

COMMISSIONER'S RURAL EDUCATION COUNCIL



July 2018 Highlights

The Commissioner's Rural Education Council's summer meeting was held as part of the CASE Pre-Conference at the Beaver Run Resort in beautiful Breckenridge. The Council welcomed newly appointed members Superintendent Lori Haukeness of Montezuma, Principal Chris Hinger of Pagosa Springs Middle School, Superintendent Don Rangel of Weld County RE-1, Board Members Lanie Meyers-Mireles of Lamar and Limon's Wendy Pottorff and celebrated outgoing members Superintendent Scott Cooper of Dolores, Board Members John Knapp of Rocky Ford and Donna Rhode of Cheraw, Superintendent Alan Dillon of DeBeque, Superintendent Douglas Bissonette of Elizabeth, Principal Kyle Stumpf of Holyoke, and Superintendent Rick Mondt of Briggsdale. Topics regarding gifted and talented planning, a legislative wrap up, and a continuing conversation on school safety were discussed for the day's agenda. Read on for more information!



Legislative Wrap Up

Melissa Bloom, Senior Policy Associate at CDE, along with Brittany Lane from the Department of Higher Education, walked the group through the legislative update. A total of 45 education-related bills passed. 41 of those bills require technical assistance or implementation from CDE. Fourteen of the bills include new requirements for districts. CDE is collaborating with CDHE on four bills related to the educator shortage.

Specific focus areas were on the educator shortage bills in addition to school safety and funding that is available. Other items of note included the bill addressing parent notice for school safety and protection, as well as changes to transportation statutes. You can request the full legislative recap report by contacting Denille LePlatt at leplatt_d@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6608.

Rural Education Council Facts

The Rural Education Council is comprised of superintendents representing each of the eight regions in Colorado, two rural principals, a rural teacher; representatives from the Colorado Association of School Boards, the Colorado Association of School Executives and the Colorado BOCES Association, two rural board of education members and the Colorado Rural Schools Alliance. For a complete listing of Rural Education Council members, as well as agendas and other information, visit the Rural Education Council [web page](#).

The next meeting of the Rural Education Council will be held on October 22nd in Winter Park.

For questions or more information, contact Denille LePlatt, Director of Rural Services, at 720-520-5118 or leplatt_d@cde.state.co.us.

Regional Presentations

In an effort to build partnerships and collaboration, regional presentations are part of every quarterly meeting. This past year, we have heard a presentations on the making of the Dolores pre school/infant toddler center, toured De Beque school district, and a tour of The MiLL, a collaborative effort between the Peyton and Widefield school districts. We are looking forward to being in Winter Park this October to learn more about the outdoor education efforts in the East Grand School District.

