

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



Genesis Group Survey

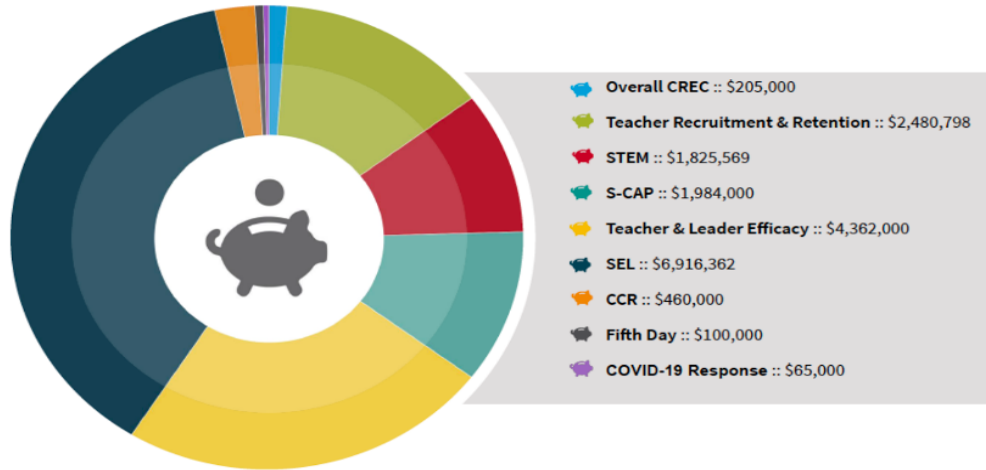
As we roll into the 2020-21 school year, we want to ensure our Genesis Groups are the best use of time for our district leaders and members of the CREC. **Please take this [30-second survey](#) to let us know if we are on the right track or if we need to adjust our focus.**

CREC Accomplishments



Acting as a combine for resources, since inception, nearly **\$20M** has been secured to support CREC districts in solving their most pressing problems of practice.

CREC INVESTMENTS SINCE 2015



Check out our website for more information: www.CORuralEdCollab.org

We are excited to share that we have raised \$20 million dollars to meet the needs of CREC districts and projects! [Click here](#) to see a summary of other CREC accomplishments over the last 5 years.

Pandemic - EBT Application Process Now Open

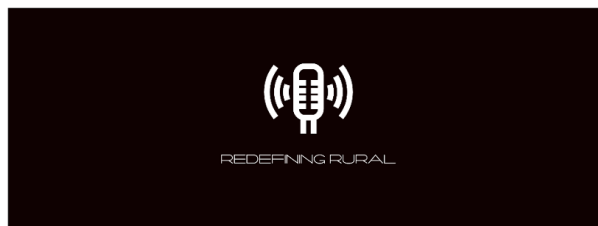
The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), in collaboration with CDE is pleased to announce the Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) application can be accessed through late September. To support families during the COVID-19 epidemic, CDHS and CDE secured USDA approval to issue P-EBT benefits to school aged children who would have received free or reduced-price meals when schools were closed. It is also for children who would have been eligible in March, April or May due to loss of income.

Each household with an eligible child can receive an amount of \$5.70 per child per school day on a Colorado EBT card. Benefits were auto-issued for families participating in SNAP. Families who were not auto-issued benefits should apply. [Access the application, FAQs and more information here.](#)



Coffee and Connections! Redefining Rural Roundtable (RRR) #7 Coming Up

Please join [Kirk Banghart](#) (Colorado Rural Education Collaborative), [Michelle Murphy](#) (Colorado Rural Schools Alliance), and [Denille LePlatt](#) (Director of Rural Services, CDE) on Friday, September 25 from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., as we gather to informally share how the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year is going for everyone! Reserve your spot on [Eventbrite](#).



Genesis Group Updates

College and Career Readiness



Santa Fe Trail North Star Planning Meeting

Generation Schools Network is gearing up to host the second North Star Planning Meeting in late September/early October alongside its partners Battelle for Kids and the Santa Fe Trail BOCES. This meeting is the second in the four-part North Star Planning Meeting series, which aims to bolster the college and career pathway created by the Santa Fe Trail BOCES and its six member districts (Cheraw, Las Animas, La Junta, Rocky Ford, Swink, and Wiley). During this meeting, local stakeholders will gather to build upon the three skills that community members identified as being most important to instill in students

(responsibility, communication, and adaptability). Local leaders will discuss how to align these three essential skills with the college and career programs that make up the Pathway to Prosperity. They will also develop a BOCES-wide capstone that will better meet the needs of students in all 6 districts. You can learn more about the Pathway to Prosperity project in the SFT BOCES [here](#).

Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP)

[S-CAP](#) is working hard to adapt its accountability system in the age of the COVID-19 pandemic.



For the first SSRs in the fall, we are reducing the number of attendees and are also preparing to shift to a virtual format if needed. If you are interested in attending, please sign up [here](#)!

Teacher Leader Efficacy

Partner with a Principal Program Receives its First Sponsor!



We're happy to share that Generation Schools Network secured its first Partner with a Principal sponsor, Richard & Judy Tumlinson. This effort is a new GSN program for principals interested in gaining opportunities for thought partnership from an experienced principal with success running high performing schools and/or a business leader in the community to sharpen their collective leadership skills. Richard & Judy Tumlinson are sponsoring Elizabeth Jameson, high school principal at Aguilar Schools to

participate in the program. We are so appreciative of their support!

We are still seeking sponsors to provide scholarships for the additional principals that signed up to participate in the program this year. To learn more about sponsorships, visit the [GSN website](#) or contact Ali Lauge at alauge@generationschools.org. We are so appreciative of support for these principals.

If you are a principal interested in learning more about the program, and possibly signing up to receive additional thought partnership, visit the [GSN website](#) or [fill out the application](#).



Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Report Published on the Teacher Retention Grant in South Central BOCES, thanks to volunteer, Sheila Rosenberg!

As a [Taproot Foundation](#) volunteer, Sheila Rosenberg lent her skills to Generation Schools Network to crunch the data and draft the South Central BOCES (SC BOCES) Teacher Retention Grant Report. Sheila reviewed 3 years of extensive data and reported on collaborative efforts by GSN and partners to improve teaching quality, retention, and recruitment. We are grateful for her time and expertise. Access the report [here](#) and learn about program activities, outcomes, and lessons learned including 90% of participating teachers indicating that their confidence and capacity to take on leadership roles increased. Rosenberg, a Researcher and Quantitative Analyst, excels at gathering and analyzing data to make decisions and predictions and improve outcomes. Sheila has over 12 years of experience conducting research and data analysis in basic science, translational science, and clinical and social research, currently as a Senior Data Scientist for ChromaCode, Inc. She is trained in clinical research and statistical analysis, with extensive experience in experimental design, hypothesis testing and data collection and analysis. Thank you, Sheila for lending us your data skills!



Social Emotional Learning & At-Risk Students

Our goal this school year is to support educators, schools and districts with embedding social and emotional learning throughout the school day, across all classrooms, with families and in the community.



We are committed to helping you advance equity in education through social and emotional learning and to support you with rebuilding culture, creating a space of safety, healing and belonging in response to the pandemic and racial tensions.

Now more than ever, students need support through mental health check-ins. By being kind and understanding to our students, giving them safe spaces and SEL skills, we can help them navigate through life's stressors and focus on learning.

Each month, SEL schools/districts will receive a monthly theme that includes resources and activities available for students, teachers, parents/families and administrators. [Click here](#) to access them! If you have ideas or recommendations for future topics, please reach out to Ellen Sarkisian at esarkisian@generationschools.org.

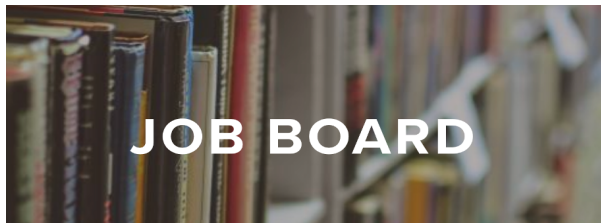
STEM Integration

In rural economically disadvantaged communities, there is a lack of interest and access to advanced coursework necessary to pursue science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) educational and employment goals at the highest levels, contributing to the excellence gap ([Ihrig, Lori M., et al.](#)). To address this issue, several districts applied for funding through two CDE Computer Science grants, a computer coding program, [BitsBox](#), will provide experience and exposure for 4th-8th graders with a weekly class involving high quality, fun and engaging curriculum and projects. The teachers leading the class will benefit from a monthly state-wide PLC with experienced BitsBox teachers to build capacity in computer science, confidence in teaching and

collaboration with other teachers, culminating in a Basics Coding Certificate. Teachers may choose to apply for the summer scholarship fund to continue their education in the field.

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!

Kirk Banghart, Chief Facilitator - Colorado Rural Education Collaborative

720-452-3603 | kbanghart@generationschools.org

[f](#) [t](#) | <http://www.coruraledcollab.org>
