



Jeremy Bullock

SAFE SCHOOLS SUMMIT

August 6 & 7, 2024

SYSTEMIC APPROACHES TO SCHOOL SAFETY

East Middle School
Butte, MT



A SPECIAL THANKS

This event would not have been possible without the dedication and support of our sponsors, grant supporters, Butte School District, University of Montana Safe Schools Center, Montana Office of Public Instruction, Butte Silver-Bow Law Enforcement department, our volunteers, the planning committee, and so many others including you. Thank you for helping us work towards our mission of creating a safe school environment for every child.

CHARITIES THROUGH JEREMY & JEREMY BULLOCK MEMORIAL TRUST

The combined Jeremy Bullock Memorial Trust and Charities Through Jeremy were established in memory of Jeremy Bullock in 1994 following his tragic death at Margaret Leary Elementary School in Butte, Montana. Jeremy was the unintended victim of a school shooting on April 12, 1994. The trust and foundation were established initially to construct and maintain a sports complex adjacent to the Margaret Leary school, as well as to provide funding for local organizations in support of student safety – both in memory of Jeremy and to aid students of Montana.

LIFETIME SPONSOR LT. RICHARD MAX BULLOCK

**SPECIAL THANKS TO: JACK & PENNY COPPS
KORA MATTHIAS, OUR GREATEST LITTLE VOLUNTEER
DAVE ANDREWS, METALS SPORTS BAR & CATERING**

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Welcome to the 5th Jeremy Bullock Safe Schools Summit!

This year's Summit is dedicated to exploring "Systemic Approaches to School Safety." As we gather for this year, we recognize the critical need to develop comprehensive strategies that address school safety at every level. Our theme emphasizes the need for coordinated efforts and systemic changes to create and sustain secure learning environments for our students and school communities.

In collaboration with the Butte School District, we are honored to host this year's Summit at East Middle School. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the school district for their unwavering support and dedication to the safety and well-being of all students.

Throughout the Summit, you will have the opportunity to engage with a diverse group of school safety experts, educators, law enforcement officers, health professionals, and community members. Our workshop sessions and keynote speakers were selected to provide you with the latest research, innovative trends, and effective programs aimed at enhancing student and staff safety. We encourage you to actively participate, share your insights, and take these valuable lessons back to your respective schools and communities.

The strength of our Summit lies in its ability to unite various stakeholders, including school staff, faculty, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and families who are all impacted by safety concerns. We believe that by working together, we can identify and implement holistic solutions that address the challenges of school safety. It truly takes a village, and your involvement is crucial to our collective success.

We sincerely thank you for your participation in this 5th Summit. Your commitment to learning, and willingness to collaborate and apply the insights gained here will lead to positive change and improved safety for students across Montana and beyond. Together, we strive to build a brighter and safer future for all children.

-Robin and Bill





It is with great pride that I welcome you to the 2024 Jeremey Bullock Safe Schools Summit. I cannot adequately express my gratitude to the Jeremey Bullock Summit committee for their continuous commitment and dedication to helping all Montana schools create safe and secure learning environments.

In light of recent events, the Bullock Safe Schools Summit could not be more relevant in taking time to reflect on our own safety plans, protocols, and needs assessments. We are so fortunate to have this summit and the opportunities it provides to network, share insights, and develop improvement plans.

Annually the Bullock Safe Schools Summit is an ever-present reminder that it is not only important to develop written set of guidelines for school safety, but it is of paramount importance that schools actually practice and critique these safety measures. Each year the Jeremey Bullock Summit affords us an invaluable opportunity to take measurable steps in addressing our highest of school priorities, student safety.

In closing, I want to personally thank each of you for attending the Jeremy Bullock Safe Schools Summit. You are truly our greatest asset in ensuring the health and safety of all our students.

