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Good News

Welcome to the CREC SEL Community DeBeque School District!

Thanks to a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation, DeBeque School District will receive support over the course of the next year for SEL integration in the form of planning, professional development, curriculum, coaching and data analysis. If your school or district is interested in joining the next CREC SEL cohort, please contact Kirk Banghart.



DeBeque Dragons

State University - Global Campus sponsored series. This series is focused on bringing awareness to the rural communities of Colorado in the education sector.

In today's episode, Kirk Banghart of the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative, Michelle Murphy of Colorado Rural Alliance, and Denille Leplatt of Rural Services at the Colorado Department of Education come to us live from the Colorado Association of School Boards Annual Conference to talk more about opportunities for kids in rural Colorado.

Redefining Rural Colorado Association of School Boards - Annual Conference

Redefining Rural is a Colorado



Attendees listen to a presentation at CASB.



Special guests include the Craig Middle School Engineering Group, including several of the students along with their sponsor, Ms. Cristina Vanzo, and John Whittler of the Vilas School District and Ogallala Commons to discuss youth engagement and workforce development.

To see the full episode playlist, click [here](#). You can also view episodes on the CREC website [here](#) or download from Google Podcast, iTunes, or Stitcher.

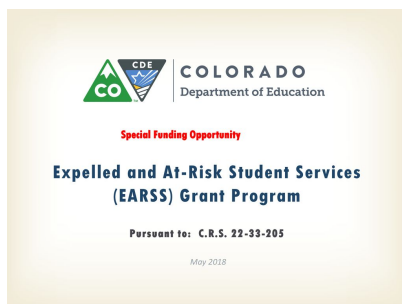
Nathan Yip Foundation - Free Furniture Donation

We received a note from Rooney Ranch Elementary School in Green Mountain (Lakewood, CO). They have some furniture they are looking to donate. They are hoping to have all items picked up by January 17th. Unfortunately, neither they nor we are able to deliver, and I know that it would probably require a truck rental - which may be prohibitive.



If interested, please contact [Jessica Pietschmann](#).

Upcoming Grants



GSN can support CREC districts in applying for and implementing CDE grants, including 2 upcoming opportunities:

The Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant (EARSS) assists in providing educational and supportive, early intervention services to students who are expelled or suspended, at-risk of expulsion or suspension, truant or at-risk of habitual truancy. This grant provides four years of funding, starting at approximately \$3,000/student in Years

1 and 2 before decreasing toward sustainability. The Intent to Apply is due in January 2020 and the grant will be due in March 2020. Among other strategies, GSN has designed a case management approach that places full-time Advocates in the school to provide support to students and parents and works with schools and districts throughout the implementation process.

21st Century Community Learning

Centers is a CDE grant program 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. The grant provides up to five years of funding at approximately \$50-150,000 per year. The Intent to Apply is due in February 2020 and the grant will be due in April 2020.



Please contact **Meredith Foulke** at 720-452-3607, mfoulke@generationschools.org if you are interested in receiving support around either of these opportunities.

Genesis Group Updates

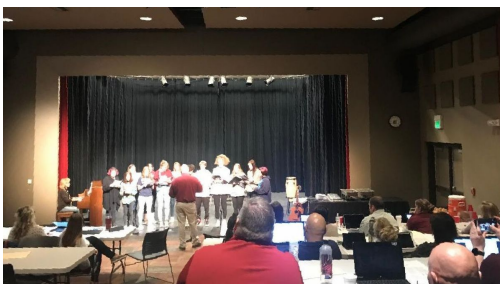
Teacher Recruitment & Retention



Congratulations to East Central BOCES for winning a CDE Teacher Recruitment & Retention Grant! EC BOCES Districts math teachers will be offered master's degrees in Teaching & Learning with an emphasis in math from Colorado State University - Global Campus, participate in professional development and professional learning communities as a cohort with support from the University of Denver and Generation Schools Network. They join the San Luis Valley BOCES and the Northeast BOCES in addressing the challenge of teacher recruitment and retention related to math.

Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP)

We are currently looking for ten new districts to join S-CAP which is at the forefront of peer-driven innovation in the accountability space. If you are interested in learning more about S-CAP or becoming a member, please visit the S-CAP website and plan on attending one of our School Site Reviews (SSR).



