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Redefining Rural - New Episode Alert!



In this episode, Frank Reeves, superintendent of East Grand School District, and Liz Bauer, superintendent of West Grand School District, discuss the Homegrown Talent Initiative, the work they've done - separately and as a team - within Grand County, and how they are creating community in and outside of their schools.

To learn more, listen to the entire episode and follow *Redefining Rural* on social media [here](#).

Rural Colorado Coaction Grant Released



The Rural Coaction Grant “exists to provide funding to coalitions of LEPs and/or Board of Cooperative Services (BOCES) **designated as rural** to utilize a collaborative partnership to increase student access to and engagement with student career pathways and career-connected learning.” If your district is interested in applying, contact [Kirk Banghart](#) or reply to this email! For more information, click [here](#).

Genesis Group Updates

College and Career Readiness



Students participate in a resume-building activity at Brush in Fall of 2021.

Coming soon...

I-76 Soft Skills Boot Camp

Thursday, March 31, 8:30-10:30 AM

The I-76 Partnerships for Prosperity Soft Skills Boot Camp will be hosted by Generation Schools Network (GSN) at Brush School District on Thursday, 3/31 from 8:30 to 10:30, for middle school students. North Star Skills in this Pathway include Leadership, Integrity, and Communication, which will be interwoven into interactive soft skills programming. Students will learn to cultivate a network, hone communication skills, prepare for a job interview, etc. Middle schoolers from Brush, Wiggins, Fort Morgan, Platte Valley, Weldon Valley, and Weld RE3J are invited to attend. Please contact [Gina Angelini](#) to register.

Learn more about the [I-76 Partnerships for Prosperity](#) effort.

I-76 Entrepreneurship Fair

Tuesday, April 26





Do you have students who are potential entrepreneurs or have a business idea they would like to try? The CREC has partnered with WeThrive to provide a FREE Curriculum and app to guide students as well as make investments in their ideas. GSN is partnering with Ogallala Commons to organize this event, which will provide an opportunity for students to share their ideas with the business community, win prizes, and receive coaching and feedback. Get your students involved by contacting [Elliot Zettas](#) or [Gina Angelini](#). Special thanks to the OtterCares Foundation for sponsoring the event!

Social Capital Building Skills being Added to Rural Pathways Efforts

Thanks to a local funder, CREC schools and districts participating in [GSN's Partnerships for Prosperity effort](#) will have the opportunity to implement aspects of the Clayton Christensen's Institute's new Social Capital Playbook in a way that advances their pathways work. Both the Christensen Institute's Social Capital team led by Julia Freeland Fisher and GSN's rural team will support the effort.



**CHRISTENSEN
INSTITUTE**

Interested? Access the [playbook](#).

Wondering why social capital matters? Check out this [talk](#).

Social Emotional Learning & Students At-Risk

Member districts awarded CDE Grants with Support of CREC

Congratulations to CREC member districts and BOCES for securing Bullying Prevention Grants to reduce incidents of bullying and ensure all students feel safe.

Grant Winners:

- Hanover School District
- South Central BOCES (Aguilar, Huerfano, and Manzanola School Districts)



Rural districts across the CREC have demonstrated strong results through implementing Bullying Prevention Grants including a 15% decrease in bullying incidents as well as a decrease in discipline referrals across all areas. Schools

have had the opportunity to implement new bullying prevention strategies through the implementation of the curriculums and professional development provided by GSN coaches. Parent involvement has also increased at the schools due to the monthly bullying prevention committee that encompasses parents, community, staff, and students. This forum allows for decisions to be shared and bullying policies to be reviewed and updated.

New innovative program implementation ideas have also emerged across rural districts including a Wrap Room, which allows students to meet daily with an adult and with other peers to participate in conflict resolution and reflection over lunch. To increase rural equity, the CREC helps member districts and BOCES write a variety of grants. If you're interested in learning more about support for writing grants in your districts, contact [Kirk Banghart](#).

