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Welcome Back to the New School Year!



We are thrilled to continue the work of our six Genesis Group initiatives this year! We want to remind you that we are here to help, both through the work of the CREC, and through the work of our umbrella organization, [Generation Schools Network](#), an award winning, education non-profit with 15+ years of experience supporting districts and schools across the country and approved by CDE as a provider in many areas. Our staff is made up of highly experienced former teachers, principals and superintendents with deep experience in traditional, innovation, charter, alternative, and private schools across Colorado. If there is additional support your district needs this year, please reply to this email and our team will be happy to discuss your needs with you, and even assist in finding funding to support those efforts.

New CREC Districts!

Cheyenne County School District

The CREC welcomes [Cheyenne County School District RE-5](#) as our 73rd member district! Cheyenne County School District serves approximately 173 students in grades PK-12. Their mission is *to become a total quality district by providing excellent educational services, in all phases of education, to all students, in a stable consistent environment.*



Mancos School District

The CREC also welcomes [Mancos School District RE-6A](#) as our 74th member district! Located in Montezuma County, Mancos serves 465 PK-12 students. Their mission is *to foster safe, positive and rigorous learning experiences in partnership with their community.*

We look forward to supporting Cheyenne County and Mancos through their membership in the collaborative.



Redefining Rural - New Episode Alert!



Keep an eye out for Season 3 in early September by [following Redefining Rural](#) on social media!

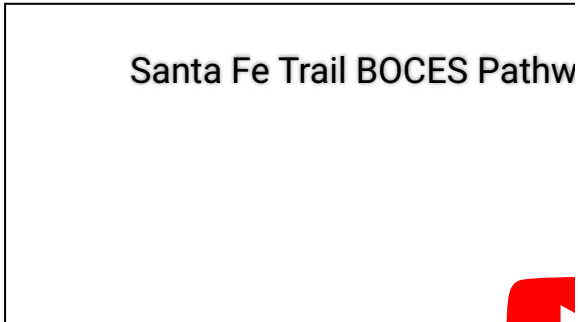
Upcoming Events!

September 9th, 2:00 - 3:00 PM
Superintendent Redefining Rural Roundtable
Join us for our welcome back roundtable!
Register [here](#)

Genesis Group Updates

College and Career Readiness

Santa Fe Trails BOCES Pathways to Prosperity



Watch students, employers, and educators discuss the benefits of the Santa Fe Trail BOCES Pathways to Prosperity college career readiness program [here](#).

Welcome Gina Angelini - Workforce Coordinator for the I-76 Pathways to Prosperity Project!

Gina joined Generation Schools Network in 2021 bringing a wealth of experience to the team to support the College and Career Readiness program along the I-76 Corridor. Her strengths include project management, program development and implementation, global and local outreach, training, and presentations, working with diverse cultural populations, fostering and maintaining strong working relationships, integrity, and professionalism. Gina was previously a



program manager with the CSU Energy Institute and holds a Master's Degree of Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix.

GSN to Embed The Social Capital Playbook in Pathways to Prosperity Work

Beginning this fall, GSN will come alongside districts/schools involved in Pathways to Prosperity efforts (College and Career Readiness) to help them embed and integrate *The Social Capital Playbook*. According to developers, The Christensen Institute: its intent is to "help K-12 and postsecondary leadership and nonprofits that work with those institutions to implement and adapt strategies, tools, and metrics that build and strengthen their students' networks in support of their well-being and with the aim of expanding their postsecondary and career options."

GSN's CEO, Wendy Loloff Cooper supported playbook development in preparation for utilizing the materials to guide local stakeholders in selecting and incorporating intentional strategies to build student's social capital in pursuit of their career goals. You can find the playbook [here](#). If you're interested in learning more about how to incorporate the playbook into your college/career readiness work with students, contact Elliot Zettas, Sr. Manager of College and Career Readiness at ezettas@generationschools.org



Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP)

Student-Centered Accountability and Reporting - Now Available!



The Student-Centered Reporting Solution is a homegrown technology solution that currently serves districts across Colorado and beyond, bringing together education leaders, researchers, policy makers, technology funders and programmers to remove persistent barriers to addressing equity in education. Rather than being a product provided by a tech vendor, the project uses the EdFi standard to support the grassroots Colorado Rural Education Collaborative (CREC) efforts across districts in reporting out to their local communities in support of their vision to achieve equitable, student-centered teaching and learning. Learn more [here](#).

If you would like to consider whether the Student Centered Reporting Solution is right for your district or BOCES, contact Kirk Banghart at kbanghart@generationschools.org or Katie Peyton at kpeyton@generationschools.org.

Northeast BOCES - CDE Grantee Report

Click here to watch Tamara Durbin, Northeast BOCES Executive Director, present to CDE on progress made and lessons learned during the NE BOCES local accountability pilot. The NE BOCES project serves three rural Colorado public school districts: Plateau, Revere, and Yuma. It focuses on enabling the use of an assessment tool that has value to key stakeholders

and creation of dashboard reports that will allow stakeholders to see the success of the school systems.

