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**Vision** - All schools are vibrant, inclusive ecosystems that ensure every student thrives in school, work and life.

**Mission** - GSN co-creates healthy school ecosystems by partnering with educators, students, families and communities to elevate the education experience.

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## **Good News!**

### **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!

### **New GSN Social Emotional Learning Unit! *Effective Communication for Healthy Relationships* Unit is Now Available for Middle School!**

An important first step in effective communication is one's ability to calmly and clearly communicate their message. This unit starts with a lesson about emotions and the brain, which gives students an understanding of how the biology of the brain affects our emotions and ability to communicate. It then offers tangible tools students can use to self-regulate, thereby allowing them to engage in communication using their "thinking" brains instead of their "emotional" brains. The unit continues by teaching a variety of communication tools that students can put in their social-emotional toolboxes. Lesson topics include assertive communication and its role in self-advocacy, "I" statements and active listening, conflict resolution, and the unique opportunities and challenges of texting as a means of communication in relationships. The unit culminates with a project that invites students to deepen their understanding by teaching what they've learned. To purchase this unit from our online store, please [click here!](#)



### **Welcoming New GSN Staff and AmeriCorps VISTAs!**

#### **Lindsey Johnson - AmeriCorps VISTA Leader**

Lindsey joins the GSN team as an AmeriCorps VISTA Leader after serving two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA in southwestern Colorado. She brings her



patience and willingness to listen in her role to support and mentor the AmeriCorps VISTAs at GSN and its subsites. She credits her hometown - Chicago, IL - for her creativity and innovation. Lindsey received her Bachelor's degree in Biological Science from Eastern Illinois University and is currently working on her Master's degree in Conservation Biology with hopes of becoming a wildlife educator. She has a zeal for learning and is passionate about serving others.

### **Tony Arias - GSN Board Member**

Tony is a member of [Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schrek](#)'s Litigation Department. A skilled legal writer and effective manager, Tony brings precision to his commercial litigation practice. Tony was a summer associate before joining the firm as a law clerk during his last semester of law school, gaining experience in legal research and drafting memoranda and pleadings on various litigation matters. He got his start in the legal field as a supervisor and lead paralegal at a Denver-area litigation firm. While in law school, Tony interned with Judge Morris B. Hoffman in the Second Judicial District and with U.S. District Court Judge Christine Arguello. Tony graduated Order of the Coif in the top five percent of his class. Tony is fluent in English and Spanish and has experience translating for attorneys and individuals in need of legal assistance. He also drafted an award-winning memo for the Anti-Defamation League, participated in local flood relief efforts and organized a neighborhood cleanup project in Evansville, Indiana. He is passionate about education and giving young people a bright future. He brings his own experience and perspective having experienced parts of his K-12 education in urban and rural Colorado as well as Central America.



### **Cass Walker Harvey - GSN Board Member**



Originally from England, Cass has spent the past decade building inclusive innovation ecosystems in the USA, Latin America and the UK. Most recently, Cass led the launch of the Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking at Yale as Managing Director, where her role included strategy and programming for entrepreneurship and inclusive innovation at Yale, advising start-ups, and business development in the areas of environment, sustainability, health, education, and social justice. She has founded two non-profits: SelvaKids, which aims to provide sustainable solutions to increase educational resources in the Amazon, and Girls Thinking

Global, which aims to increase collaboration and best practices in the non-profit sector to improve opportunities for adolescent girls worldwide. Cass also worked

extensively with Runa, a social enterprise that works with indigenous farmers to create sustainable livelihoods in the Amazon, leading their Fair Trade cooperative development, community-based research, and international education experiences. Cass has a Masters in International Education Policy from Harvard Graduate School of Education. She now lives on a conservation ranch in Archuleta County with her husband and their dog and serves as Executive Director at First Southwest Community Fund.