CDE Expelled & At-risk Student Services:

Congratulations to Las Animas and Mancos School Districts for securing Expelled & At-risk Student Services grants!

Schools and districts have seen strong results with this programming that places Advocates as case managers that work to remove barriers to educational success and intentionally teach SEL skills:

- 63% of parents increased their ability to support their student in finding educational success,
- 68% of students increased their attendance, and
- 78% of students demonstrated an overall increase in SEL skills for the participating student population.

For more information on achieving success with these grants, contact [Olivia Bachicha](#) or [Anna Hogberg](#). To learn more, visit our [Health and Wellness page!](#)

STEM

How are you celebrating Pi Day (March 14th)?

No matter how you slice it, STEM and Computer Science careers include the need for mathematical knowledge.

Try using Learning Blade's lesson "Building Your Own Drip Irrigation System" in our Fresh Food Mission which shows students how Pi might be utilized in real-world scenarios such as designing a drip irrigation system for circular beds.

Water Your Work - Building Your Own Drip Irrigation System

Creating an Equation Example Continued

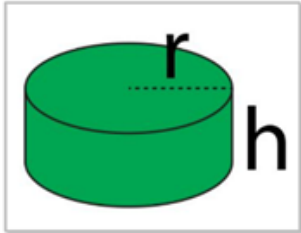
In order to solve this you need to determine the volume of the circular bed and then multiply that quantity by the price of soil per unit.

Cost of Soil = Volume of Planting Bed * Price of Soil

Using variables we can rewrite the formula:
 $x = V * P$

Because we know the formula for the volume of a cylinder we can add this to the equation to get,
 $x = (\pi r^2 h) * P$

Now we can use this equation every time we have this type of problem.



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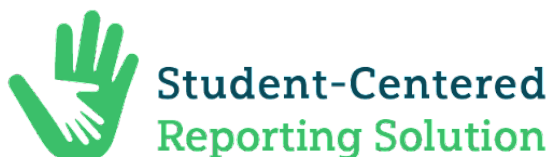
Exit

Or check out the Transportation Mission lesson called “As The Crow Flies” that teaches the Pythagorean theorem to estimate the real distance of travel.

There are hundreds of math lessons in Learning Blade showing the connection of math to real-world problem-solving. 93% of teachers surveyed responded that Learning Blade helps show students real-world connections to math standards. Access to LearningBlade is available FREE to CREC member districts. Contact [Elliot Zettas](#) to get signed up!

Student-Centered Accountability and Reporting

Student-Centered Reporting Solution Website Launched



The Student-Centered Reporting Solution is a homegrown technology solution that currently serves districts across Colorado and beyond, bringing together education leaders, researchers, policymakers, technology funders, and programmers to remove persistent barriers to addressing equity in education. This grassroots effort leverages the national community of over 11,900 districts in 32 states using the Ed-Fi data standard, creating insightful and timely reports that can be used to engage the local community and achieve equitable, student-centered teaching and learning.

Upcoming feature releases:

1. Competency-based essential skills preparation
2. Special Education tracking

Learn more at studentcenteredreporting.org

Teacher Leader Efficacy



[REGISTER](#)

Colorado Statewide Principal Professional Learning Community

Mondays: Feb. 28, March 28, and April 25
10:00 - 11:00 AM

[Generation Schools Network](#) and the [Colorado Rural Education Collaborative](#) have come together to provide a 60-minute, monthly Principal PLC to learn from one another and connect principals across the state. Join dozens of leaders each month to discuss topics that align with the school calendar as well as have opportunities to consider ideas to advance your efforts around Family Engagement Strategies, College and Career Readiness, STEM, and more!

Have a topic you would appreciate putting forward for problem-solving or gaining collective wisdom? Let [Olivia Bachicha](#) or [Kirk Banghart](#) know!

Teacher Recruitment & Retention

Post your job openings for 2021-22!

The CREC advertises job openings on the CREC website and through a monthly job openings e-blast 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



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CREC WEBSITE

Colorado Rural Education Collaborative | coruraledcollab.org

