



SKI COUNTRY EDUCATOR

November – December 2008

Time to move forward

Now that election 2008 is history we can all breath a collective sigh of relief. Two of the “triple play threat” amendments we worked so hard to defeat were voted down resoundingly. Unfortunately, one of the amendments did pass. Amendment 54 that prohibits unions and their officers including their spouses, children, in-laws, nieces, nephews, guardians, domestic partners, and other family members from making campaign contributions to a political party or candidate, or contributions to a ballot issue, did pass by a narrow margin. In discussions with CEA legal there is a good chance that this amendment could be challenged in court because of the constitutionally guaranteed right of free speech. CEA and Ski Country UniServ will keep you informed as to the ramifications of the passage of Amendment 54.

Election results from the 2008 NEA, CEA, and Ski Country UniServ recommendations are listed on the following pages.

SCUU and CEA would like to thank all of you who worked so hard to make this election a success for public education and public education employees.

...Dennis Carlson, Ski Country UniServ

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HOW DID WE DO?

**NEA, CEA, AND SKI COUNTRY UNISERV RECOMMENDATIONS
AND RESULTS FROM ELECTION 2008**

Amendment 47 – Prohibition on Mandatory Labor Union Dues
CEA Position – Vote NO
Defeated

Amendment 49 – Rules for Public Employee Paycheck Deductions
CEA Position – Vote NO
Defeated

**Amendment 54 – Campaign Contributions From Certain Government
Contractors and Unions**
CEA Position – Vote NO
Narrowly Passed

Amendment 59 – Savings Account for K-12 Education
CEA Position – Vote YES
Narrowly Defeated

NEA Recommended Candidate for President of the United States
Barack Obama – *Elected*

CEA Recommended Candidate for U.S. Senate
Mark Udall – *Elected*

CEA Recommended Candidate for U.S. Congress
Jared Polis – *Elected*

SCUU Recommended Candidate for Senate District 8
Al White – *Elected*

SCUU Recommended Candidate for Senate District 16
Dan Gibbs – *Elected*

SCUU Recommended Candidate for House District 56
Christine Scanlan – *Elected*

SCUU Recommended Candidate for House District 61
Kathleen Curry – *Elected*

Results of Mill and Bond Referendums in Ski Country UniServ

The good news:

- Routt County voters passed both Referendum 2A and 2B – Approving a half cent sales tax for the purpose of additional education funding in the Hayden, South Routt, and Steamboat Springs School Districts.
- Aspen voters passed both Referendum 3A and 3B – Approving additional dollars for technology funding and affordable housing for District employees.

The bad news:

- Voters in Leadville narrowly defeated Referendum 3A and 3B which would have provided additional money for a mill and bond issue in the Lake County School District.

The Steamboat Springs EA, Aspen EA, and Lake County EA each requested and were granted money from CEA's Fund for Children and Public Education to help support their mill and bond initiatives.

Thank YOU !

Thanks again and congratulations to all of you who knocked on doors, distributed materials, put up yard signs, made phone calls, and cast your votes. Again, this shows the great power of our Association and the monumental accomplishments when we speak with one voice.

...NEA, CEA, and Ski Country UniServ

American Education Week

Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility

November 16-22, 2008

**American Education Week
Online Toolkit – Copy and paste the following link
<http://www.nea.org/aew/toolkit.html>**

- Activity Ideas
- Background Information/Fact Sheets
- Media Tips
- Promotional Materials

American Education Week—November 16–22, 2008—presents all Americans with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. The weeklong celebration features a special observance each day of the week. They include:

- **Monday, November 17: Open House Day**
- **Tuesday, November 18: Parents Day**
- **Wednesday, November 19: Education Support Professionals Day**
- **Thursday, November 20: Educator for a Day**
- **Friday, November 21: Substitute Educators Day**

To help you plan these celebration days, we have developed this online toolkit with background information, activity ideas, and tips for working with the media, as well as downloadable resources, templates, and promotional materials.

We hope you will join in our American Education Week efforts by using this online toolkit to create unforgettable events and activities that will highlight the importance of bringing together everyone in the community—educators, parents, students, and public figures—in an effort to build great public schools. Together, we can make a difference.