



# COLORADO

## Department of Education

## 2023 Transition Leadership Institute

**Speakers: Emily Sherwood, Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Specialist and Marta Osuna,**

**Session Title: Work-based Learning for Everybody!**



**Emily Sherwood** resides in Colorado Springs, CO and currently works for Fountain-Fort Carson School District 8 as a Post-Secondary Workforce Readiness Specialist and co-CTE Director. Emily also works at the national level, for the Special Populations Section of the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE). Emily's resume includes: 17 years as a Special Education instructor and case manager, 8 years as an Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE) instructor, working with students identified as Special Populations (at-risk), 13 years facilitating work-based learning experiences, 6 years supporting the integration of postsecondary workforce readiness practices in K-12 education, 5 years as a CTE Director and 11 years chairing on the State of Colorado ACE (Special Populations) Board. Recognized as Colorado Association of Technical Education 2016 Educator of the Year, Emily builds positive relationships

with students, colleagues, and community professionals to promote opportunities that lead to student growth and career exploration. Her passion is to support students in their ability to become self-actualized, productive citizens in their development of life skills and pursuit of career goals. Emily actively advocates in her community to support the continuum from K-12 education to the workforce and serves on multiple community boards to support a streamlined approach to workforce development. She co-founded the Pikes Peak Business and Education Alliance (PPBEA), designed to unify school districts in the Pikes Peak Region to support the creation of opportunities for work-based learning opportunities in business and industry for students throughout the community. Emily is a resourceful, innovative, and an impassioned educator.



**Marta Osuna** retired from Denver Public Schools (DPS) after 36 years of service. She spent 21 years as a classroom teacher in the Special Populations Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE) Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. She also served as the district's Transition Team Leader the last 15 years of her career with DPS. Marta has served as President and is currently a Regional Representative on the Colorado ACE CTE Board. She currently is working as a consultant for the Colorado Department of Education on a pilot project called the Program Improvement Process for Equity (PIPE) – the PIPEline to Career Success for Students with Disabilities. This project will look at participating schools' data to analyze root causes and see how to increase access to career programming for SWD.