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77th Annual CASB Convention
Hopefully you have made plans to join fellow CASB members in Colorado Springs for the annual convention. The convention offers a myriad of opportunities to educate yourself and become a better board member. If you are interested in advocacy and the Colorado legislature, you will have your fill at the convention. Nearly twenty Colorado lawmakers will be attending various sessions throughout the convention.

If you are attending the pre-convention workshops (Thursday, November 30), you will want to make time to join members of the Education Leadership Council (ELC) at 9:00 a.m. in Colorado Hall D. The ELC was authorized by the governor to craft a vision of education for Colorado. The committee is made up of legislators, educators and community members from across the state and is specifically charged with gathering input from stakeholders. They want to hear from school board members during this interactive event. Don’t be shy! Come share your vision of education for the state.

You won’t want to miss our annual Legislators Connection panel. Starting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, we will preview the 2018 legislative session and discuss the important issues that impact education in Colorado. Legislators will be answering questions from the audience. Join us in International Center South for this discussion following the CASB business meeting.

On Friday afternoon, the entire Joint Budget Committee (JBC) will be on hand to explain how the Colorado legislature crafts the state’s budget. JBC members will answer your questions about how budget priorities are determined. The session begins at 2:00 p.m. in Colorado Hall F.

Chomping at the bit to plan your convention schedule? Click here to view the full agenda of speakers, breakouts and general sessions.

2018 Under the Golden Dome

While we have not yet celebrated Thanksgiving, many of us are already looking ahead to the new year, specifically the 2018 Colorado legislative session. The Colorado General Assembly will convene on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 and the elected 100 will be faced with a number of issues, including:

- The Public Employee Retirement Association (PERA)
- School Finance
- Transportation
- Health Care

The CASB advocacy team is ready to keep you informed on the latest developments at the state capitol and we will be calling on CASB members to engage their legislators. Save the date for the following events that will make engagement easy:

- School Board Advocate
  During the legislative session, the School Board Advocate is published on the second and fourth Friday of the month from January to May.

- CASB Winter Legislative Conference
  Thursday, March 1 - Friday, March 2
  Details coming soon.

- CASB Days at the Capitol
  - Wednesday, March 14, 2018 for CASB Regions 1,2,3
  - Wednesday, March 21, 2018 for CASB Regions 4,7,8
  - Wednesday, March 21, 2018 for CASB Regions 10,11,12
  - Wednesday, April 18, 2018 for CASB Regions 5,6,9
  - Wednesday, March 7 and April 11 are special days for students

If your schedule doesn’t allow you to attend a Day at the Capitol on the same day as your region, join us on any of the dates listed above.
Monthly Advocacy Conference Call

Join the CASB advocacy team for the latest information and updates from under the gold dome. Monthly conference calls will be held at 8 a.m. on the last Friday of the month during legislative session. The dates are:

- January 26, 2018
- February 23, 2018
- March 30, 2018
- April 27, 2018

There will be a special legislative wrap up conference call on Friday, May 11, 2018.

Welcome to the Tribe

Many of the 178 boards of education welcomed new board members following the November elections. Service on your local school board is one of the most challenging, yet rewarding privileges you will experience. We applaud you for taking on board work and serving the students of Colorado. CASB staff stand ready to help answer any questions that arise. The CASB website is also a great resource for information. Check us out at casb.org.

Understanding Washington D.C.

Need some help figuring out exactly what’s happening in our nation’s capitol? Perhaps the best way to learn is to visit and watch the events firsthand.

The 2018 National School Board Association (NSBA) Advocacy Institute will be held in Washington, D.C. from Sunday, February 4, 2018 - Tuesday, February 6, 2018. There is still time to register and join the CASB Federal Relations Network (FRN) team as we discuss education with the Colorado congressional delegation. Click here for details and registration information.

See You Next Year

Since we are hoping to see all of you at the 77th Annual CASB Convention, there will not be a School Board Advocate published in December. CASB wishes you an early Season’s Greetings and best wishes for a very Happy New Year!
Advancing excellence in public education through effective leadership by locally elected boards of education.