



Contact



Calendar



Facebook



Twitter



Staff



Partners



Publications



Videos



Awards

[Return to Headlines](#)

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In this issue:

- 120 Days
- Stay Up to Speed on the Latest Colorado Legislation
- 2018 Winter Legislative Conference and Public School Choice in Colorado
- CASB Advocacy Tools

120 Days

The Colorado General Assembly has begun their 120 days of work. Over the course of the next few months, the elected 100 will tackle more than 600 bills and resolutions. While no one knows exactly what the new year will bring, 2018 has the potential for significant legislative changes. Let's take a look at two of the big issues that will draw the majority of legislators' efforts.

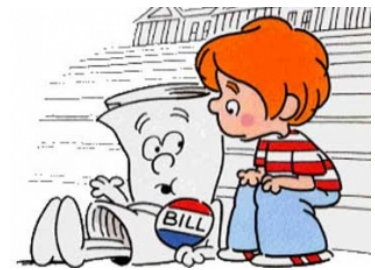


PERA – The Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA) will be front and center in both the House and Senate. The PERA Board has put forth recommendations that they believe will erase PERA's unfunded liability. Governor John Hickenlooper (D) has made his own proposals to fix the system. We also expect a couple of legislative ideas on the matter. It is anyone's guess which plans, if any, moves forward but expect debate. To view the PERA Board proposal [click here](#). To view the Governor's proposal [click here](#).

REVENUE – Ultimately, everything under the Gold Dome comes down to funding. The December 2017 revenue forecast provided a surprising twist to the financial picture. Due to tax reform at the federal level, Colorado will have more revenue to fund the state budget. The question is: How much more? State economists are still digging into the numbers, but it appears lawmakers will have several million more in the General Fund. Of course, there are many competing interests for these additional funds. The March 2018 revenue forecast looms large as it will be critical to how the legislature develops the budget. The December revenue forecast for the Legislative Council Staff (LCS) is [available here](#). The Office of State Budget and Planning forecast is [available here](#).

Stay Up to Speed on the Latest Colorado Legislation

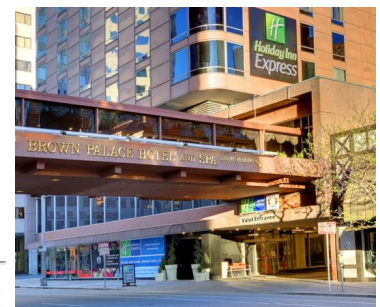
Every year, nearly 100 bills debated in the Colorado legislature are education related. While most of these bills never become law, each one has potential. That means you, as a school leader, should be aware of the latest developments. The CASB bill tracker is available to help and is located on the [CASB website](#). The bill tracker provides updated information on bills, legislators and committee hearings.



Mark your calendar to join the CASB advocacy team for the first of our monthly ZOOM meetings on Friday, January 26, 2018 at 8:00 am. These meetings will be held on the 4th Friday of the month during the legislative session and will provide members with the latest news and updates from the Capitol. [Click here](#) to install the Zoom app and join the conversation. Zoom works on almost all PCs, laptops, tablets and mobile devices.

2018 Winter Legislative Conference and Public School Choice in Colorado

Save the date! Join fellow school board members for the 2018 Winter Legislative Conference on March 1-2. CASB will host the event at the venerable Brown Palace Hotel, just minutes from the Capitol. Come partake in great learning opportunities focusing on the world of public school choice in Colorado. Plan on mingling with legislators during our Thursday evening reception. This is a great time to get to know your legislators in a casual and fun environment. [Click here](#) for more information or to make your hotel reservations today. Conference information is updated daily!



CASB Advocacy Tools

[CASB Bill Tracker](#) – Track the latest education news from the Capitol.

The School Board Advocate – Published on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month during the legislative session. In months when the Colorado General Assembly is not in session, we publish on the 4th Friday of the month. The School Board Advocate is not published in July and December.

[CASB Legislative Conference Calls](#) - Use the web link to join the meeting. The next meeting will be Friday, January 26, 2018, at 8:00 am. Meetings are held the 4th Friday of each month during the legislative session.

[CASB Days at the Capitol](#) – Join CASB, fellow board members and students at the Capitol! Our Days at the Capitol events run March through April and give school board members—from rural districts tucked away in the mountains and plains, to large districts neighboring the state capitol—a chance to experience the legislative process firsthand and help strengthen the voice of school boards.

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