

2020



CASB Winter Legislative Conference



the ART, a hotel
and
the History Colorado Center
Denver, Colorado



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

6:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | **REGISTRATION OPEN**

▶ History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

7:00 – 7:30 a.m. | **EARLY BIRD SESSIONS**

▶ the ART, a hotel

1. **Meet with CASB Leadership** | Ballroom Central
Join CASB Board President Monica Furey Peloso and CASB Executive Director Cheri Wrench as they share information in regard to the opportunities and challenges they see for public education in 2020.



2. **New Member Coffee** | Ballroom South
CASB staff members will be available to answer questions and welcome you as a new school board member. CASB is your association and we are here to help you make the most of it.

7:00 – 8:20 a.m. | **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

▶ History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

8:30 – 9:45 a.m. | **OPENING GENERAL SESSION**

▶ History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

Colorado Politics – Reading the Tea Leaves

- **Monica Furey Peloso**, President, CASB Board of Directors; Cheyenne Mountain 12 Board President
- **Anand Sokhey**, Associate Professor of Political Science, The University of Colorado American Politics Research Lab



Colorado is a key battleground state in presidential campaigns, and the outcome of its elections have important implications for state and national politics and policy making. Join us for this conversation with Anand Sokey, Associate Professor in Political Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. Anand will unravel the results of the annual Colorado Political Climate (CPC) survey, an annual nonpartisan poll of Colorado residents that serves as an ongoing record of opinion on public affairs within the state. Conducted every October, the CPC is intended to gauge “the pulse of Colorado” with respect to state and national issues, elected officials, and a broad spectrum of political characteristics.

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. | **MORNING BREAK**

▶ the ART, a hotel, Colonnade

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. | MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

► the ART, a hotel

1. Understanding the Gallagher Amendment | Ballroom South

- **Reeves Brown**, Project Director, Building a Better Colorado



Understanding the Gallagher Amendment to Colorado's Constitution can feel daunting to understand and even worse, to explain to others. The implications of this Amendment are significant to the property tax base for Colorado. Property taxes fund local services, including schools, and this session will dive into the implications of this Amendment. Reeves Brown, Project Director at Building a Better Colorado, will explain Gallagher, engage the audience in a discussion about potential Gallagher policy options, and solicit the audience's preferred policy recommendation using keypad voting devices.

2. Federal Mediation Trainings to Support Labor Disputes | Ballroom Central

- **Kayla Mack**, Commissioner, Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service
- **Emily Rife**, Commissioner, Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service



The Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service (FMCS) is a premiere conflict-resolution and workplace-effectiveness organization, specifically designed to assist private, public and federal entities with overall organizational success, particularly where labor-management dynamics are at hand. Learn how FMCS mediators have successfully assisted Colorado school districts with relationship development and training needs, facilitation of important education work groups, and collective bargaining ranging from routine annual negotiations to nationally-recognized strike situations. The mediators hope to address questions and concerns so that they may assist school districts across the state in moving forward.

3. The CASB Action Plan for Advocacy | Ballroom North

- **Kathy Plomer**, Legislative Resolutions Committee Chair, CASB Board of Directors; Adams 12 Board President
- **Matt Cook**, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, CASB
- **Susan Meek**, Director of Strategic Engagement and Communications, CASB



Being an advocate for public education and local control in your community, and at the legislature, is crucial to preserving your district and your community's way of life. CASB's power at the Capitol is dependent upon our members and their engagement in the legislative process. The CASB advocacy team will present tools and resources available to you that will enable your board to make the most of the 2020 legislative session.

11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. | LUNCH & LEARN: Federal Advocacy Update

► History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

- **Karen Fisher**, Federal Relations Network Chair, CASB Board of Directors; Cherry Creek School District Board President
- **Chip Slaven**, Chief Advocacy Officer, National School Boards Association



CASB Federal Relations Network (FRN) Chair Karen Fisher will welcome our luncheon attendees and will provide a summary of the work and advocacy of the FRN delegation that just returned from Washington, D.C. Following this update, Chip Slaven, Chief Advocacy Officer at the National School Boards Association, will explain what the hot topics are in Washington, D.C. and how you can best engage in federal advocacy. Washington, D.C. may be 1,500 miles away, but it's still important for Colorado's members of Congress to hear from you, the local voice of the community. The decisions made on Capitol Hill have big impacts on Colorado classrooms. Chip will provide meaningful actions that can make a difference.

1:40 – 2:40 p.m. | AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

► the ART, a hotel

1. Colorado Rural School Advocacy Collaboration | Ballroom South

- **Matt Cook**, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, CASB
- **Denille LePlatt**, Director of Rural Services, CDE
- **Dale McCall**, Executive Director, Colorado BOCES Association
- **Michelle Murphy**, Executive Director, Colorado Rural School Alliance
- **Kirk Banghart**, Vice President & Chief Facilitator of the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative, Generation Schools Network
- **Ty Valentine**, President, CASE



Educators in Colorado's rural school districts provide an amazing array of opportunities to students across the state. Sharing these success stories with the media, state agencies and the Colorado General Assembly takes a team of rural advocates. Join us for an interactive discussion with the folks who are promoting rural education and learn some tips on how you can share your success stories.

