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***Redefining Rural* - New Episode Alert!**



This month's *Redefining Rural* episode goes over the amazing work that's being done within the I-76 Corridor. You will hear from Elliot Zettas and Kirk Banghart about the projects they have been working on to support College and Career Readiness programming in northeastern Colorado. Becky Langlois (Weld Re-3J) and Rena Frasco (Ft. Morgan) will also share their experience being a part of the I-76 Partnerships for Prosperity Pathway and how it has impacted their districts directly. 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! You can see examples of regional collaborative pathways [here](#).

[MORE INFO](#)

Genesis Group Updates

College and Career Readiness



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

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 am, 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 and Weldon Valley will 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 allow 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!

Tools Day for Meadow Ridge Elementary School **Wednesday, April 27th**

This is an opportunity for the Pre-K to 2nd Grade Meadow Ridge students to receive hands-on career exploration with the businesses, organizations, and agencies that make up their community. Please email [Sierra Murdoch](#) for more information or to register your participation.

Wheels to Work Day - Weld RE3J School District **Tuesday, May 3rd**

Weld RE3J School District invites local businesses to participate in our Wheels to Work event on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. This event will showcase your business to the students in Weld Central Middle School. It is an opportunity for you to seed the idea of working in your field as students to explore careers in the businesses, organizations and agencies that make up their community. To learn more, contact [Elliot Zettas](#) or [Gina Angelini](#).



Career Fair/Hiring Event -Weld RE3J School District **Wednesday, May 4th**

Weld Central High School invites community members to participate in their Spring Career Fair on Wednesday, May 4, 2022. Connecting students to industry professionals is a key



component for student success in today's workforce. Please join us to represent yourself and/or your company in front of hundreds of students, grades 9-12. Each class of students will have approximately 30 minutes to explore the various career tables which will be set up for you to present from. To learn more, contact [Elliot Zettas](#) or [Gina Angelini](#).

Social Emotional Learning & Students At-Risk

Project Heal - Summer Program for K-12 School Administrators, Staff & Teachers



Releasing The Inner Magician training program is a nonclinical, body-centered verbal way to collaborate with and extend a student's inherent resilience. The summer training will provide training in 15 evidence-based skills that create emotional safety through a student-generated process that transforms negative emotion to positive emotion. To learn more and register, click [here](#).

Dates: June 20th – 24th & July 11th – 15th

Times: 9 am-5 pm (First day start 10 am; last day finish 3 pm)

Location: 455 Sherman St, Denver, CO 80203

Classroom Management Part I: How SEL Helps - April 5, 2022

Classroom management is not separate from social and emotional learning, it is an opportunity to model and teach the important skills of self-regulation, self-awareness, communication, and more. This workshop will also explore what it means to manage a classroom in a trauma-informed way.

[Sign Up!](#)

Classroom Management II: Executive Functioning & SEL (SEL Forum) - May 17, 2022

Participants will learn why students struggle with Executive Functioning. We'll also engage in activities that you can implement with your students. Finally, we'll explore instructional resources that help young learners develop skills and support their Executive Functioning strategies.

[Sign Up!](#)



STEM

LearningBlade is available **FREE** to CREC member districts



“You can’t be what you can’t see.” Exposing students to STEM/CS/CTE careers earlier in the pipeline helps open up more career path opportunities. Learning Blade does this through 12-human centered Missions with real-world situation connections. (see [Mission Outlines](#))

One 21st Century Director remarked, “One thing I love about LearningBlade is the sheer number of rigorous resources and the freedom to scale those

resources down as needed, making learning equitable and accessible for all my students to have ‘ah-ha’ moments.”

LearningBlade®

- is an easy-to-use STEM/CS/CTE resource
- allows for student self-paced career exploration
- contains over 400 online STEM/CTE/CS lessons
- provides staff hands-on resources, activities, and lesson plans with common materials
- includes family engagement projects

- is aligned to state academic standards for science, math, English, and social studies
- is perfect for grades 5-9
- Is all about solving a modern-day STEM related problem through a guided quest

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



Colorado Statewide Principal Professional Learning Community

Mondays: April 25 and May 23

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!

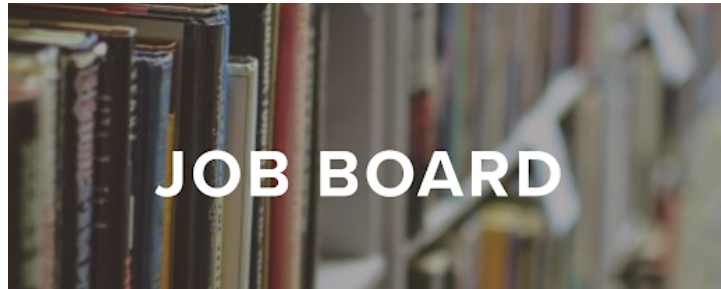
REGISTER

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

Chief Facilitator - Colorado Rural Education Collaborative

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CREC WEBSITE