

## Amendment 54 Confusing & Unclear

The popcorn  
is expensive,  
but your tickets  
don't have to be.



### The Community Advantage

#### ENTERTAINMENT

- Movie ticket savings of up to 40 percent.
- Sightseeing savings at shows, museums, zoos and sporting events in selected cities.

buy where it counts!  
[www.aftplus.org](http://www.aftplus.org)



A Union of Professionals

**AFT+**  
Member Benefits

AFT has an expense reimbursement and/or endorsement arrangement for marketing this program. For more information, please contact AFT Financial Services at 800/238-1139, ext. 4492; send an e-mail to [disclosure@aft.org](mailto:disclosure@aft.org); or visit [www.aftplus.org/disclosure](http://www.aftplus.org/disclosure).

Amendment 54, passed this November, is a very complex and confusing amendment that went into effect January 1, 2009. On Thursday, January 22, two lawsuits were filed against Amendment 54. Both suits are based on the unconstitutional nature of the amendment because of its restriction of free speech. One suit will be filed by Protect Colorado's Future and, the other will be filed by "Colorado Concerned" and other non-profit organizations. Colorado Concerned is the business partnership that worked to help defeat 47, 49, and 54. There will be a request for an injunction to stop the implementation while the lawsuits are heard.

Below is the summary of Amendment 54 with links to the language and details concerning this very controversial amendment.

### Summary of Measure

Amendment 54 changes the state constitution to prohibit sole-source government contractors from contributing to a political party or candidate for the contract's duration and two years after. The amendment also prohibits contributors to ballot issue campaigns from entering into sole-source government contracts relating to the issue. Sole-source government contracts are defined as any state or local government contract with a value of more than \$100,000, and one that does not use a public and competitive bidding process where at least three bids are solicited. Sole-source government contracts also include collective bargaining agreements with labor organizations.

The Department of Personnel and Administration is required to publish and maintain a summary of each sole-source government contract issued by the state or a local government. Contractors must prepare and deliver contract summaries to the department. The summaries are to identify names and addresses of contract holders, describe the nature of the contract, disclose the start and end date of the contract, and the contract payment schedule.

Finally, the amendment specifies that a contract holder in violation of the above prohibitions is ineligible to hold a government contract, or public employment with the state or a local government for three years. Knowing violation of these provisions by an elected official is grounds for removal from office, and constitutes misconduct or malfeasance.

#### Links:

[http://www.state.co.us/gov\\_dir/leg\\_dir/lcsstaff/bluebook/2008Bluebookmainpage.htm](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/bluebook/2008Bluebookmainpage.htm)

[http://www.elections.colorado.gov/WWW/default/Initiatives/Title%20Board%20Filings/2007-2008%20Filings/Results/result\\_59.pdf](http://www.elections.colorado.gov/WWW/default/Initiatives/Title%20Board%20Filings/2007-2008%20Filings/Results/result_59.pdf)

[http://www.elections.colorado.gov/WWW/default/Initiatives/Title%20Board%20Filings/2007-2008%20Filings/Final%20Text/final\\_text\\_59.PDF](http://www.elections.colorado.gov/WWW/default/Initiatives/Title%20Board%20Filings/2007-2008%20Filings/Final%20Text/final_text_59.PDF)

*Douglas  
County  
Federation*

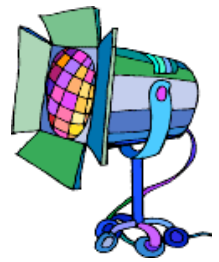
DCF  
801 S. Perry Street  
Suite 140  
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

PHONE:  
303-688-3381

FAX:  
303-688-1039

WEBSITE:  
DCFT.net

# Union Member Spotlight



**Name:** Nicole DiPasquale  
**School:** 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher - Cougar Run Elementary  
**Years with DCSD:** 13 years

**Union Position:** (Building Rep./Board Member)  
Building Rep. and Board Member

**Why you became a Union member:** I became a Union member my first year of teaching. I like being involved and knowing what decisions are being made surrounding my profession. I also like knowing that I am supported by an organization that I trust.

**What you like best about working for DCSD:** The people that are in our district are what I like most about working for DCSD. I have found that people are supportive of each other and innovative in their teaching.

**What you enjoy doing in your spare time:** In my spare time I enjoy doing anything with my two children, playing soccer, reading a good book, and any type of crafting.

**Name:** Pam Fairley  
**School:** Plum Creek Academy  
MS/HS Principal's Secretary/  
Registrar/Bookkeeper  
**Years with DCSD:** 10.5

**Why I became a union member:** I like that the Union is the collective voices of all of the individual employees and though this school district is a wonderful organization in which to work, I think there are facets of it that might be improved. Being a Union member helps me to get involved in that process.

**What do you like best about working for DCSD:** The focus is always on helping students become the best at what they wish to become and helping staff develop and further themselves professionally.

