



Colorado Association of School Boards

CASB Connections Podcast Information

Rural Teacher Recruitment and Retention

The Colorado Center for Rural Education (CCRE) at the University of Northern Colorado was established in December of 2016 to address the critical educator shortage in Colorado's rural school districts. With funding from the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE), Center staff work closely with all of Colorado's educator preparation programs to recruit, prepare and provide on-going support to Colorado's rural educators working in one of the 147 rural and small rural Colorado school districts.

Interview with:

Dr. Lori Reinsvold, Co-Director for the Colorado Center for Rural Education; Associate Director and Professor for the Mathematics and Science Teaching Institute in the College of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado

Dr. Valerie Sherman, Rural Education Coordinator for the Colorado Center for Rural Education; Former professor in Special Education at the University of Northern Colorado and former K12 classroom teacher

Host: Leslie Bogar, CASB Director of Professional Learning

The CCRE engages in a variety of activities and provides a range of financial supports to help meet the needs of Colorado's rural school districts in the form of:

- Stipends
- Supplemental Activities

The expected outcomes are:

- Development of pipeline programs, projects and activities to recruit prospective rural educators.
- Expansion of pathways for educator preparation to increase the supply of educators in rural Colorado districts.
- Creation of a rural continuing professional development network.

Contact information for the Colorado Center for Rural Education

- [website](#)
- [Valerie Sherman](#)
- [Lori Rensvold](#)

Contact information for Teacher Cadets Colorado

- [website](#)
- [Michelle Dennis](#), Teacher Cadet Coordinator