Best Regards,

Judy Jonart

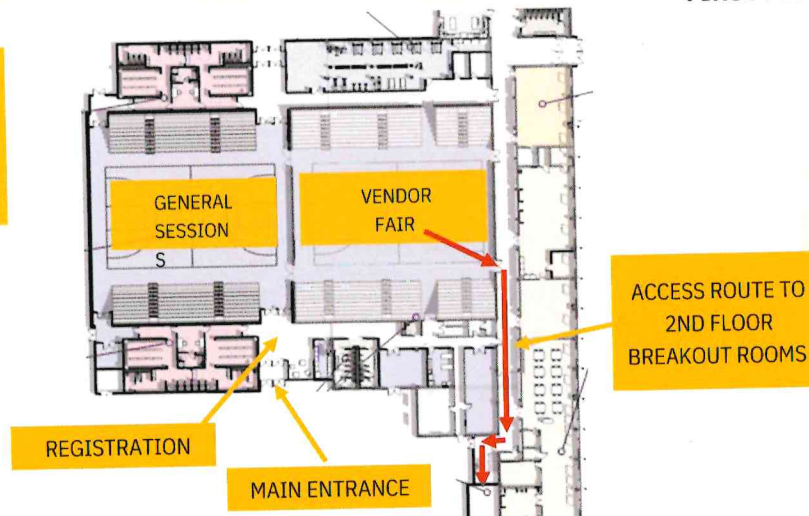
Butte School District, Superintendent

EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL MAPS

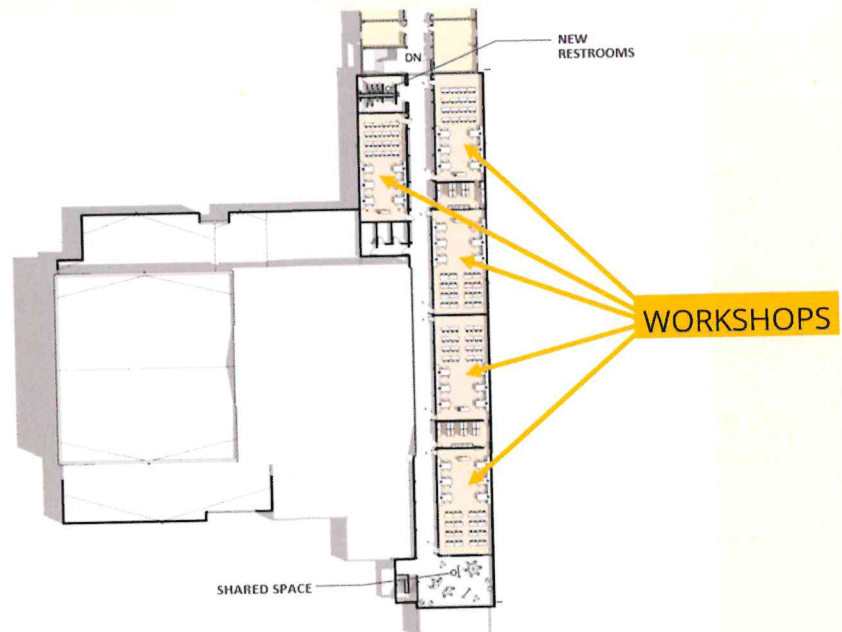
WELCOME to East Middle School. For the **Jeremy Bullock Safe School Summit**, we will be using the south end of the school including the south lobby for registraon, and the two gymnasiums for general sessions and the vendor fair. All break out sessions will occur on the 2nd Floor. Signage will be placed to help you navigate through the building.

FIRST FLOOR LAYOUT

ADDITIONAL SIGNAGE IN THE BUILDING WILL POINT TO RESTROOMS AND ELEVATORS



SECOND FLOOR LAYOUT



GETTING TO THE BBQ AT JEREMY BULLOCK SOCCER COMPLEX AT MARGARET LEARY ELEMENTARY



STARTING from East Middle School, take Grand Avenue to Harrison Avenue and turn left onto Harrison Avenue. Take Harrison Avenue south to 4 Mile Road and turn right. Proceed one mile to the Margaret Leary School. Turn right on Jeremy's Way. Park in any of the available lots. The BBQ will be in the center of the soccer complex—look for the building at the north end of Jeremy's Way.



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Workshop Session 1 – Tuesday 10:30am-12:00pm

- 1) **Fostering Safety & Positivity: Exploring East Middle School's Transformation & Safety Initiatives** –through 1st-hand experiences during a presentation, followed by a school tour, learn how design can enhance student safety, inclusion, learning opportunities, and community spirit.
- 2) **Empowering Educators: Strategies for a Positive Classroom Climate** –effective strategies to manage rising student behavior issues, providing participants with methods and resources to transform these challenges into opportunities for classroom growth and success.
- 3) **The 3 C's of School Safety: Climate, Culture & Context** –the roles of School Climate, Culture, and Context in security operations, their interaction in creating a safe educational environment, and receive model policies, effective practices, and resources
- 4) **Rehearsing Resilience: The Power of Tabletop Exercises** –the purpose, design, facilitation, and benefits of tabletop exercises (TTXs) for emergency planning, featuring insights and lessons from a March 2023 TTX with the Bozeman School District and partner organizations.

Workshop Session 2 – Tuesday 2:30-4:00pm

- 1) **Proactive Strategies for Cyber Resilience in Montana's Schools** –the current cyber threat landscape to Montana's schools; free services and resources are available to help minimize those threats, and a walkthrough of creating a cyber incident response plan.
- 2) **Sacred Gifts for Healing Indigenous Two-Spirit Children/Youth** –define LGBTQ2S terms, examine resilience factors & resources for Two-Spirit youth, & provide strategies to support a safe, inclusive educational environment, aligned with the Sacred Gifts for Healing Indigenous Two-Spirit Children/Youth Toolkit.
- 3) **Universal Screening: How to Ensure a Healthy System & Connect Students Who Need More Supports** –overview of universal screening for social-emotional and behavioral concerns, best practices for implementation, common tools and procedures, and strategies to overcome barriers, enhancing support and sustainability across student support systems.
- 4) **Behavioral Threat Assessment & Management: What's a School to Do? (BTAM pt-1)** –clearly identify what is a threat, why should a school conduct behavioral threat assessment and management, overview of the behavioral threat assessment and management process and school roles within that process.

