

WEEKLY UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 31, 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

[Judge: Douglas district violated campaign rules](#) — 12/28/13 denverpost.com
CASTLE ROCK, Colo.—A judge has ruled the Douglas County School District violated campaign laws when it distributed a report supporting changes that were also promoted by a slate of four school board candidates.

[Douglas County School Board disputes campaign finance ruling; Judge accuses board of breaking law](#) — 12/27/13 thedenverchannel.com
DOUGLAS COUNTY, Colo. – The Douglas County School Board president is disputing allegations that the group broke campaign finance rules.

[Judge rules school district violated campaign law](#) — 12/27/13 9news.com
CASTLE ROCK – Before Julie Keim was a school board candidate in Douglas County, she was an auditor who audited school districts.

[Judge: Douglas County school district violated fair campaign laws](#) — 12/27/13 denverpost.com

The Douglas County School District violated fair-campaign practice laws when it contracted for and distributed a paper espousing a brand of reforms that served as a campaign platform for a conservative slate of candidates, according to a ruling released this week by a Denver judge.

[Administrative law judge rules Douglas County School district broke fair campaign practice laws](#) — 12/26/13 thedenverchannel.com

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. – Douglas County's School District violated Colorado's fair campaign practice laws by paying for a white paper intended to influence the November election, an administrative law judge found in a decision she signed on Christmas Eve.

[Links between schools go beyond geography](#) — 12/20/13 highlandsranchherald.net
Arapahoe High School's location across a county line and in another school district matters little to Douglas County School District staff and students.

[County schools recognized by state](#) — 12/18/13 highlandsranchherald.net
The Colorado Department of Education recognized 35 Douglas County schools at the 2013 School and District Performance Awards Dec. 3.

[Teachers union VP promoted to top spot](#) — 12/18/13 highlandsranchherald.net
New Douglas County Federation president Courtney Smith takes the reins at arguably the most difficult time in the union's history.

[High school journalists earn national award](#) — 12/18/13 highlandsranchherald.net
Mountain Vista High School journalism students don't shy away from tough subjects.

[Douglas County schools have emergency notification failure after Arapahoe shooting](#) — 12/18/13 kdvr.com

DOUGLAS COUNTY, Colo. — The Douglas County School District is under scrutiny after a part of its emergency notification failed immediately following the shooting at Arapahoe High School Friday.

[Douglas County alert system failed during Arapahoe High shooting](#) — 12/18/13 denverpost.com

Douglas County Schools' emergency alert system was overwhelmed by volume and failed Friday during the shooting at Arapahoe High School.

[How schools handle student threats](#) — 12/16/13 9news.com

KUSA – 9Wants to Know what Denver-area school administrators do when a student makes a violent threat.

[Ruling on campaign allegations pending](#) — 12/11/13 lonetreevoice.net

A Denver judge will rule later this month whether the Douglas County School District violated the Colorado Fair Campaign Act. Judge Hollyce Farrell's Dec. 10 announcement concluded nearly two days of testimony stemming from former school board candidate Julie Keim's allegation against DCSD.

[Judge hears case against Douglas County schools over campaign laws](#) — 12/10/13 denverpost.com

The Douglas County school board election may be over, but a legal dispute questioning the district's neutrality in the race played out at a court hearing Tuesday.

[School board makes election official](#) — 12/10/13 highlandsranchherald.net

The Douglas County School Board swore in four recently elected members, said goodbye to two departing ones and appointed a new president and vice president during its Dec. 5 meeting.

[DougCo Schools administrator resigns following CALL7 investigation of Sam's Club memberships](#) — 12/10/13 thedenverchannel.com

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. – The director of the Douglas County School District's Transportation Department resigned following a CALL7 Investigation into his department's spending.

[Charter frustrated by lack of help](#) — 12/9/13 highlandsranchherald.net

Supporters of a prospective charter school with nowhere to build believe the Douglas County School District has the power to help it, but district leaders say it isn't their responsibility.



Mark Your Calendar

January 9, 2014

Fiscal Oversight Committee Meeting

TIME: 6:30 PM

LOCATION: West Support Center, Telluride Conference Rooms, 701 Prairie Hawk Drive, Castle Rock

January 14, 2014

District Accountability Committee Meeting

TIME: 6:30 PM

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

January 21, 2014

Board of Education Meeting

TIME: 5:00 PM

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

Important Dates:

January 10, 2014

Deadline for parents to [Apply](#) for District Accountability Committee

January 31, 2014

Deadline for SACs to [Submit Funding Priorities](#)

Website: StrongSchoolsCoalition.org

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Strong Schools Coalition
inform • engage • impact