PRESIDENT BOWEN’S MESSAGE

September marks the beginning of a new year for JCEA-Retired. Your leaders are pumped because there is a lot going on this fall, from social events to elections. We are also working on a fundraiser for the Excellence Scholarship coming up in November. At our Fall Meeting, October 9th, we will hear what is happening at CEA and JCEA. Of course, there are several ways you can get involved this election season.

School funding is a major concern facing our community. Dr. Glass, Jeffco Superintendent, asks, “How can we keep the main thing – learning, conditions for learning, and readiness for learning – the main thing for the 86,000 students attending Jeffco Public Schools?”

One way is to ensure that Amendment 73, formerly Initiative 93, passes. This amendment will give local school districts an increase base funding for all students, provide funding for full-day kindergarten, and increase funding for early childhood education. It would also increase funding for special education, English language learners, and gifted and talented students. It will take 55% majority vote. That means we need an all hands-on deck to help it pass. You can read more about this important Amendment in the Legislative/Political Update.

On August 23rd, the Jeffco School Board voted 5-0 to pass a resolution supporting Amendment 73 and to put a $567 million bond and $33 million mill levy override on the ballot for this November. The mill levy override would provide critical financial resources to support operations directly related to student learning and success. The bond would enable significant and much needed upgrades to our facilities. Currently our per student funding is $2,500 lower than the national average even after last legislative season. Along with Amendment 73, these measures would go a long way to filling in the gap in school funding that has occurred since 2009. It would be the best of all worlds if all three could pass.

One thing we know for sure is that when retired teachers get involved and help educate the public about issues, we all win. You make a difference! Vote and help others vote for pro-education candidates and support school funding ballot issues this November.

See you October 9th at 9:00 at the JCEA Office for our Fall Meeting!
Initiative 93 approved for November ballot as Amendment 73

Previously known as Initiative 93 while supporters gathered petition signatures, Amendment 73 could add an additional $1.6 billion annually for Colorado schools and ensure every community across Colorado benefits from the state’s booming economy. The measure empowers local school districts, enabling them to determine the highest priorities for much needed revenue. CEA is committed to seeing that Amendment 73 passes. According to the Jeffco School District, a successful Amendment 73 would result in up to an additional $135 million, or $1,600 per student. To learn more about Amendment 73 go to http://jeffcopublicschools.org/about/superintendent/futurefunding/amendment_73.

Amie Baca-Oehlert, President of the Colorado Education Association, said, “Our membership, educators all across Colorado, along with many other people, worked hard to get valid signatures for this amendment to make the ballot. Now that it’s officially on, it is up to ALL of us to get Amendment 73 passed by voters to ensure students and educators across Colorado have access to a high-quality public education no matter where they live. With one of the fastest growing economies in the country, our students deserve a well-funded public education system. Thank you to all who helped to make this step possible.”

Support Jeffco Kids has been a driving force behind Amendment 73 in Jeffco and throughout the state. Jonna Levine and Shawna Fritzler have worked tirelessly on making this initiative a reality. They now need our help to ensure it passes. Read how you can help at http://www.supportjeffcokids.org/yesona73-gstc-event-reporting-and-sign-up/.

If you would like to help work information tables at school events, please let Lorraine Bowen know at bassbros@msn.com. She will contact SKJ with a list of JCEA R volunteers. Be sure to let her know the school(s) you would like to visit. You can also make a donation by going to the website to help cover the cost of tables and printing materials. Let’s make this happen and improve public schools for all Coloradans!
End of Summer greetings from your Membership corner! I hope everyone has had a delightful summer. I am writing this to you all from beautiful Lolo, Montana, where we are spending a week at a Square Dance Camp. We are having a wonderful time dancing three times a day and enjoying “old” friends while making new ones! Due to a serious issue at CEA, membership “time” was different this year. I quickly made up renewal notices and sent them out to our annual members. Hopefully all of those renewals will be waiting for me when we return. If you are an annual member, please be sure you return your form and check right away. If you are a LIFE member, I did not send out any letters or notices. If you, or any of our members that you know, have moved or changed email addresses, please send me that information (email is best) to pinkroses3@live.com As soon as we return from vacation, I will be preparing the new directory for the publisher, and I want your information to be correct. Thank you in advance for your help.