Workshop Session 3 – Wednesday 10:00-11:30am

- 1) **Preventing Violence: Root Cause Analysis & Early Interventions (BTAM pt 2)** –realm of threat assessments and early, supportive interventions, addressing root causes and preventing violence plus how these strategies contribute to fostering a more safe and supportive school climate.
- 2) **Reimagining School Safety in Practice** –restorative approaches to transform harm into healing and cultural responsiveness to foster connection and belonging, providing strategies to create an empathetic, resilient, and inclusive school environment.
- 3) **Trusted Adult: Enhancing Supports** –training for adult champions on the role and characteristics of a trusted adult, focusing on how fostering trust can prevent youth violence and identifying key behaviors to address warning signs or threats with overview of Sandy Hook Promise.
- 4) **Enhancing MTSS to Create Effective Systems of Crisis Planning, Response & Recovery** –how integrating school mental health within a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) can enhance prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery from crises, offering a comprehensive crisis planning approach that includes equity, systems, data, and practices, supported by recent studies and best practices for mental health in schools.

Workshop Session 4 – Wednesday 1:00-2:30pm

- 1) **Data, Privacy, and Learning: Charting an Ethical Course for AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Schools** – AI's role in education, addressing both its benefits and risks, including data privacy, algorithmic bias, and ethical implications, while fostering collaboration to develop strategies for responsible implementation and student & school safety.
- 2) **Beyond Emergency Management: Comprehensive Strategies for School Safety** – comprehensive school safety, including bullying, cyberbullying, child exploitation, cybersecurity, mental health, school climate, threat assessment, targeted violence, and public health concerns, alongside Emergency Operation Plans (EOPs) to prepare for disasters, providing participants with essential knowledge to enhance their school's safety practices.
- 3) **Suicide School Safety Planning & Postvention** – safety planning and postvention practices to respond effectively to mental health crises and suicide risks in school settings, addressing the unique challenges for mental health practitioners, educators, and parents.
- 4) **School Safety in Today's World** – the importance of Behavioral Threat Assessment teams in promoting early intervention and a safe school climate based on trust and respect, referencing insights from the US Secret Service and NTAC on preventing attacks and apprehending plotters before incidents occur.



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SUMMIT 2024**

AGENDA

AUGUST 6

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM **OPENING CEREMONY**

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM **OPENING KEYNOTE: COACH BOB GREEN**
School Safety via Greenisms

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM **BREAK TO VISIT EXHIBITORS**

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM **WORKSHOP SESSION 1**

1. Fostering Safety & Positivity: Exploring East Middle School's Transformation & Safety Initiatives - SMA Architecture + Design's Ali Martin & Jason Davis; East Middle School Principal Keith Miller; and former Butte SRO Cole Conway
2. Empowering Educators: Strategies for a Positive Classroom Climate - Ericha Anderson, Vancouver Public Schools
3. The 3 C's of School Safety: Climate, Culture & Context - Guy Bliesner, Idaho State Board of Education & Mikelshaun Martschi, Utah Law Enforcement Administrator
4. Rehearsing Resilience: The Power of Tabletop Exercises - Marilyn King & Mike Van Vuren, Bozeman Schools; Scott McCormick, Bozeman PD; and Kevin Larsen, Gallatin County Emergency Operations

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **LUNCH & EXHIBITOR WELCOME**

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM **PANEL DISCUSSION - FROM SUMMIT TO SCHOOLS:
BEST PRACTICES & PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR
IMPLEMENTING LESSONS LEARNED**



Moderated by Kate Stetzner

1. Lora LoDuca - School Counselor, Independence School
2. Christopher Lueck - SRO, Hamilton Police Department
3. Wes Peters - Dean of Students, Butte School District #1
4. Todd Wester - Curriculum Director, Livingston Public Schools

2:00 PM - 2:30PM

BREAK TO VISIT EXHIBITORS

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION 2

1. Proactive Strategies for Cyber Resilience in Montana's Schools - Joe Frolich, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, DHS
2. Sacred Gifts for Healing Indigenous Two-Spirit Children/Youth - Dr. Lavonne Fox Peltier, Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center
3. Universal Screening: How to Ensure a Healthy System & Connect Students Who Need More Supports - Mari Meador & Rayann Silva, UW SMART Center
4. Behavioral Threat Assessment & Management: What's a School to Do? (BTAM pt 1) - Tina Eblen & Tammy Tolleson Knee, University of Montana Safe Schools Center

