**From:** Merklein, Trip [CO]
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 2:23 PM
**Cc:** Burkett, Kay [CO]
**Subject:** Member Update 4/22/11

Dear Members,

A couple of items before you begin the weekend:

* **CEA Lobby Day** this past Monday was a powerful experience for all participants. Members included Laurie Seville, Alice Hosseini, Diane Sherman and Melissa Ward from Erie Elementary, Amber Flynn of Niwot H.S., Traci Gauthier of Skyline, Ty Bliss and Carolyn Young from Black Rock Elementary, Karen Packard from Sunset Middle, and Shari Malloy from Student Services. Everyone had an opportunity to tell personal stories to our legislators about the impact of state budget cuts on their classrooms. Laurie Seville and Alice Hosseini also testified, on the spur of the moment, during the House Education Committee hearings on the current School Finance Act.

Over lunch, we heard several legislators speak to the importance of teachers’ voices being heard during these difficult economic times, that have led to tough budget choices. Senate President Brandon Shaffer reminds us all that the Colorado Education Association is the most relevant organization advocating for public education and our students.

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* **Summative Evaluations** There have been a number of questions about the timelines regarding summative evaluation reports for teachers, and teachers’ right to attach a response, as per Master Agreement Article 6.2.6. Through working with HR Asst. Supt. David Burnison we’ve reached a common interpretation of the language:

Teachers receiving a summative evaluation should have been asked to sign it indicating that they received it. (See the language highlighted in green below.)  The signature is an acknowledgement of the date the evaluation was received as that date begins the count of the seven working days in which either the teacher or evaluator may request a conference. (See language below highlighted in yellow.) The ten working days in which either party has an opportunity to respond to the summative evaluation report begins *following* the seven working day period. (See the language highlighted in pink.) This interpretation provides clarity for both evaluators and teachers, allowing discussion of the summative evaluation and writing a through response, if necessary, to be the important focus, rather than interpretations of the timelines.

**ARTICLE 6 – SUPERVISION AND EVALUATION**

6.2          Process

6.2.6       No later than April 20, the evaluator shall complete the summative evaluation report based upon the information and data collected. The summative evaluation report shall contain a recommendation for teacher employment for the following academic year. A teacher or evaluator may request a conference to discuss the summative evaluation report. The conference shall be held within seven workdays of the request. A copy of the report will be given to the teacher. The teacher shall sign the evaluation report. The teacher’s signature indicates only that the teacher has received, read, and had the opportunity to discuss the summative evaluation report. The teacher may choose to respond in writing to the summative evaluation report within ten working days and this response shall be attached to the summative evaluation report.

A more detailed Update will be sent on Monday with information about the run-off election for SVVEA Treasurer, TELL Survey follow-up at the building level, and Negotiations.

Have a great weekend!

Trip Merklein

President

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