Check the SSR dates on the S-CAP [website](#), register and bring teachers with you. Teachers have said that attending an SSR is some of the most valuable PD they have ever experienced.

You can learn more about the S-CAP program and services offered by clicking [here](#) or watching the video at this [link!](#)

SSR reviewers enjoy a musical performance from Buffalo/Merino's school choir.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Monthly SEL Forum

If you are interested in learning and collaborating with others around SEL implementation in your school, please join the Monthly SEL Forum. The next SEL forum will be **January 21, 2020 from 3-4PM. You can join the call by using this link:**

<https://zoom.us/j/552008403>

Past SEL Forum Topics can be accessed [here](#).

SEL Expansion Grant Updates

The CREC is to be continuing the work of the of the Rural Expansion Project for Social Emotional Learning! The participating districts started out the year with a refresher training on the importance of SEL in schools and its positive effect on academics, behavior, and credit acquisition.

There are currently more than a dozen districts working together to implement SEL in their schools and the data around impact is strong.

- 75% of students indicating they "agree" or "somewhat agree" that they "enjoy their Advocacy/SEL class."
- 78% positive student response to learning skills that will help them succeed in school, work, and life" with 44% reporting that they agree and 34% reporting that they somewhat agree.
- 71% positive student response to the "I feel like my Advocacy/SEL group is a safe space with people I trust who don't judge me" statement with 33% reporting that they agree and 38% reporting that they somewhat agree.



These districts are in the process of implementing an SEL structure, receiving planning and data support, professional development for staff and coaching for administration in the area of SEL along with free access to curriculum and assessment.

The CREC will continue to offer opportunities for new districts to participate. If you are a district interested in participating in social/emotional learning, please contact [Kirk Banghart](#) for more information.

College and Career Readiness

Coming Soon!

Watch for opportunities for your students to experience life on the University of Colorado Boulder campus.

Join the CREC at Winter CASE to learn more about the College/Career Readiness Pathway in Santa Fe Trail BOCES and how the six districts are partnering to provide opportunities for their students in the form of Entrepreneurship Camps and Fairs, Career Cab, Work-based Learning Scenarios, Internships and more.

STEM

Denver Museum of Nature and Science FREE Curiosity Kits:



A crate full of Museum goodness will be delivered with everything you need to lead unforgettable science experiences in your classroom. Your kit arrives Monday with curriculum and supplies to use with up to 105 students throughout the week. Learn more [here](#).

Lost Worlds of Colorado

Dig in and explore real fossils, gather scientific evidence, and recreate dioramas for Denver ancient environments. (Grades 2-5).

Built to Fly

Take flight in a design challenge that has students use inspiration from nature to build and test their own gliders.

(Grades 2-5)

Powered by Nature

Light up Colorado with this strategy-based board game that challenges students to work together to responsibly power up the state's electrical grid. (Grades 4-8)

[Book now](#) to reserve your spot, and remember to use the promo code: freecuriosity to get your 100% discount at checkout. If you have any questions about booking or availability, please call 303-370-6453!

If you would like to join the work of one of the CREC's Genesis Work Groups, please contact [Kirk Banghart](#).

CREC Website Job Board

REMINDER: We advertise job openings on the CREC website and once a month, a job openings e-blast goes out to more than 100 agencies and higher education institutions, giving your postings a wider audience! In addition to the job board, teachers can submit resumes for superintendents and administrators to review. 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](#).

Upcoming Events

S-CAP Professional Development Opportunities!

The Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) is actively looking for people to attend and participate as a Reviewer or Observer at the upcoming S-CAP System Site Review (SSR) events listed below:

2019-2020 System Site Review Full Schedule [here](#).

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Hanover

[Register here](#)

Wednesday and Thursday, January 22-23, 2020

Akron

[Register here](#)

Tuesday and Wednesday, February 4-5, 2020

Wiggins

[Register here](#)

To learn more about S-CAP, click [here](#).

Contact Us!

Kirk Banghart, Chief Facilitator - Colorado Rural Education Collaborative

720-452-3603 | kbanghart@generationschools.org

  | <http://www.coruraledcollab.org>
