



Democrats for Education Reform

ROLE: Political Analyst

LOCATION: Denver, CO

START DATE: August 1, 2021

REPORTS TO: State Director/Political Director

ROLE OVERVIEW

Democrats for Education Reform – Colorado (DFER) seeks a Political Analyst to provide critical support in upcoming elections for the 2021 and 2022 cycle. This role will track campaign information, community events, district meetings, and candidates for elections in school board and Democratic Primary elections to assist the Political Director and State Director in making endorsement and support decisions. This role is ideal for extroverted applicants who enjoy networking with candidates for office and their staff, and who have experience working on campaigns and in public policy.

WHO WE ARE

Democrats for Education Reform (DFER) is a national political organization that supports elected Democrats and candidates for office who seek to expand policies and practices that work well for America's students and confront those that do not. We are education progressives who prioritize students and families, especially low-income students and students of color who should be better served by our country's public education system.

DFER partner **Education Reform Now Advocacy (ERNA)** is an advocacy group that advances education reform measures through empowering community leaders to support our legislative and political advocacy work. ERNA keeps constant pressure on legislators to champion high-quality public education.

DFER partner **Education Reform Now (ERN)** is a nonpartisan think tank that promotes increased resources and innovative reforms in K-16 public education, particularly for students of color and students from low-income families.

WHAT WE DO

1. Support for Progressive Education Leaders — In an approach that is markedly different from our peers and partners in the field, DFER engages directly with candidates and elected officials to empower them to advocate for education policies that focus foremost on serving students. Our partner organization ERN's work involves policy research, analysis and education that helps policy makers at all levels understand complex education issues and make informed decisions.

2. Informing the Education Debate in Colorado — Our coalition leadership is shown through our work with the Equity in Colorado Coalition, Communities of Practice, and the K-12 Round table. We work collaboratively with organizations such as the Colorado Department of Education, Colorado Children's Campaign, Denver Public Schools, Transform Education Now, Stand for Children, OurTurn, New Era Colorado, Young Invincibles, and numerous other organizations to create an education system that is held

accountable to all kids and families.

3. Targeted Interventions and Rapid Response — DFER's breadth and depth of reach from the most local district relationships to state and federal policymakers, enable us to respond quickly to the changing landscape and policy trends. Activities vary significantly from project to project and may include training, policy analysis, public engagement, electoral and issue advocacy, and policy guidance for elected officials and local advocates.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Monitor campaign activity including fundraising, field, and communications. This monitoring includes and is not limited to tracking financial statements, summarizing regular candidate communications, and attending campaign events as a representative of Democrats for Education Reform.
- Represent DFER-CO and our policy interests in meetings with relevant education coalitions.
- Track statements and positions made by candidates that support and oppose the policy goals of DFER-CO in order to develop narratives and messaging that supports reform candidates.
- Track relevant events including school board and community meetings to build connections with stakeholders and understanding of policy and political implications for the DFER-CO team.
- Act as a representative of DFER-CO in coalition spaces.
- Analyze and report on the political implications of financial reports filed by candidates supported and opposed by DFER-CO.
- Support DFER Colorado staff understanding of candidate messaging on policy priorities in written, virtual, and face to face settings.
- By nature of the work, applicants will be expected to attend events in person, although there is flexibility in regular office attendance hours.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- Strong research and analytical skills.
- At least one cycle of experience working or volunteering on a political campaign.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective personal relationships with coalition members, community, candidates and their staff.
- Willingness to be flexible in an entrepreneurial and intense work environment.
- Passion for DFER's mission and vision.

COMPENSATION

This position is a salaried position with a range of \$58,500 - \$70,000 per year plus benefits which include: a 401k plan with matching contributions, health insurance, and cell phone reimbursement.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Democrats for Education Reform welcomes applications from all, and strongly encourages women, people of color, people with disabilities, immigrants, refugees & LGBTQ people to apply for this position. We are committed to maximizing the diversity of our organization and recruiting a team that reflects the diversity of Colorado students.

HOW TO APPLY

Email the DFER CO Political Director, Will Andras, at will@dfer.org with a resume.