Strong Schools Coalition



The Strong Schools Coalition works to **inform** and **engage** the community to positively **impact** the public schools in Douglas County.

## DCSD NEWS FROM THE WEEK

[Voices: Why I'm leaving the Douglas County School District](#) – 6/21/13

ednewscolorado.org

Maria Lauer, a 15-year veteran teacher in the Douglas County School District, explains why the district's new compensation system prompted her to take a job in another district.

[Two charters gain conditional approval](#) – 6/20/13 -- ourcoloradonews.com

Two elementary charter schools that focus on teaching foreign languages gained conditional approval June 18 to open their doors in Douglas County.

[School-reform skeptics book speakers](#) – 6/20/13 -- ourcoloradonews.com

A speaker series organized by two women concerned about Douglas County's education reform movement launched June 18 with author Angela Engel. The series will bring public education proponents to Douglas County between now and the November school board election.

[Thank you to Dr. Fagen](#) – 6/20/13 -- yourhub.denverpost.com

On May 30th, Dr. Liz Fagen, along with Chief Human Resources Officer Brian Cesare, Assistant Superintendent Christian Cutter, Board Member Kevin Larson and Director of Schools Patty Hanrahan, came to Saddle Ranch Elementary in Highlands Ranch at the request of a retiring teacher. Parents and students concerned about the number of highly regarded teachers leaving the school were escorted out of the school building by Dr. Fagen's security detail prior to the meeting, although some members of the school's parent organizations were allowed to stay. During the two and a half hour meeting, several topics were discussed, including market pay, teacher evaluations and teacher retention. The following is a letter I sent to the Superintendent after the meeting.

[Advocate to advise school board candidates](#) – 6/18/13 ourcoloradonews.com

Susan Meek can't run for a seat on the school board this November as she did in 2011. Instead, she's going to help other candidates do it.



## Mark Your Calendar

There are no scheduled District Accountability Committee (DAC), Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) or Fiscal Oversight Committee (FOC) meetings scheduled for July. The next BOE meeting is scheduled for July 16th.

*Enjoy your Summer!*

*Our Weekly Updates will be on a summer schedule and will be released less frequently.*

*Our volunteers are on summer mode -- enjoy your family time!*

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