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

BBQ @ JEREMY BULLOCK SOCCER COMPLEX



AUGUST 7

DAY 2

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

**PLENARY SESSION, "WHY ISN'T THIS WORKING?":
UNRAVELING THE COMPLEXITY OF SCHOOL SAFETY
THROUGH CONTEXT, CULTURE, & SYSTEMS**

WestED Team: Christina Pate, Curtis Herring, Lauren Trout, and Krystal Wu

9:30AM - 10:00 AM

BREAK TO VISIT EXHIBITORS





10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

WORKSHOP SESSION 3

1. Preventing Violence: Root Cause Analysis & Early Interventions (Threat Assessment pt 2) - Curtis Herring, WestED
2. Reimagining School Safety in Practice - Lauren Trout & Krystal Wu, WestED Team
3. Trusted Adult: Enhancing Supports - Sara Militello, Sandy Hook Promise
4. Enhancing MTSS to Create Effective Systems of Crisis Planning, Response & Recovery - Jennifer Freeman & Kira Mauseth, UW SMART Center

11:30 AM - 12:45 PM

**3RD ANNUAL SCHOOL SAFETY RECOGNITION
AWARDS CEREMONY**

1. *Champion of School Safety - Jeremiah Nitz, Havre Public Schools*
2. *SRO of the Year - Bozeman Public Schools SRO Team*
3. *Youth Safety Spotlight Award - Great Falls Public Schools Peer Mentoring Groups*

12:45 PM - 1:00 PM

BREAK TO VISIT EXHIBITORS

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION 4

1. Data, Privacy, and Learning: Charting an Ethical Course for AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Schools - Montana Digital Academy
2. Beyond Emergency Management: Comprehensive Strategies for School Safety - Nancy Berg, University of Montana Safe Schools Center
3. Suicide School Safety Planning & Postvention - Erin Briley, Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center
4. School Safety in Today's World - Dale Stripling, School Safety Specialist

2:30 - 3:00 PM

SUMMIT CLOSING REMARKS



SPEAKERS & PRESENTERS



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ERICA ANDERSON

Vancouver Public Schools

Ericha Anderson is a Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) Coach at Vancouver Innovation Technology & Arts (VITA) elementary school in Vancouver Public Schools (Vancouver, WA) who works with administrators, teachers, and students to transform teaching and learning by implementing a project-based learning approach. The focus of her work is to engage students in learning that is deep and long-lasting, inspires joy and personal connection, and amplifies communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. Ericha has a BA in Elementary Education from the University of Montana, Masters of Educational Technology from City University, and library endorsement from Portland State University, and is currently working toward earning administrative credentials at Gonzaga University. She has worked in the educational field for 24 years as an elementary classroom teacher, teacher librarian, and K-12 instructional coach. Ericha has served on several school and district-based committees focused on improving school safety and social-emotional learning. She has experience as a professional development leader in her district guiding nearly sixteen hundred teachers in best practices for developing a broader set of knowledge and skills to prepare students for college, careers, and beyond. She has presented at several state and national EdTech Conferences addressing impactful technology integration and digital safety including International Society for Technology in Education, Northwest Council For Computer Education, IntegratED, and CUE California.



MIKELSHAN BARTSCHI

Cache County Sheriff's Office

With a 24-year law enforcement career, Mikelshan Bartschi (Michael-Shawn Bar-Chee) currently oversees the Cache County Sheriff's Office Criminal Division, including investigations and school resource officers. He has experience in patrol, corrections, investigations, and supervision. A former SWAT operator and commander, he is NASRO certified and a certified Force Science Analyst. Mikelshan serves on the executive board of the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) and led a five-day search for a missing child. He is trained in various interview techniques and threat assessment models and has attended the FBI Intermountain Law Enforcement Executive Command College. He chairs the countywide active attack committee and sits on the Cache County School District's Safety Team, overseeing safety for over 18,000 students. Mikelshan is a member of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals and trained in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). He is also part of the Cache Valley Unified Response Team. His spouse and two adult children are educators in Utah.



NANCY BERG

University of Montana Safe Schools Center

Nancy Berg, who holds a Master's Degree in Social Work, is the Assistant Director at the Montana Safe Schools Center at the University of Montana. She oversees fiscal management of grant and non-grant accounts, assists with data collection, tracking, reporting, and coordinates project reports for Federal and State sponsors.

The Montana Safe School Center's mission includes school safety, emergency and crisis management, and providing training, research, and professional development to schools and communities. Ms. Berg is trained in the I Love U Guys Standard Response Protocol, Standard Reunification Method, and ALERRT Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE).

She provides training on emergency operations planning, school safety, educator wellbeing, trauma-informed practices, and suicide prevention. Ms. Berg is a certified master trainer in ASIST and safeTALK suicide prevention protocols.

Currently working towards her clinical Social Work licensure, she volunteers at the YWCA in Missoula, providing crisis and counseling services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking.



