CEO LETTER

After more than a decade leading Generation Schools Network (GSN), I received a thought-provoking question from a community member this spring. They wanted to know what equity looks like at GSN. This question motivated me to ensure the community understands that equity is more than just a core value for GSN, it’s our heart.

Founded in 2006, we initially launched turnaround replacement schools in Brooklyn, NY and Denver, CO. Using a unique school model designed for equity in every aspect of operations, both schools provided education to underserved populations.

From there, we pivoted to supporting underserved communities and students in rural Colorado by bringing them access to resources, Social Emotional Learning, mental health support (among other efforts), and - most recently - opportunities for College and Career Readiness. Our team rhythm relies on identifying and closing K-12 equity gaps.

I hope you enjoy reading this snapshot of efforts over the last year as an insight on GSN’s continued commitment to educational equity. Thank you for partnering with us to elevate the education experience for all students.

Wendy Loloff Cooper, CEO
1 TRANSLATING GSN’S SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING UNITS INTO SPANISH!

Teachers, counselors, and social workers now have scripts and activities available in Spanish for K-12 students to support student mental health, increasing access for students and families to high-quality, evidence-based curriculum. Learn more at gsnstore.org

“Translating the curriculum to Spanish communicates to students that they matter, that educators see them, hear them, and respect who they are.”

- Talma Shultz, Curriculum Translator

2 EXPANDING ACCESS TO STEM AND COLLEGE IN ARIZONA

GSN expanded efforts to support underserved schools and districts with two major partnerships in Arizona. The first is with Learning Blade to grow access to STEM programming and the second is with the Arizona Student Opportunity Collaborative to increase student agency learning opportunities and access to college coursework in high school to improve classroom achievement.

3 GROWING THE COLORADO RURAL EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE (CREC)

The CREC grew to support 79 member districts and reached more than $30M in funding (since inception), to address the most pressing problems of practice in rural districts and communities, improving accessibility to resources and offering opportunities to work collaboratively. Learn more at coruraledcollab.org

4 INCREASING SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SUPPORT

Principal Induction Program Expands Reach

Principals are often left out of development opportunities, and this is especially true for principals in small rural and charter schools who need to move from an initial principal license to a professional license. To help address this inequity, GSN diversified the schools served in its Principal Induction Program, resulting in three rural and five charter principals receiving professional licensure.

Cohort 3 of GSN’s Principal Induction Program

Principal Professional Learning Community (PLC) Launched Statewide in Colorado!

This monthly, grassroots PLC provided more than 40 principals access to connection, collaboration, and growth opportunities to share learning and solve their most pressing challenges.
5 ADVANCING COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS (CCR) ACCESS

Pathways to Prosperity Expansion
GSN replicated its Pathways to Prosperity program in the Denver-metro area, through the Front Range Equity Network, as well as in the Spanish Peaks region to offer equitable, zero-barrier College and Career Readiness programming to students furthest from opportunity across the state. Learn more at coschooltowork.org

Many Successful CCR Events
Students from 32 districts/schools gained tangible CCR skills through exposure events, with 75 local businesses, including career fairs, job site visits, and guest speakers.

6 LAUNCHING MEANINGFUL STUDENT AND COMMUNITY-CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY

GSN launched the Student-Centered Reporting Solution, a home-grown, low-cost data capture and reporting solution that puts students and local community priorities at the center of outcomes measurement. With dozens of schools and districts participating, the solution helps to close technology equity gaps, especially for smaller schools and districts. Learn more at studentcenteredreporting.org

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