This Spring we have gained 9 new members! I want to welcome again the following new retirees to retirement and to JCEA-R: Carl (Chris) Belle, Beverly Hillstrom, Paula Reed, Annette Rosenberger, Camille Sankey, Suzanne Swank, Julianne Thomas, Diane Wieland, Kay Evans. We look forward to seeing each of you at some of our activities.

Be sure you plan on attending our annual Fall Membership meeting. Hopefully our new Directories will be ready for distribution at that time.

The Colorado Education Association is proud to support of U.S. Rep. Jared Polis as the next governor of Colorado. We’re excited about sharing Jared’s vision for a public-school system in which all students, regardless of where they live, receive support, tools, and time to learn with caring, qualified, and committed educators.

Jared believes that educators are worthy of professional respect and deserve to have more voice in decisions that impact our students and profession. He is also committed to the financial stability of PERA’s defined benefit program to help educators—and other state employees—earn a dignified retirement. You can view Jared’s education platform and his views on public retirement at https://polisforcolorado.com
GET INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY (non-political activity)

Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center

At Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center and Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children at P/SL, our goal is to provide our volunteers with an enriching experience. We do this by individually matching your interests and availability to our hospital's needs. Whether you enjoy working with people or paper, being seated or active, we have many ways you can help. Get to know us and learn about the many different and rewarding ways you can volunteer with us.

* Support a Hospital Unit
* Support Patients and Their Families
* Work Behind the Scenes

Our volunteers are a vital part of our patient care team. Therefore, we ask a minimum commitment of 6 months and a weekly shift of 3-4 hours. Shifts are available weekdays, evenings and weekends. Please visit https://pslmc.com/careers/volunteers/ to fill out our Online Application Form. Please call 720-754-6107 or email pslvolunteerservices@healthonecares.com with any questions about the application process.

Pomona High School AVID tutoring

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a national program that seeks to close the achievement gap and prepare students from a variety of backgrounds for college readiness. The AVID program at Pomona High School is seeking volunteer tutors for their elective class. Volunteers are needed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to facilitate small groups of AVID students in their tutorials.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Peggy Asmus, AVID Site Coordinator at Pomona High School. 303-982-0625 or pasmus@jeffco.k12.co.us

Jefferson Center for Mental Health

The mental health of our community is critically important – and you can help. We invite you to join Jefferson Center for Mental Health’s Foundation Board and share your time and talent with us to help improve the health of our community.

In a given year, one out of every five people will experience a mental health issue. For those facing some of life’s toughest challenges – our friends, family, and neighbors – Jefferson Center is there. Jefferson Center is the nonprofit community mental health and substance use treatment provider serving Jefferson, Gilpin, and Clear Creek counties. Last year, we touched more than 32,000 lives in our community.

Our Foundation Board is comprised of local leaders and passionate individuals who are dedicated to Jefferson Center’s vision of a community where mental health matters and care is accessible to all. As a Foundation Board member, you will help develop and oversee the implementation of the fund development plan, serve as an ambassador for Jefferson Center in the community, and participate in hands-on fundraising and public relationship building. The Board meets monthly, participates in an annual retreat, and supports Jefferson Center’s annual fundraising gala.

To learn more, please contact Jeanne Oliver, Vice President of Marketing and Development, at 303-432-5174 or Jeanne@jcmh.org
November 10, 2018

JCEA RETIRED FUNDRAISER FOR THE JCEA EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Come and join us for fun and fellowship!

We will take a chartered bus from Westland Town Center (First Bank) to Johnny Z’s Casino in Central City on November 10th.

All money (minus costs) earned will be donated to the Christa McAuliffe Scholarship. Plan on arriving at the pick-up area by 2:45. We need a minimum of 35 people riding the bus to have a successful fundraiser. We will be charged $15 for each seat under 35. So, ask your colleagues, friends and family to join us! We will return to Westland at 9 pm. If you have friends who would like to meet us there, they can register at the cashier/cage on the second floor to check in under JCEA Retired to get a Z-card and PIN # and activate the coupons. Plan on playing at Johnny Z’s!

At the Fall Meeting on October 9th please donate a gift certificate, a bottle of wine, etc. that we can use for prizes while on the bus ride up to Century Casino.

Join JCEA R at Johnny Z’s Casino
November 10
3-9 pm

$25 per person includes bus ride, play and food coupons

Family and Friends are welcome.

