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### New Colorado Rural Education Collaborative Member! - Revere School

The CREC welcomes [Revere School](#) as our 67th member district! Located in Sedgwick County, Revere School District serves approximately 130 students in grades K-12. Revere's mission is to *prepare lifelong learners to meet the challenges of our changing global society as responsible citizens in a safe, diverse, and academically challenging environment*. We look forward to working with Revere on all the initiatives in the collaborative!



### Colorado Rural Education Innovation Efforts Featured in National Association of School Boards Publication!



This month, two articles were featured about the crucial work taking place in rural Colorado in The State Education Standard, the monthly periodical published by the National Association of State Boards of Education. The crucial work, taking place as part of the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative, is improving teacher retention rates and transforming our accountability systems. To read about [Teacher Recruitment and Retention](#), click [here](#). To read about the [Student-Centered Accountability Program](#), click [here](#).

### Redefining Rural - New Podcast Out!

*The Power of In-Person Learning at Gunnison Watershed School District*

Leslie Nichols of Gunnison Watershed School District describes how the past year has spotlighted the power of in person learning. The relationships between students and teachers

are truly what keep the learning environment magical and inspiring for everyone involved. Listen to the whole interview on [Spotify](#), [Apple Music](#), [Youtube](#), [Google Podcasts](#), or [Podbean](#) and follow [Redefining Rural](#) on social media.



## Genesis Group Updates

### College and Career Readiness

#### **Pathways To Prosperity Receives Boost From Governor's RISE Grant Award**



The Santa Fe Trail BOCES and its six member school districts have been selected as a grantee in the second round of Governor Jared Polis's Response, Innovation and Student Equity (RISE) fund awards. In September of last year, Governor Polis launched the \$32.7 million RISE fund to support high-needs school districts,

charter schools, and public institutions of higher education in creating sustainable innovations to improve student learning, close equity gaps, and enhance operational efficiency for pre-K-12 through higher education.

The BOCES and districts (Cheraw, East Otero/LaJunta, Las Animas, Rocky Ford, Swink, and Wiley), along with a variety of other partner organizations including Generation Schools Network through the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative, submitted the grant to combat uneven access in college and career preparation for students in the southeastern part of the state. The support from the RISE fund will be used to adapt the current college and career pathway, co-constructed with the community, to provide opportunities for students in grades 4-12 to COVID and post-COVID realities. The support will also be used to strengthen essential skill development for students and add a social capital focus so students can have improved access to mentors and decrease equity gaps.

"On behalf of our communities, students, and partners, the Santa Fe Trail BOCES and its districts are grateful to receive the RISE grant," said Santa Fe Trail BOCES Director, Sandy Malouff. "This grant provides us with the ability to continue creating opportunities to ensure all of our students are college/career ready through our Pathway to Prosperity program in the wake of COVID. This investment will strengthen and formalize linkages between K-12 education, local employers, and higher education to increase equity in our rural area and prepare students with the skills needed to thrive in their pathway of choice."

Generation Schools Network through the Colorado Rural Education Collaborative welcomes the opportunity to continue this innovative work alongside the SFT BOCES districts to ensure all students are college/career ready and the community can experience economic growth.

For more information:

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<https://www.coschooltowork.org/in-your-community>

### **I-76 Pathway Launch**

Thanks to the Daniels Fund and an anonymous funder, the Pathway to Prosperity program will be expanding to the I-76 corridor and include Brush, Fort Morgan, Platte Valley, Weld County RE-J3, Weldon Valley and Wiggins school districts and include higher education partners: Aims Community College and Morgan Community College. Stay tuned for updates!



## Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP)



While schools across the nation and Colorado have paused their accountability systems, S-CAP continues to operate its peer accountability system successfully, modified for COVID-19 realities. Even though many of the schools are operating in-person instruction, the board decided to operate most of

the upcoming System Support Reviews (SSRs) in a virtual format to reduce the amount of adult visitors in schools. We are pleased to report that the peer accountability system is still thriving. According to one participant, "pacing made the day fly by...The remote method worked really well." If you are interested in attending a future SSR, please sign up [here](#). To join S-CAP, contact one of our core districts [here](#).

Click [here](#) to read more about S-CAP in The State Education Standard, the monthly periodical published by the National Association of State Boards of Education.

## Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Teacher PLC's are being provided as part of the Bitsbox initiative - see more below under STEM Integration.

To read about CREC [Teacher Recruitment and Retention](#) efforts in The State Education Standard, the monthly periodical published by the National Association of State Boards of Education, click [here](#).

## Social Emotional Learning & At-Risk Students



In response to the current crisis around COVID-19, Generation Schools Network has developed new curricula to make it easier for you to help your students through the pandemic:

[Elementary School Coping with Crisis](#) (available in Spanish!)

[Middle School Coping with Crisis](#)

[High School Coping with Crisis](#) (available in Spanish!).

These units are now available for FREE! Download at our [online store](#).

Through these units, students will explore potential short- and long-term effects of a crisis, discuss recovery strategies, consider common reactions to internal and external crises, and brainstorm recovery activities that can be implemented after a troubling event. At the end of the unit, students will collaborate to create a Peer Support Group and Toolbox for the classroom (or study location) as a resource for when they are having a bad day, a challenging time, or experiencing a crisis. Teacher preparation webinars are also available for grades [6-12](#) and [K-5](#).

## STEM Integration

## Computer Science Opportunities Go Rural!

Congratulations to Santa Fe Trail BOCES Districts, Cheraw and Wiley, and Trinidad School District Fisher's Peak Elementary, who were awarded Computer Science Teacher Education Grants from the Colorado Department of Education. Hundreds of students will benefit from learning computer coding through a partnership with BitsBox as their teachers participate in a professional learning community and utilize scholarships for additional coursework. Wiggins Middle School students are also joining in this coding opportunity. Stay tuned!




## Colorado Exposure Notifications Toolkit

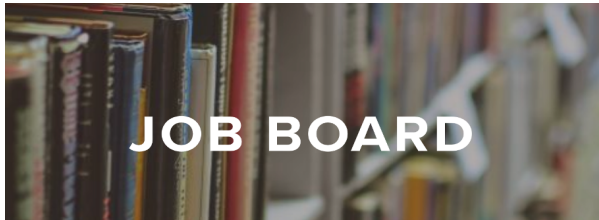


**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

CO Exposure Notifications is a free service for smartphone users that can tell you if you've been exposed to COVID-19. Over one-million Coloradans have already opted in - but this technology is more powerful as more people adopt it. We encourage you to share information about CO Exposure Notifications with your network. Download the Supporter Toolkit, which includes a template letter, graphics for social media posts and flyers about the service, [here](#). Every share helps!

## Post your job openings for 2020-21!

We advertise job openings on the CREC website and, a monthly 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](#).

## Contact Us!

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