Student-Centered Accountability Program - CDE Grantee Report

Click here to watch Lisa Yates, Superintendent at Buena Vista School District, present to CDE on progress made and lessons learned within the Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP). S-CAP is a collaborative effort by rural districts in Colorado to create a more comprehensive and actionable system of accountability than the state District and School Performance Framework.



Social Emotional Learning & At-Risk Students



Many Social Emotional Learning (SEL) units are available for free as you begin your school year. Please visit our [online store](#) to learn more. The units are part of GSN's evidence-based SEL programming. To learn more about the research behind the program, [click here](#).

STEM Implementation

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant

Congratulations to Cañon City and Wiggins school districts on receiving the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant and to Aguilar, Huerfano, and



Primero on renewing their grants. The 21st CCLC program is designed to support districts in providing students opportunities for academic enrichment, offering students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities after school and in the summer, as well as offering families opportunities for active and meaningful engagement in their children's education. This round of grants supports students engaging in coding and teachers participating in a state-wide computer science PLC to build their skills amongst other facets of programming.

Coding Please?

If you are interested in introducing your students to coding and building your teacher capacity in this area, please contact Kym Myers (kmyers@generationschools.org) for assistance with obtaining CDE grants to accomplish this.

The Computer Science Education Grant programs consist of two separate grants:

1. Computer Science Teacher Education Grant
2. Computer Science Education Grant (student activity)

Applications Due: Friday, September 10th by 11:59pm

STEM Quests?

The CREC has partnered with LearningBlade to offer students (especially middle schoolers) the opportunity to learn and apply STEM skills through fun and engaging quests driven by

problem-based learning scenarios. Quests cover many topics and LearningBlade engages students in ways traditional learning does not. Check out LearningBlade here: <http://learningblade.com/> and let Elliot Zettas (ezettas@generationschools.org) know you would like FREE access and training for your teachers.

Teacher/Leader Efficacy

You're Invited!

Grassroots Statewide Principal PLC Coming Soon!

If you would appreciate the opportunity to join a guided, monthly 60-90 minute opportunity to learn from and collaborate with other principals across the state throughout the school year, we invite you to join us! Generation Schools Network and the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative are collaborating to bring you this opportunity during the 2021-2022 school year. Being a principal is one of the most challenging jobs that exists and we want to make sure you aren't leading alone!

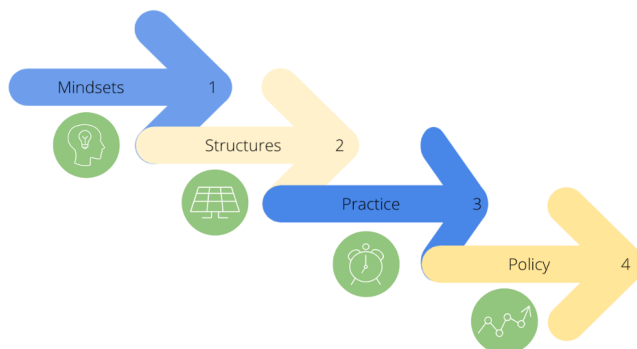
The format will include:

- light guidance from highly experienced principals,
- opportunities to ask questions and learn from one another in discussion groups or through consultancy protocols,
- exposure to conversations across the state,
- new opportunities you may not have been aware of for you, your students, families, and teachers the opportunity to attend every time or as often as it works for you or your team!

The trajectory for monthly sessions will be responsive to participant needs and generally follow the school year calendar. Potential topics include Family Engagement Strategies, College and Career Readiness, and STEM.

To receive monthly Zoom invitations and submit topics, please enter your information [here](#).

Teacher Recruitment & Retention



Launch of Additional Job-Alike PLCs in the South Central BOCES

The CREC is excited to announce that we will be supporting the South Central BOCES (SC BOCES) during the 2021-2022 school year through their Job-Alike Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). This builds on the work started in 2018 that demonstrated dramatic teacher

efficacy and a 90% math teacher retention rate. You can read the report [here](#). GSN will continue to employ its *theory of change* (left) to improve outcomes for students throughout the BOCES by building teacher/leader trust, identifying problems of practice, supporting problem solving and capacity building, and monitoring progress. The PLCs will be focused on:

1. Early Childhood Education (ECE)
2. Gifted and Talented (G&T)
3. Elementary Math
4. Secondary Math

5. Elementary Science and
6. Secondary Science

and will promote best practices to improve student learning and well being. For more about the impact of BOCES and state-wide PLCs, click [here](#).

Post your job openings for 2020-21!

The CREC advertises job openings on the CREC website and through a monthly job openings eblast that goes out to more than 100 agencies and higher education institutions, giving your postings a wider audience! This is a great opportunity for our members to bring future educators into the amazing rural communities of Colorado!



To view our job board, click [here](#). To submit an open position to our job board, click [here](#). To take off a job posting that has been filled, email sbommer@generationschools.org.

Contact Us!

Kirk Banghart, Chief Facilitator - Colorado Rural Education Collaborative

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