RSVP and pay by check made out to Lorraine Bowen by Nov. 3rd.
Write scholarship on the memo line.

Your $25 is a tax-deductible donation to the Excellence Fund. It is nonrefundable unless the trip is cancelled. You will receive a receipt afterwards.

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO LORRAINE BOWEN
MAIL TO
12137 W 54th Dr.
Arvada, CO 80002

For questions contact
303-921-2181 or bassbros@msn.com

RSVP by Nov. 3
Reflections of Italy  
2019 Retired Teachers’ Association fund raising trip

October 02 — October 11, 2019 • 10 Days • 13 Meals

Highlights: Rome, Colosseum, Assisi, Perugia, Siena, Florence, Chianti Winery & Cooking Class, Venice, Choice on Tour, Murano Island, Milan

Save $150 per person* for reservations made before April 2019

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* Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Denver International airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers
* Not Included in Price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change based on air inclusive package from DEN

For more information go to: https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/905070
Carma Hilliard & Davina PlateCertified Travel Agents 970-593-8754 & 970-381-3413

HIGHLANDS RANCH MANSION TOUR

Date: Tuesday, September 25  Where: 9950 E. Gateway Dr., Highlands Ranch, Co 80126
Time: 10:00-11:15 Mansion Tour  Cost: $10.00 (refundable day of tour)
11:15-11:45 allow 20-30 minutes to walk grounds

The Highlands Ranch Mansion is one of the most architecturally unique structures in Colorado. Built in 1891, the historic mansion has been home to some of Denver’s more notable families including cattle barons, oil tycoons, prominent Denver socialites, as well as political and business leaders who have helped create the Colorado we know today.

Our docent guided tour will provide an intimate look at this extraordinary mansion—its architecture, furnishings, and other décor that reveal the various owners’ unique personalities. Our tour will include the rooms on the first and second floors and a self-guided tour of the grounds after the mansion tour.

We will have lunch at Pierre Michel French Bakery Café www.cafelittleton.com after our tour. The bakery and café offer organic deserts plus sandwiches, coffee and other French fare.

To secure your place, please send a $10 check to Marilyn Mallander, 4012 Meade St. Denver, CO 80211, by September 17th. Please note if you do NOT plan to stay for lunch. Contact Marilyn 303 477-6327 or mmalland@comcast.net with questions.
**DANIELS & FISHER CLOCK TOWER TOUR**

Date:   Monday, October 15th  
Where:  1601 Arapahoe St (base of D & F Tower  
Time:   11:00 AM (tour lasts 60 minutes )  
Cost:   $ 15.00 (due by October 1st)

Travel back in time on a special behind the scenes tour of Denver’s historic Daniels & Fisher Tower. Built in 1911 as a focal point for the Daniels & Fisher Department Store, it endures as one of the most recognized icons of the city.

Join us on a guided tour, hear the story of this landmark and of those who built it to those who saved it from the Urban Renewal wrecking ball. We will meet at the base of the tower and elevator to the 17th floor to see behind the mysterious clock faces, observe the views and hear Tower Tales. An observation deck wraps around the 20th floor for those willing to make the climb!

The cost is $15.00 per person and due to Marilyn Mallander 4012 Meade St. Denver, CO 80211 by October 1st. For information contact Marilyn, mmalland@comcast.net or 303-477-6327.

**A HALLOWED EVE APPROACHES**

On Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) in the Mexican tradition, skeletons will clunk and clatter as they jump for sheer joy. And no wonder. They've been cooped up the whole year, and now they're ready to party. The Mexican Catrina, beloved grand dame of Mexico’s dance with death, and brightly decorated calaveras are ready to shake, rattle, roll and celebrate the biggest event on the graveyard’s social calendar!

What is the Festival of Bones? Who is the Catrina? What is the purpose of sugar skulls? If you have ever wondered where the traditions of Dia de los Muertos come from, wait no longer. Come spend a evening of storytelling and craft making and find out!!

Artist Rebecca Romero is teaching our two projects of the evening. Under her instruction, you will make a sugar skull and a Catrina doll. All supplies are included.

Joe Esquibel will be our storyteller and historian. Did you know that poetry written for the Day of the Dead is known as literary calaveras and is intended to humorously criticize the living while reminding them of their mortality?