GUY BLIESNER

Idaho Office of School Safety and Security

Guy Bliesner began his career in 1994 as a high school teacher and coach, moving into administration in 2006 as the Safety and Security Coordinator for the Bonneville School District. He was named to Idaho's Governor's School Safety Task Force and was a finalist for the 2011 Campus Safety Magazine's national Campus Safety Director of the Year Award. In 2013, he co-founded Educators Eyes, a consulting firm that developed Idaho's first statewide school safety assessment. He dissolved the firm in 2016 to join the newly created Idaho Office of School Safety and Security.

Currently, he serves as the School Safety and Security Analyst for schools in Southeast Idaho. He is a board member of the National School Safety Center Association (NSSA), President-Elect of the National Council on School Facilities (NCSF), and a founding member of the National School Safety Directors Association (NSSDA). He also chairs a sub-committee for ASIS International's Technical committee for developing School Safety Standards. Guy advocates nationally for school safety and supports public and charter schools in Southeast Idaho with assessments, training, and planning assistance.



ERIN BRILEY

Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC)

Erin Briley joined the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) in 2019. She currently is the School Mental Health Coordinator for the Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network (MHTTC). As the program manager and school mental health lead, her work focuses on providing intensive technical assistance, resources, and training to school staff on ways to support school-based mental health. Ms. Briley worked as a School Psychologist and has over 20 years of experience working in the schools, serving school districts in California, Hawaii, and Colorado while providing direct and indirect supports for children ages 3 through 22 of all developmental levels.



COLE CONWAY

Former EMS SRO, Butte Police Department

Cole Conway is a second-generation police officer, native, and lifelong resident of Butte, Montana. He attended Butte Schools and graduated in 2008. In high school he was a standout athlete in football, basketball, and track. Cole became a police officer in Butte in 2014, graduating from the Montana Law Enforcement Academy in 2015. In 2020, Cole was assigned the duties of the Student Resource Officer for the Butte School District and completed National Student Resource Officer training. His office was housed at East Middle School, but his work encompassed all of the elementary schools in Butte. During his tenure at East Middle School, the school underwent a complete remodel in which significant safety and security features were brought to East Middle School. Cole was an essential member of the team that trained the staff, administration, and his colleagues on the force, in the safety features that were the center piece of the renovation project. Cole was also an instrumental member of the active shooter training team in the Butte School District. Cole was promoted to the position of Detective in 2023 and, even though his office and his job has changed, he continues to be a reliable resource for the Butte School District on matters of safety concern. Cole is married to Taelor Conway, an elementary school teacher in the Butte School District. Together, they have two great sons in Noah, age 5, and Cooper, age 3. In his spare time, Cole spends his time as a t-ball coach, and as a volunteer football coach at Butte High School. He is an avid basketball player and has laid claim to winning the MVP award of this year's East Middle School Student-Staff basketball game.



JASON DAVIS

SMA Architecture + Design

As a Principal and Partner of SMA Architecture + Design, P.C., Jason's twenty-year career has included K-12, higher education, commercial and historic projects. Jason is involved in every step of project development from pre-bond planning, educational specifications and conceptual design to the resulting elementary, middle school, high school and athletic facility construction. Jason's experience and passion for educational design, 21st century learning environments, and school safety and security are an integral part of the successful delivery of school projects that achieve a school district's programmatic needs, budget and schedule objectives. Jason has worked with the Butte School District, East Helena School District, and Clancy School on their recent school planning and construction projects.



TINA EBLEN

University of Montana Safe Schools Center

Tina Eblen is the University of Montana Safe School Center's Training and Technical Assistance Specialist. She brings to the center a wealth of experience including over eight years of Emergency Management, ten years of Behavioral Health and five years working directly with schools.



JENNIFER FREEMAN

UW SMART Center

Dr. Freeman has over 20 years of experience in public education at the K-12 and higher education levels. She is currently an associate professor in educational psychology at the University of Connecticut, and a technical assistance director for the Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Her work focuses on applying multi-tiered systems of support such as PBIS to improve overall school climate and a sense of belonging for students and educators. She is particularly interested in improving graduation rates for students with behavioral and/or mental health disorders. She also studies professional development methods for improving teacher's use of evidence-based classroom management strategies and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the special education program. Dr Freeman leads a national crisis preparation response and recovery workgroup within the Center on PBIS and has 10 years of experience supporting schools, districts, and states in recovery efforts following incidents of school or community violence. This work focuses on supporting short- and long-term recovery efforts as well as prevention and preparation efforts at the district and state levels.



JOE FROLICH

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Dept. of Homeland Security

Joe Frohlich serves as a Cyber State Coordinator (CSC) for Montana, Region 8 (UT, CO, MT, WY, ND, SD) of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in the Department of Homeland Security. He is based out of Helena. CISA works with public and private partners to defend against today's threats and build more secure and resilient infrastructure for the future. The CISA Cybersecurity Advisor program includes promoting cyber resilience through various engagements and performing risk and resilience-based assessments.

