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# GENERATION SCHOOLS NETWORK

*Elevating the Education Experience*

**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.

### Generation Schools Network Celebrates its 15th Anniversary!

On January 5, 2020, GSN began its 20th year of solving challenges in education to bring equity to students across the country. Staff and board members gathered to offer toasts, congratulations, affirmations of the work accomplished and shared a look forward at a year of celebration. Stay tuned as we share stories of impact, important milestones in the journey and learning that has influenced the state and country.



GSN 15th Anniversary celebratory toast.



### Congratulations to East Central BOCES for winning a CDE Teacher Recruitment & Retention Grant!

Beginning Spring 2020, math teachers in East Central BOCES Districts will be offered Master's degrees in Teaching & Learning with an emphasis in math from Colorado State University - Global Campus. They will also participate in professional development and professional learning communities as a cohort with support from the University of Denver and Generation Schools Network.

They join the South Central, San Luis Valley and Northeast BOCES in addressing the challenge of teacher recruitment and retention related to math.



*East Central BOCES logo.*

### **PwrHrs Rural Afterschool Conference in Beaver Creek, CO!**

CGSN's Anna Hogberg and Ellen Sarkisian presented at the PwrHrs Rural Afterschool Conference on November 14 and had the opportunity to network with educators, organizations, and thought leaders to share information, gain expertise, and collectively build a roadmap to support the quality and sustainability of afterschool programming in rural communities.

Hogberg and Sarkisian's session informed participants on how to create a successful afterschool Advocacy program to promote the overall well-being and development of students' social and emotional learning, and college and career readiness skills. Participants learned about Advocacy structures, protocols, teacher supports, and measures that ensure the value and quality of this time for all students!



*Children competing in races at a Field Day.*

If you are interested in adding after school programming at your school, please contact Meredith Foulke at [mfoulke@generationschools.org](mailto:mfoulke@generationschools.org) or 720-452-3607 to talk about upcoming grant opportunities.



*Lisa Yates speaks at NFARE Conference.*

### **Updates on the Student-Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP)**

Since 2016, GSN has been supporting the work of S-CAP to create a peer-driven accountability system that is meaningful, timely and local. The work of S-CAP was recently featured as part of the "A new foundations for accountability" meeting in Aurora on November 7th. Lisa Yates (pictured), Superintendent from Buena Vista, a S-CAP founding district, spoke

to a group of more than a hundred educators, policy makers, and parent groups, as to the key components of S-CAP. Representatives from Massachusetts, California and Texas also shared their ideas around innovations in accountability. Interested in learning more about S-CAP or attending a System Support Review, visit: <https://www.s-capcolorado.com/>

### **Rural Podcast: Redefining Rural**

Listen to our podcast series sponsored by Colorado State University-Global Campus and hosted by the Colorado Business Roundtable. Each episode focuses on a new topic impacting rural education today and bringing awareness to the rural education sector. The most recent episode comes from the National Forum to Advance Rural Education. Join- Kirk Banghart with the Colorado Rural



*Redefining Rural podcast logo.*

Education Collaborative, Michelle Murphy with the Colorado Rural Alliance and Denille Leplatt with the Colorado Department of Education as they talk to three experts of note from the conference:

Shelley Badgett - Director of Instruction in Federal Programs in Marion County, KY - on their district's work on stakeholder engagement, including their concept of a "Dream Bus."

Paolo DeMaria - Ohio's Superintendent of Public Instruction - talking about rural innovations.

Allen Pratt - Executive Director at the National Rural Education Association - on what's exciting currently in rural education.

To see the full episode playlist, click [here](#). You can also view episodes on the CREC website here or download from Google Podcast, iTunes, or Stitcher.

## GSN Welcomes New Staff



### **Jonathan Padro - Accounting/Operations Associate**

Jonathan's four years of experience in bank management and lending helped develop his passion for accounting and finance. He holds an Associate of Arts in Business Administration and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Accounting at Western Governors University. In his free time, Jonathan volunteers at middle schools in Broomfield teaching students about finance and money management, which sparked his interest in education. Jonathan joined Generation Schools Network in December of 2019 as an Accounting & Operations Associate and provides accounting, administrative, and human resources support.



### **Claudia Trujillo, Senior Education Specialist**

Claudia Trujillo has 17 years of experience teaching middle and high school language arts as well as primary elementary. She has been a middle school reading coach working with teachers to implement best practices in literacy and a K-12 instructional coach facilitating the use of data with grade level and content area teacher teams. Claudia joined Generation Schools Network's team as a Senior Education Specialist and also works with CU Denver and Trinidad State Jr. College in the Rural Teacher Preparation program.



### **Brandon Van Vleck, Senior Education Specialist**

Brandon brings his 22 years of experience in education to his role as a Senior Education Specialist at Generation Schools Network. He began his career in education by teaching at his alma mater, Sterling High School in Houston, Texas. Brandon has served in roles ranging from high school math teacher (9 years) to coordinator, assistant principal, principal, and turnaround principal. He worked alongside public schools in Texas in the Houston and San Antonio areas for 19 years and has served as a school

administrator in the New Orleans public school system since that time. Some of Brandon's accomplishments include being named "District Secondary Principal of the Year" (2012), "National Administrator of the Year" (2012), and "High School Principal of the Year for Region 20" (2013). Brandon brings his passion for providing high quality and relevant education to all students, especially those who are typically underrepresented, to the GSN team.



15<sup>th anniversary</sup>  
GSN

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## Upcoming Events

Catch-up with GSN Staff at these Upcoming Events

### February 10-11

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
La Veta School District

[Register Here](#)

### February 25-26

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
Fleming School District

[Register Here](#)

### March 2

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
Holyoke School District

[Register Here](#)

### March 9-10

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
Las Animas

[Register Here](#)

### March 30-31

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
Kit Carson

[Register Here](#)

### April 27

Student - Centered Accountability Program (S-CAP) System Support Review  
Arriba-Flagler

[Register Here](#)

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