**What you enjoy doing in your spare time:** I have two sons who have been very involved at Mountain Vista High School and I volunteer much of my spare time there. When they are not too busy I love to take road trips with them...we have explored much of the west and southwestern U.S. and the rich history of the region. I hope to have time with them to explore the eastern U.S. where colonial America began.

**Name:** Deanne McLendon

**School/Site:** Mountain Vista High School

**Years with DCSD:** 10 years

**Union Position:** Building Rep for Classified

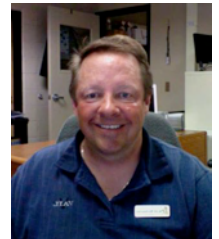


**Why I became a union member:** To help make a difference for Classified Employees

**What do you like best about working for DCSD:** The people and students.

**What you enjoy doing in your spare time:** Walking, enjoying yummy coffee and foods and spending time with friends and family.

**Name:** Scott Buchannan  
**School:** Ponderosa High  
Computer Resource Teacher  
**Years with DCSD:** 21 years  
**Union Position:** I have been a building representative for 20 years and served on the board for 8 years.



**Current Assignment:** I am the instructional Computer Resource Teacher at Ponderosa High School. I help all of the students and staff with their instructional and administrative technology needs.

**Why I became a Union member:** Why not! Being a union member is very important for everyone working in public schools. I like to have a voice and be able to help others in a positive way. The DCF is an innovative and progressive union that tries to help all of the employees in DCSD. I value the insurance and having a say in the negotiations aspect of the union.

**What you like best about working for DCSD:** I like helping people. Our students and staff are great people who, for the most part, want to learn.

**What you enjoy doing in your spare time:** I love to ski. I ride my bike a lot. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends.



Bill Hamaker shows off his new iTouch. Bill is the Building Representative for Pine Lane Intermediate.

## Building Rep Challenge

As part of a membership drive for the Douglas County Federation, building representatives were challenged to sign up at least 2 new members. Those who gained at least 2 members for the DCF, placed their names into the “hat” for a drawing for an iTouch donated by the Douglas County Education Foundation.

The iTouch went to Bill Hamaker, Building Representative for Pine Lane Intermediate. Congratulations, Bill!

## FYI: Knowledge Level Advancement Clarification

During the negotiations sessions this year, both sides agreed to clarify language dealing with knowledge level advancement for certified personnel.

The negotiating teams agreed to change section J, page 35 of the teachers’ contract to read:

“Teachers may submit (replacing receive) no more than 16 credits toward knowledge level advancement on the teacher’s salary schedule per six month period.”

The date the Knowledge Level Advancement goes into effect is the date the District receives the credit completion information not when the District processes it.

\*\*Both the Certified Contract and the Classified Contract can be found online at [DCFT.net](http://DCFT.net).



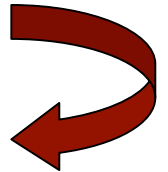
## Bargaining Update

## Membership Update!

Certified Membership:  
2479

Classified Membership:  
801

Pass the word!!!



The Douglas County Federation of Retirees will hold their very first General Membership meeting on January 28, 2009 at Sand Creek Elementary - 4:30PM. This meeting’s agenda will include election of officers and adoption of chapter by-laws.

# AFT and NEA Bring Inauguration to the Classroom

The AFT, in partnership with the NEA and the Presidential Inaugural Committee, has created inauguration-focused lesson plans to help educators discuss with their students the historic swearing-in of Barack Obama as president of the United States. The lesson plans are available on the [AFT Web site](#). "The American presidential inauguration is a transformational moment that brings together our collective past and present, and our hopes for the future," says AFT president Randi Weingarten. "It reminds us more clearly than mere words ever could that power in this country truly rests with the American people. These lesson plans are intended as tools to help teachers and their students live our rich history and build our brighter future."

The lesson plans are designed to teach students about the history of Inauguration Day and provide information about the 2009 inaugural schedule of events as well as background on traditional inaugural ceremonies. The guides also suggest ways to supplement the lessons with discussion topics, films, books and educational Web sites. The materials are geared toward all K-12 grades.

---

---

## Upcoming Douglas County Federation Elections



Current Members of the DCF Certified Executive Board:

Brenda Smith, Pres.; Jody Perry (Papini), V-Pres.; Cheryl Heaton, Secretary; Cindi Leitch, Treasurer; Members-At-Large: Suzanne Wyatt, Chris Bell, Rick Umbach, Carlye Holladay, Mike O'Day, Joe White, Gwen Marlatt, Nicole DiPasquale, Kiersten Martinez, Laura Bush, Kim Herrell and Pat Nicholson.



The nomination's window will be "open" from January 13 through January 27. Building Representatives sent out information earlier this month.

---

---

# Save the Date!



**January 28**

1<sup>st</sup> General Membership Meeting  
for DCF Retirees/Sand Creek  
Elementary – 4:30pm

**February 2**

Certified Executive Board Meeting

**March 2**

General Membership Meeting  
Embassy Suites  
Denver Tech Center (10250 E.  
Costilla Ave., Centennial 80112)