Prior to joining CISA, Joe was the IT Director at Ravalli County, Montana for nine years. During his time at Ravalli he co-founded Montana's Local Government IT group and served on the executive board for the Multi State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, better known as MS-ISAC. In 2015 he moved to Helena to work for the State of Montana as the Enterprise Security Manager for the Department of Administration. In this role, he assisted in the creation and management of the Governor's appointed Montana Information Security Advisory Council (MT-ISAC) whose primary focus was cybersecurity in State and Local Government. Joe directed the State Government enterprise security policy, managed the security and awareness campaign, and supervised a team of IT risk management professionals. Early in 2021 Mr. Frohlich transitioned to DHS/CISA in his current role as a CSA for Region 8.



BOB GREEN

Former Montana Tech Head Football Coach

Coach Bob Green retired as the Head Football Coach at Montana Tech in 2010 after leading the Orediggers for 24 seasons. During his tenure, Tech had its most successful period ever in football with 5 NAIA National Playoff appearances which included the 1996 National Championship game. In 2013 the stadium replaced its surface with artificial turf and named the new field after Green in honor of his accomplishments. The Legendary Coach Green has an incredible sense of humor and his "Greenisms" have gone viral over the years.



CURTIS HERRING

WestEd

Curtis Herring, MEd, is a School Safety Technical Assistance Specialist with the WestEd Justice and Prevention Research Center. He supports local, regional, and state education agencies in their implementation of evidence-based violence prevention strategies. Herring began his work in education in 2013 as a high school science teacher and progressed to the Director of Counseling and Student Support for Comal ISD (Texas) before coming to WestEd. His work has included several notable projects, such as the development of a campus mindfulness room, the introduction of processes and procedures related to Behavioral Threat Assessment, the development of a campus-based mentorship program, and the institution of school counseling data collection and analysis methods. In his more recent role serving as the Director of Counseling and Student Support, Herring oversaw certified school counselors, licensed social workers, and licensed professional counselors at 34 campuses, leading the continual development of a robust school-based mental health framework and comprehensive school counseling program. Curtis received his MEd in educational psychology from Texas A&M University and his BS from the University of Texas at San Antonio.



MARILYN KING

Bozeman Public Schools

Marilyn King is currently the deputy superintendent and the safety coordinator for the Bozeman Public Schools. She received her doctorate from Montana State University. She possesses building administrative experience at the elementary and middle school levels and K-12 and university teaching experience. She is the local education agency representative for Montana on the National Forum on Education Statistics and served as Chair of the National Education Statistics Agenda Committee. Her doctoral dissertation focused on impacts of instructional leadership on student achievement. Additional interests include change processes in education, school safety, school culture and climate, instructional technology and privacy considerations, and consensus. She is a former Champion of School Safety awardee.



TAMMY TOLLESON KNEE

University of Montana Safe Schools Center

Tammy Tolleson Knee, LCSW, EdS is the School Support Liaison for the Montana Safe Schools Center (MSSC) located in the Department of Education at the University of Montana. Tammy coordinates the VAST (Virtually Assisted School Team) program, trains in the areas of standard response protocol, threat assessment and crisis response and conducts school safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness assessments. Tammy also serves as a member of Missoula's behavioral health committee. Over the last three decades, Tammy's professional work as a Licensed School Counselor and Licensed Clinical Social Worker has spanned three states, seven K-12 schools, and one university. Tammy's work in schools has focused on identifying, developing, and implementing prevention and treatment interventions that support students' mental health, positive behavior, and physical/emotional safety. At the University of Montana, Tammy supervised graduate level social work students completing internships in a variety of agencies around the state of Montana. She has also taught nine separate undergraduate and graduate courses. When Tammy is not engaged in her work at MSSC or playing jokes on co-workers, she spends time with her family, hikes around Montana, and convinces her husband to join her latest remodeling project.



KEVIN LARSEN

Gallatin County Emergency Management

Kevin Larsen is a seasoned emergency management professional with over two decades of experience in search and rescue, law enforcement, and emergency operations. His roots run deep in Montana, having grown up in the Flathead region where he volunteered with Flathead Search and Rescue from 1994 to 1998. Kevin began his career as an EMT with American Medical Response from 1998 to 2001. He then joined the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, serving from 1998 to 2018 in various roles including Firearms Instructor, Search and Rescue Coordinator, member of the Special Response Team, Patrol Sergeant for approximately 8 years, and Domestic Violence Response Instructor. In 2019, Kevin transitioned to Gallatin County Emergency Management as the Operations and Training Manager. He currently serves as a Liaison Officer with the Northern Rockies Complex Incident Management Team 2. His vast frontline experience coupled with his training expertise makes him a valued asset in preparing for and responding to emergencies. Kevin Larsen's dedication to public safety spans his entire professional career in Montana.



