

WEEKLY UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 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

[Past connections from politics resurface](#) -- 9/30/13 ourcoloradonews.com
Two of the Douglas County School District's top communication department employees have past Republican campaign ties with individuals connected to district matters.

[Contract staff includes district officials' relatives](#) -- 9/30/13 ourcoloradonews.com

In addition to its communications salaries, the Douglas County School District is paying at least \$23,500 more to contracted department staff this year.

[School communications expenses soar](#) -- 9/30/13 ourcoloradonews.com
Non-salary expenses for the Douglas County School District's communications services more than quadrupled from the 2009-10 academic year to 2012-13, and the district's total communications staff salaries are more than 76 percent higher than neighboring Cherry Creek School District's.

[School finance plan a tale of 178 districts](#) -- 9/30/13 ednewscolorado.org
The proposed \$950 million education tax hike is garnering broad support across Colorado's education community.

[Fees pile up for parents in Colorado public schools](#) -- 9/29/13 denverpost.com

Gone are the days when parents could send their children to public school with a few classroom supplies and some lunch money.

[Ralliers demand school board, district changes](#) -- 9/28/13 ourcoloradonews.com
About 200 outraged parents, teachers and community members rallied in front of the Douglas County School District's administration building in Castle Rock on Sept. 27.

[Douglas County parents protest for reform](#) -- 9/27/13 kdvr.com
DOUGLAS COUNTY, Colo. — Some national publications are calling it the most important school board election in the country.

[More than 200 people rally against Douglas County school policies](#) -- 9/27/13 denverpost.com

CASTLE ROCK — More than 200 people braved light drizzle and cold Friday afternoon to rally outside the Douglas County School District administration building in support of teachers.

[Education speaker lauds school reforms](#) -- 9/26/13 ourcoloradonews.com
The nation is watching Douglas County, former U.S. Secretary of Education Bill Bennett told an audience of about 250 people at the Lone Tree Arts Center on Sept. 25.

[High-profile speaker is paid school-foundation consultant](#) -- 9/25/13 ourcoloradonews.com
Former U.S. Secretary of Education Bill Bennett's Sept. 25 address in Lone Tree was paid for as part of a five-figure consulting agreement through the Douglas County School District's fundraising arm.

[Campaign groups detailed](#) -- 9/24/13 ourcoloradonews.com
[Variety of groups joining school fray](#) -- 9/24/13 ourcoloradonews.com

At least five committees that identify themselves as community-based are entrenched in campaign efforts for the November Douglas County School Board election.



Mark Your Calendar

October 1, 2013

Board of Education Meeting

TIME: 5:00 p.m. - 8:20 p.m.

LOCATION: DCSD Admin Building - Board Room 3rd Floor, 620 Wilcox St., Castle Rock

October 2, 2013

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: DCSD Admin Building - Board Room 3rd Floor, 620 Wilcox St., Castle Rock

October 3, 2013

The October 3rd FOC meeting has been moved to October 10, 2013, 6:30 p.m. in the West Support Center.

2013 Election

Board of Education Candidate Forums

October 2, 2013

AAUW Candidate Forum

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Philip S. Miller Library, Wilcox Street, Castle Rock

October 3, 2013

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Platte River Academy, 4085 Lark Sparrow St., Highlands Ranch

Website: StrongSchoolsCoalition.org

Twitter: @StrongSchoolsCO

Email: DCSDStrongSchoolsCoalition@gmail.com



Strong Schools Coalition
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