2. Preparing for Your Day at the Capitol | Ballroom Central

- **Lisa Webster**, former board member, Summit School District
- **Susan Meek**, Director of Strategic Engagement and Communications, CASB



Make sure you feel prepared and ready to advocate at the Capitol by attending this session. We will walk through best practices on how to

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prepare, make the visit count, and follow up after the meeting. Building trusting relationships with your legislators is key to your advocacy work and we will help you develop a roadmap on how to be successful in becoming a reliable and trustworthy resource for your legislators.

3. Using Social Media to Influence Your Legislators | Ballroom North

- **Diego Rivera**, Business Analyst, Phone2Action
- **Jason Glass**, Superintendent, Jeffco Public Schools



From the White House to the State House you can use your digital megaphone to build winning campaigns. Digital advocacy is growing in its effectiveness for engaging constituents and legislators. Learn more about best practices in this arena, how to engage on social media, and empower others. Join us to learn more about the tools and resources available to you to influence our policymakers and help create positive change for our students.

3:00 – 3:20 p.m. | AFTERNOON BREAK

► History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. | CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

► History Colorado Center, Colorado Room

Understanding Colorado's Fiscal Knot and Determining What's Next

- **Chris Adams**, President, Engaged Public
- **Carol Hedges**, Executive Director, Colorado Fiscal Institute
- **Mark Hillman**, Board Member, Burlington School District; former state legislator and state treasurer
- **Scott Wasserman**, Executive Director, The Bell Policy Center



Three amendments to Colorado's Constitution, taken together, both limit revenue and require increased spending. The combination of these amendments creates a real conundrum for legislators. Many argue that this fiscal knot limits legislators' ability to run the state and provide services.

We will start this closing session with a new state budget simulation that has been developed by the School of Public Affairs, Engaged Public, and the CSU Futures Center. It uses recent figures from the Governor's November budget proposal and allows users to make budget decisions.

Following the simulation, our panel members will debate the merits and pitfalls of putting tax policy into the Constitution and discuss their hopes and fears for Colorado's future.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | Legislators Reception

► the ART, a hotel, Ballroom

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. | BREAKFAST BRIEFING

► the ART, a hotel | Ballroom

- **Matt Cook**, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, CASB
- **Todd Engdahl**, Owner, Capitol Editorial Services



Join Matt and Todd for an update on current legislative hot topics before heading off to the Capitol. It's a perfect opportunity to connect with others and ask questions of our advocacy team.

9:00 – 10:45 a.m. | YOUR TIME AT THE CAPITOL

- **Matt Cook**, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, CASB



CAPITOL TOUR: MEET AT THE CAPITOL'S TOUR DESK, FIRST FLOOR - NORTH END, NEAR THE COLFAX ENTRANCE.

Don't miss this opportunity to see the legislative process first-hand. Contact your legislators in advance and you may gain an invitation to view the proceedings from the chamber floor!

If you have not visited the Capitol, join us for a tour where you will learn the Capitol's history as we journey through the chambers, hearing rooms and the nooks and crannies of our state's landmark building. Hear the history of the stained-glass portraits in the Senate and House chambers and, if you are up to the challenge, you can climb the 99 steps to the top of the Capitol Dome!

Take advantage of your time in Denver to meet with your senators and representatives. **The CASB advocacy team can help you set up meetings or meals and facilitate discussions.**

School officials, who are not registered lobbyists, are allowed to pay for meals for lawmakers. The amount spent on meals will have to be disclosed by the legislator as a gift. Gifts from any one individual or school district to a legislator cannot exceed \$65 in any year.

Thank you Conference Exhibitors!

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a different opinion



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Entrances and Disability Parking

- North entrance (Colfax Avenue and Sherman Street), first floor - public and group entrance. NOTE: Entering on Colfax requires walking up stairs.
- South entrance (14th Avenue and Sherman Street), basement (ground) level - visitors with special needs should use this entrance.
- A limited number of parking spaces are available, first come first serve, in the Capitol circle for visitors with disabled parking permits. Enter at 14th and Sherman and notify the Colorado State Patrol at the entrance to use these spots. Disability placards or license plates are required.

**Note: You will have to go through security at the Capitol. Luggage is not allowed. The same restrictions apply as with airport security.*

**10:45 – 11:45 a.m. | CLOSING SESSION:
The Inside Scoop**

► **The Old Supreme Court Chambers |
Colorado State Capitol**

- **Bente Birkeland**, Colorado Public Radio
- **John Frank**, The Colorado Sun
- **Marianne Goodland**, Colorado Politics
- **Erica Meltzer**, Chalkbeat



This is your opportunity to hear directly from education and statehouse reporters under the gold dome. Join us in the Old Supreme Court Chambers at the Capitol where we will learn insights on top education topics for 2020, hear the ins and outs of covering the Capitol and education policy, and walk away with tips on the best ways to get the attention of reporters and legislators. This session will close out the 2020 Winter Legislative Conference and leave you prepared to engage and influence education policy in the coming year.

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN



Save The Dates

**Fall Delegate
Assembly Conference**
October 16-17, 2020

**80th Annual CASB
Convention**
December 3-6, 2020

Colorado School Boards – Caretakers of Public Education



911,536
*students served
in public schools*



about **1,000**
*school board members
elected by local voters*



1,900
*public schools in
Colorado's 178 districts*



**Every school district in Colorado
is a member of CASB.**

*CASB mission statement: Advancing excellence in
public education through effective leadership by
locally elected boards of education.*