LORA LODUCA

Independence Elementary

Lora LoDuca was born and raised in Helena, Montana. She earned her BA in psychology/sociology from UM Missoula and her MA in Clinical Psychology from California School of Professional Psychology. She worked in adult mental health settings for several years in San Diego before moving back to Montana in 2004 to focus on family. Lora became a Licensed Professional Counselor for the state of Montana in 2013. She worked as a K-6th CSCT Therapist for three years before obtaining her School Counselor credential through MSU-Northern's M.Ed. program in 2016. She has worked as an elementary school counselor for the past 8 years (in Great Falls and Billings) and maintains her LCPC license. As part of her current job, Lora helps to develop and teach social skills and safety lessons to the approximately 300 students of Independent Elementary, a Yellowstone County school located just outside Billings city limits. She regularly interacts with parents, teachers, administrators, the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Department, and Billings Child Protective Services to help ensure safety to her students.



CHRISTOPHER LUECK

Hamilton Police Department

Chris Lueck is a School Resource Officer with the Hamilton Police Department. Chris has been employed with the Hamilton Police Department for just over 5 years. Along with being a police Officer, Chris has been enlisted in the Montana Army National Guard as a firefighter for nearly 19 years.

Chris is married to his wonderful wife Kacey, and they have three beautiful children together. He enjoys golfing, hunting and spending time with his family.

Chris has spent one school year as the SRO where he oversees the safety of 5 campuses in Hamilton. He enjoys working with the youth and learning their slang words. He looks forward to building positive relationships where the students aren't afraid to say hi when they see him out in public.



ALI MARTIN

SMA Architecture + Design

As part of the leadership team at SMA, Ali has been involved in many K-12 and higher education projects while at SMA. She is passionate about creating inviting and safe communities in the school environment that promote learning and student well-being. Recent educational projects include East Middle School, Butte Elementary School Safety and Security Upgrades, East Helena High School, Central Elementary School, Monforton School Master Plan, and the Helena School District Facilities Master Plan.



KIRA MAUSETH

UW SMART Center

Dr. Kira Mauseth consults with organizations, state agencies, and educational groups about disaster preparedness and resilience building within local communities. Her work and research focus on disaster behavioral health, resilience, and recovery from trauma as well as small and large-scale critical incident response and preparation for organizations. She has worked abroad extensively with disaster survivors and refugees and has trained first responders, educators, and health care workers throughout Puget Sound the United States, and currently serves in the adult mental health clinical seat on Washington State's Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (DMAC). Dr Mauseth owns Astrum Health, LLC and provides training to community groups and professionals both regionally and abroad as the co-developer of the Health Support Team© program. She is a practicing clinical psychologist and a Teaching Professor at Seattle University. Dr Mauseth also served as a co-lead for the Behavioral Health Strike Team for the WA State Department of Health during the COVID response and is part of the mental health group for the PPN (Pediatric Pandemic Network), a national HRSA funded initiative comprised of 10 Pediatric Hospitals across the US.



SCOTT MCCORMICK

Bozeman Police Department

Scott McCormick is a 16-year veteran of the Bozeman Police Department, where he currently serves as the School Resource Sergeant. Prior to joining the Bozeman Police Department, McCormick graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's degree in History. His law enforcement career began as a park ranger in Rocky Mountain National Park. He went on to serve as a park ranger in Yellowstone National Park for several years. In 2008, McCormick was hired by the Bozeman Police Department as a patrol officer. After several years on patrol, he transitioned into the role of School Resource Officer at Bozeman High School. McCormick later transferred to the Detective Division, where he was assigned to the Special Victims Unit and served on the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

In 2020, McCormick was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He initially supervised a patrol team before returning to the Detective Division as the Detective Sergeant. In 2023, he assumed his current position as the Sergeant overseeing the School Resource Program. McCormick's diverse experiences, ranging from federal land management to criminal investigations and school safety, have prepared him well for his leadership role in coordinating the Bozeman Police Department's efforts in local schools.



MARI MEADOR

UW SMART Center

Mari Meador is an implementation coach at the University of Washington. She works in collaboration with Schools to support implementation efforts of proactive systems of support. Mari joins us from the University of Washington Tacoma where she worked in collaboration with Tacoma Public Schools to support implementation efforts of the Tacoma Whole Child Initiative. Mari has served as a PBIS State Facilitator and Assistant Coordinator for the Northwest PBIS Network providing training and technical assistance, coaching, and ongoing supports to build local and district capacity to implement, sustain, and scale PBIS, and she began her career as a school support counselor and school-based mental health associate. Her professional interests include systems change, culturally responsive positive behavior support and social emotional learning, and fidelity of implementation. Her research interests include equitable and inclusive school discipline practices, implementation science, and effective teaming practices in schools.



