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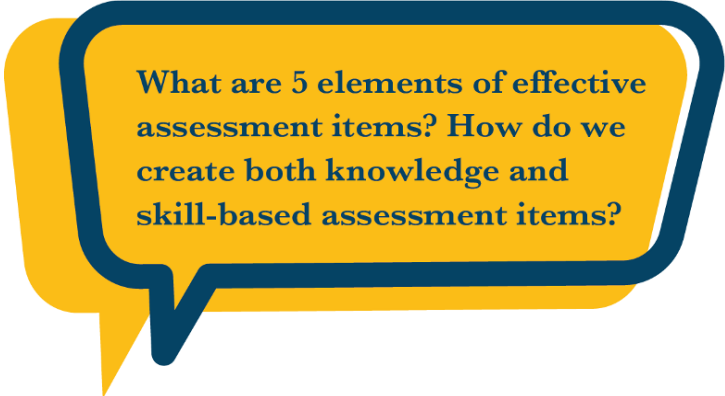


Vision - All schools are vibrant, inclusive ecosystems that ensure every student thrives in school, work and life.

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

Good News!

New Product from Generation Schools Network - Assessment Writing



What are 5 elements of effective assessment items? How do we create both knowledge and skill-based assessment items?

GSN is now offering Assessment Writing workshops and professional development! This new session informs participants on the benefits of utilizing backwards design, performance, and academic standards to develop student learning objectives and assessments. During this workshop, participants explore different assessment creation processes and identify the elements of effective performance based assessments. Teachers and leaders will have the opportunity to create and review effective assessment items. At AXL Academy in Aurora, CO, GSN's Dr. Lisa Leith and Shirley Smith recently implemented the workshop with the leadership team. Principal Monique Davis, said "Shirley and Lisa did an

excellent job taking a huge concept and breaking it into manageable parts for my staff to understand and process. They listened to my goals as a leader and put it into action. I know the work they helped us start will pay off for our scholars." To learn more or to start this process at your school, contact: Dr. Leith at lleith@generationschools.org.

Photo Caption: AXL Principal, Ms. Monique Davis



New Social Emotional Learning Units Available in Our Online Store!



Elementary School *Effective Communication for Healthy Relationships* now available: This unit will provide elementary-aged students with foundational skills to build and sustain positive relationships with peers, adults, and family members. Students will develop communication skills, learn to differentiate between positive and negative relationship behaviors, explore conflict resolution strategies, and learn when to problem-solve and when to ask for help. At the end of the

unit, students will teach one skill or concept they've learned to an adult in their life. To download this unit (just \$10.00!) [visit our online store](#).

New Website Available Featuring Colorado History Aligned to State Standards!



The Governor's Residence Preservation Fund recently launched an interactive website that has great historical information designed to meet Colorado Curriculum Standards! This new website is able to help teachers tell the great stories of Colorado's history. The site looks at the ripple effects of events, leadership, and legacies across three generations of Colorado History. To access it, click [here](#) and feel free to spread the word!

Resourcing Health and Wellness with Title and EASI Funding



The Colorado Department of Education recently sponsored an [SEL-focused webinar](#) clarifying the use of Title II and Title IV funds for programs expanding school-wide mental health. Citing evidence of a positive correlation between school climate, teacher efficacy, and student learning, CDE staff encouraged districts and schools to explore using these funds for SEL capacity-building, including professional development, coaching, and resources offered by SEL consultants and partners.

This training was delivered at an unprecedented moment of urgency, to mitigate the impact of the past year's multiple coinciding stressors that likely influenced the following findings from the [CDE 2020 Community Needs Inventory](#):

- Districts are concerned about imminent staff mental health issues, compassion fatigue, and burnout
- Conducting COVID-19 procedures, transitioning between instructional models, and creatively addressing learning gaps are only some of the primary drivers of increased teacher and student stress.
- Districts are trying to meet the needs of traditional PD, as well as virtual classroom skills

In light of these findings, William Brown, Title II Specialist encouraged consideration of Title funds to resource integrated and foundational teacher and student supports. He underscored the value of engaging SEL partners to expand district and school capacity to launch and sustain SEL initiatives.

How Generation Schools Network can help:

- Diagnostic reviews of school-wide SEL culture and climate
- SEL PD and coaching for principals, counselors, and teachers
- Providing SEL resources and activities for virtual and onsite classrooms
- Teacher self-care PD and coaching to boost resilience and well-being
- Responsive, customized school SEL Plan with integrated logic model and curriculum

If you would like more information on how to utilize your Title funds to support Social Emotional Learning and this programming in your school, contact Kym Myers at kmyers@generationschools.org.

For more on the impact of GSN's SEL program, click [here](#).

Funding Available for Remote Recess!

Generation Schools Network is proud to partner with Interactive Media Design (IMD) to provide Fit and Flow, a virtual fitness program that empowers youth through a wellness journey, regardless of location, age, background or income. Through grant funding, we have one more space available for FREE for an interested district! The 6-week session includes:

- Live broadcasting of classes with professional instructors weekly.
- Ability to be used in PE classes, as a brain break activity or as a virtual activity with families at home.
- Program management support every step of the way.
- Variety of programming for middle school ages and up including Dance Fit, HIIT and Barre classes.

To learn more, or to get your district started in this program, contact CJ Roberts at croberts@generationschools.org.

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:

Sandy Malouff, Executive Director, Santa Fe Trail BOCES, (719) 383-2623

Kirk Banghart, Chief Facilitator, Colorado Rural Education Collaborative, (720) 452-3603

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

Upcoming Events

February 17th - 8am-4pm MT

Student-Centered Accountability Program - Hanover System Support Review

[To register, click here!](#)

February 22nd - 8am-4pm MT

Student-Centered Accountability Program - La Veta System Support Review

[To register, click here!](#)

March 8th - 8am-4pm MT

Student-Centered Accountability Program - Holyoke System Support Review

[To register, click here!](#)

Save the Date! June 21st-24th and July 19th-22nd

RIM (Regenerating Images in Memory) Training for Teachers

To learn more about RIM, click [here](#). Watch one of our latest [forums](#) with special guest and founder of the RIM Institute, Dr. Deb Sandella.