We invite you to let your creative juices flow while you learn more about this wonderful holiday. Bring your spouse or your friends. Here’s everything you need to know about the class:

Date:   October 25th from 6:00 to 8 PM  
Location:   The Jefferson County Education Association Office at 1447 Nelson  
Cost:   $20 per person in advance/ $25 if you miss the deadline and space is still available

To assure that we have enough materials, light appetizers, and drinks we MUST have an indication of the number attending. That means we will need your checks no later than October 11. To reserve your space, and space is limited, mail a check for $20 per person (and be sure to include the names of your guests) to:

If you have questions about the evening, call Jeanne at 303 231-9598  
Jeanne Duffy  
10160 West 33rd Ave  
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
BOULDER DINNER THEATER

Support live theater. Enjoy a fun afternoon with others who enjoy good theater. The second play of this season at BDT Stage will be "The Christmas Story," the story where Ralphie wants a BB gun. This is a noon show on Sunday, November 11, 2018. The deadline for tickets is October 9, 2018. The $40 covers the play, the basic dinner, non-alcoholic beverages and gratuity.

If you are interested send your check for $40 made out to C.A.R.E. c/o Pat Baker 1040 Kearney St. Denver, CO 80220.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENT: Don’t Let the Halls Deck You!! by Jean Duffy

Before you deck the halls or they deck you, let us get you in the mood for the approaching holiday season. Start the month of December in the company of old friends and making the acquaintance of new members -- do it before all of your personal holiday chores stack up. We invite our members and their guests, with a special nod to our new members, to our holiday luncheon on Wednesday, December 5 at 12:30 PM in the main dining room of Mount Vernon Country Club. Spend the afternoon relaxing and visiting with friends while you enjoy the season, the holiday setting, the food and drink and the incredible mountain views.

Here’s everything you need to know about our party. The cost of the buffet is $24.00 per person. The price includes homemade breads and soups, a cold salad bar, a variety of hot entrees, desserts, coffee or tea, tax and tip. You pay for any other beverages ordered. Checks should be made payable to Jeanne Duffy and sent to her at 10160 W. 33rd Av, Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033, no later than Wednesday, Nov. 28. Your check is your reservation and is NOT refundable.

Once again this year, we anticipate many surprises. We don’t guarantee you'll see Santa or any of the Elves but it's been known to happen. Just know you will regret if you miss the fun and you can't blame anyone but yourself, because we've reminded you in plenty of time. We don't want you to get all tangled up with your turkey and forget to mail your check. Yes, we do provide an email reminder but you know how busy you are around Thanksgiving.

Mt Vernon will be decked out for the holidays and you should come that way too. Business casual is the appropriate dress. No jeans, please. Silver bells and red noses are optional.

To reach Mount Vernon, take I-70 west to the Genesee Park Exit #254. Turn right at the stop sign and follow the road up the hill to Mount Vernon. We encourage you to carpool if you can. If you have any questions, contact Jeanne Duffy at 303-231-9598.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This spring we will be electing new officers – President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. According to our bylaws, we need to form a Nomination and Elections Committee in order to prepare a slate of candidates and conduct the election at the Annual Meeting. We need 3 members to be in compliance with our documents. It is a short term commitment, but extremely important. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Lorraine Bowen at 303 921-2181.
The JCEA-R Connection
Jefferson County Education Association - Retired
1447 Nelson
Lakewood, CO 80215

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Note: Dates for events and meetings are subject to change. Please check the official JCEA-R website for updates.
OPPORTUNITIES
to share your gifts and skills to help sustain the Association

by Gail Knowles

Volunteering has many health advantages. Participation in JCEA-R and/or CEA-R is a way you can share your skills.

Volunteer to attend Delegate Assembly in April 2019. Look for the election information the Nov./Dec. "Communicator". Self-nominate yourself to be a delegate. This is a short term commitment. It is Friday afternoon and most of Saturday.

You can volunteer to be a member of CEA-R Representative Council. This is a longer commitment for a very important job. The job is the representative for Region 3. There is also a job for the alternate representative. There are five meetings plus attend Delegate Assembly. You self-nominate yourself online at CEA. Read the information in the "Communicator."

For those of you who are more ambitious JCEA-R is looking for new officers. They are president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. There is also a need for a new "Connections" editor for next year. Let Lorraine Bowen if you are interested. Share your skills and gifts to sustain JCEA-R.

Don't think you can do it? You are an educator. You can handle anything.