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## News from the Office of Standards & Instructional Support

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The webinar from October 11 is now posted on the Reading, Writing, and Communicating webpage: [PARCC Test Construction Presentation](#). I have two hopes for this webinar and accompanying documents.

- The first is that the materials prove useful to support student learning. For some of you, the material may not be too new in terms of content (although the layout and presentation may stimulate some new thinking). For others, the materials may give a bit more insight into the Literary Analysis Task, the Research Simulation Task, and the Narrative Writing Task on the PARCC assessment.
- My second hope is that this information will be seen as support for standards-based curriculum design and lesson planning. My fear is that it will be seen as “teaching to the test”; my hope is that the materials will illustrate what the standardized assessment “looks like” so we may better prepare our students. I am a firm believer that the best preparation is strong, standards-based instruction as students tackle meaningful and challenging texts, as they compose authentic writings of their own, and as they have rich discussions in classrooms.

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## CDE News

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**Standards Review and Revision:** CDE invites educators, educational leaders, parents, students and the general public to share their perceptions of the Colorado Academic Standards through an online survey available through Nov. 13. To participate, click here: <http://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/3050456/Colorado-Department-of-Education-Academic-Standards-Survey>

The results of the survey will inform the department’s planning for the upcoming review and revision of the standards, required by Senate Bill 08-212, known as Colorado’s Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K). The law requires a review and revision of the CAS on or before July 1, 2018 and every six years thereafter.

In addition to the survey on general perceptions of the standards, CDE will launch an online feedback system in November which will enable all Coloradoans to provide

specific feedback on every expectation within the 10 content areas included in the Colorado Academic Standards.

In early 2017, CDE will provide comprehensive information about the timeline and phases of the standards review and revision process as well as information about how to become involved.

The survey and online standards feedback system can be found at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview>. General questions and comments about the review and revision process can be sent to [standardsreview2018@cde.state.co.us](mailto:standardsreview2018@cde.state.co.us).

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## NCTE, CCIRA, CLAS Notes

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**CLAS:** CLAS had a terrific turn-out for the Regional Fall Conference. To follow The Colorado Language Arts Society, see their new website [here](#).

**NCTE:** I really enjoy the **Field Notes** section of the NCTE website. This month, the Executive Director, Emily Kirkpatrick, reflected on and posted the new [Why I Write Podcast](#).

**CCIRA:** Registration for the [Colorado Council International Reading Association](#)’s 2017 Conference is now open. I am looking forward to the [2017 Conference](#): “Golden Ingredients for 50 Years of Literacy,” February 4-7. What a line-up they have for speakers, authors, and sessions!

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## Research and Resources

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NCTE’s [“The Assessment Story Project”](#) presents their findings regarding Literacy Assessment. 530 teachers responded to their survey.

NCTE also has a [Position Statement on Formative Assessment](#).

[“A Formative Assessment System for Writing Improvement”](#) by Nancy Frey and Douglas Fisher.

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## Contact Info

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Please feel free to contact me at [puzick\\_v@cde.state.co.us](mailto:puzick_v@cde.state.co.us) or (303) 866-6583. I would love to have feedback on the monthly e-update or hear suggestions for topics you would like to have addressed. If you would like to opt-out of this e-update, please let me know.