SARA MILITELLO

Sandy Hook Promise

As the Associate Vice President of Implementation at Sandy Hook Promise, Sara is dedicated to the effective rollout and sustainability of the Know the Signs and Anonymous Reporting Systems programs. She collaborates closely with Sandy Hook Promise Trainers, the Partner Success Team, students, and adult advocates to promote inclusivity and violence prevention to young people across the nation. Sara holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of South Florida. Although she has spent most of her life in Miami, her extensive career has involved educating at-risk youth in Miami, Tampa, New York City, and Chicago. Sara is deeply passionate about empowering youth, adults, and Sandy Hook Promise partners to lead and disseminate the organization's life-saving Know the Signs messages.



KEITH MILLER

Butte School District #1

Keith Miller, a second-generation educator from Butte, Montana, graduated from Butte High School in 1986. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from UM-Western in 1991, followed by a Special Education endorsement and a Master's in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. Keith's thirty-year career includes eight years as a Special Education Teacher and four years as a Social Studies teacher at Butte High School. In 2005, he became the Vice Principal at East Middle School, and in 2018, he was promoted to Principal, a position he still holds.

Keith played a key role in implementing the Olweus Anti-Bullying Prevention Program at East Middle School in 2007, which remains influential today. He also oversaw the East Middle School renovation project and guided the school through the Covid epidemic. In 2023, the school was named a National Unified Champion School by Special Olympics International and an ESPN Honor Roll School for its commitment to inclusion.

Keith worked in the mental health field for AWARE Group Homes in Butte for twenty years. He has also served as a District Administrator and the Montana State Director for Little League Baseball & Softball, Inc. since 2005. Keith is the proud parent of Brad and Caitlin Stevens, and the grandfather of James and Shea Stevens.



JASON NEIFFER

Montana Digital Academy

Dr. Jason Neiffer is the Executive Director of Montana Digital Academy, Montana's state virtual school. For over 25 years, Jason has pursued innovative ways to combine technology and pedagogy to make learning engaging and meaningful for students of all ages and circumstances. His professional interests include distance learning, media literacy, digital productivity, artificial intelligence, social studies, and humanities education. His first work in educational technology was in 1984, when he set up all of the Apple IIe computers at Roosevelt Elementary School in Great Falls as a rambunctious 4th grader. He has been chasing the thrill of Lemonade Stand and Oregon Trail ever since!



CHRISTINA PATE

WestEd

Christina Pate is a Senior Program Associate on WestEd's Resilient and Healthy Schools and Communities team, directing Safe and Supportive Learning Environments and professional learning projects for Oregon and Maryland's Departments of Education.

Pate collaborates to design innovative strategies and inclusive workplaces, focusing on human-centered leadership, engagement, and belonging. She partners with leaders to build high-performing, healthy teams through strategic planning, learning and development, and systems thinking.

With over twenty years of experience, Pate's expertise includes social-emotional development, mental health, leadership, change management, and organizational culture. She has held various leadership roles, including Deputy Director of the Center to Improve Social & Emotional Learning and School Safety and Director of the Equity Accelerator. Pate holds an MEd in Counseling and a PhD in Psychology. She completed a clinical postdoctoral residency at the University of Missouri and was a National Institute of Mental Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.



LAVONNE FOX PELTIER

Mountain Plains MHTTC

Dr. LaVonne Fox Peltier, PhD, OTR/L, is a Technical Trainer with the Mountain Plains MHTTC as well as a Research Assistant Professor at the University of North Dakota's Bureau of Evaluation & Research Service, part of the Department of Education, Health, and Behavioral Studies. She is a member of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribal Nation, deeply committed to creating culturally relevant interventions informed by Indigenous practices to address mental health issues. Dr. Fox Peltier focuses on children, youth, and young adults dealing with mental health challenges in both rural and urban settings. She advocates strongly for strength-based approaches, challenging deficit-based practices commonly used in education and mental health care. Her work aims to bridge the gap between cultural understanding and mental health care, particularly for Indigenous peoples, while also exploring the impact of historical, generational, and intergenerational trauma within communities and populations.



WES PETERS

Butte School District

Wes Peters has dedicated 33 years to education, with 4 years in Blackfoot, ID, and 29 years at Butte School District #1. He holds a Master's in Education from Lesley University and a Bachelor's in Education from Western Montana College. For the past 12 years, he has served as the Dean of Students at Butte High School, where he manages student behavior, attendance issues, medical issues in support of the school nurse, and assists with emotional crises. Additionally, Wes is an integral member of both the School District #1 Safety Team and the Butte High School Safety Team.



RAY ROGERS

EMCEE / Praxis Center

Mr. Rogers is the CEO of the Praxis Center, a \$35 million, 35,000 ft² mock hospital that will be the nation's first healthcare simulation training center dedicated specifically to the needs of rural healthcare practitioners. He is also the CEO for NOVARE, a Montana non-profit corporation dedicated to improving the management of health care data, information, and knowledge. Mr. