

RURAL COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

A national network of 14 rural collaboratives working together to advance learning access, equity, and success for all rural students.



490 districts

43,000 teachers

600,000 students

(31% minority students; 57% free and reduced lunch)

We engage with rural schools and their communities in a variety of ways.



PERSONALIZED LEARNING



SHARING RESOURCES



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



LEARNING FOR LIFE AND WORK



ADVOCACY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Together, our collaboratives serve as the nation's largest rural education network focused on innovative approaches to opportunity gaps, economic self-sufficiency, educator talent development, and learning that engages, empowers, and elevates.

GOALS

- 1 Learn from each other
- 2 Reduce educator isolation
- 3 Leverage joint funding opportunities
- 4 Increase our collective impact
- 5 Advance a powerful message on the value of rural education

FORCE MULTIPLIERS

We amplify our impact through connections with business, higher education, foundations, and community organizations, such as:

Virtual High School delivering online instruction to middle and high school students in



639 SCHOOLS IN 33 COUNTRIES

Future Ready Schools, a coalition of



50+ NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS

working to make personalized learning a reality in all schools

Summit Learning Program and Platform reaching



100+ SCHOOLS IN 27 STATES

STEMx Network in

21

STATES

Battelle for Kids Teacher Practice Networks



10,000+ RURAL TEACHERS



NATIONAL RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ESTABLISHED 1907

26 STATE AFFILIATES

NEXT MOVES

1

Solidify strategy, structure and support for scaling up rural education innovations that make a difference

2

Identify and engage other collaboratives to grow the Network and spread our impact

3



Connect and share
National Forum to Advance Rural Education
October 12-14, 2017

A commitment of **Battelle for Kids**

Battelle for Kids is a national not-for-profit organization committed to engaging educators and communities to inspire passion and purpose for learning and life. We serve as the facilitator for the Rural Collaborative Network. America needs strong rural communities and schools. Together, we are shaping the future of rural learning, living, and livelihood.

Learn more at BFK.org/rural

Rural Collaborative Network Founding Members



Founded in 2015, The Colorado Rural Education Collaborative (CREC) is a group of 48 rural Colorado school districts and stakeholders working together to advance opportunity, quality, and prosperity for rural Colorado students and communities. The CREC is committed to securing external resources and raising a collective voice and influence around educational practices and processes that work.



Founded in 1986, the Eastern Shore of Maryland Educational Consortium (ESMEC) is comprised of nine public school systems consisting of 130 schools serving 65,000 students located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The nine Superintendents of Schools act as the governing board of ESMEC. ESMEC's mission is to provide technical assistance and support to our members in areas, such as leadership development, shared services, energy purchasing, and teacher recruitment.



The Heartland Educational Consortium (HEC) is a non-profit, regional, educational service organization, which serves six, small and rural districts in south central Florida. HEC facilitates a collaborative culture that promotes the sharing of funding, resources, and ideas to enhance the development of programs and services that support the educational goals of its member districts.



The Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative (KVEC) is a public education agency consisting of 21 public school districts focusing attention on teaching, learning and leadership, maximizing educational opportunities, and contributing to a more effective use of resources for school communities that we believe will contribute to the resurgence in educational achievement taking place in the Appalachian region.



The New England Secondary Schools Consortium is a regional partnership that promotes forward-thinking innovations in the design and delivery of secondary education across New England. The five partner states—Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont—work together to close persistent achievement gaps and promote greater educational equity and opportunity for all students.



The North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) is a regional, non-profit, educational service agency, established to provide cooperative services to 15 member districts. NEFEC helps member districts cooperatively meet their educational goals and objectives by providing programs and services that individual districts would not be able to provide as effectively or as economically when acting alone.



The Northwest Rural Innovation and Student Engagement (NW RISE) Network convenes teachers and leaders from some of the Northwest's most isolated and remote communities to learn from each other, share strategies to meet their unique challenges, and spread best practices of the region's rural schools. NW RISE members include more than 30 rural districts and K-12 school systems in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.



The Ohio Appalachian Collaborative (OAC) is a group of 27 like-minded school districts that joined forces to implement educational innovations, share and generate resources, influence local, regional, and federal education and economic policy, and build a community that encourages rural prosperity in Appalachian Ohio.



The Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC), Florida's first legislatively created educational consortium, serves 14 member districts by providing leadership and a continuum of shared services that elevate student achievement throughout all consortium school districts.



The Rural Alliance for College Success is a P-16 collaborative of 68 rural districts in Eastern and Central Washington, six community colleges, five universities, and several nonprofits in the college-readiness community with a persistent focus on postsecondary program completion and career readiness for each of our students.



The Rural Schools Collaborative is a new multistate organization committed to strengthening rural schools and communities through school centered philanthropy, place-based engagement and promoting the recruitment, preparation and retention of outstanding rural-teacher leaders. RSC is comprised of six hubs that operate in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin.

THE VERMONT RURAL PARTNERSHIP

The Vermont Rural Partnership promotes student voice and engagement through authentic place-based learning that celebrates the unique environment, culture, and heritage of each partner school and its community. The 17 partner schools are predominately rural, face a variety of economic challenges, and are located in the central and northeast part of the state of Vermont.



The Western Maine Education Collaborative (WMEC) was formed in 2005 for member districts to share resources and talent, and overcome the challenges of small rural schools. Through a grassroots effort, the WMEC has facilitated the transformation of its 13 districts toward proficiency-based education which has clearly shown the benefits of a strong, flexible, regional organization, as well as the importance of an embedded ethic of collaboration.



The Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) was formed in 2012 to help rural school districts address the unique issues that affect rural schools as they seek to achieve the highest-quality education for every student. WiRSA serves more than 150 districts and includes 200 members made up of a cross section of educators, school board members, rural community members, business leaders, and others who want a strong voice for rural schools.

INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED? LET'S CONNECT.

The Rural Collaborative Network is passionate about collaborating with educators and sharing lessons learned to move education forward. We welcome the engagement of like-minded rural collaboratives that share our mission of working together to advance learning access, equity, and success for all rural students.

Contact us at info@BFK.org and visit BFK.org/rural to learn more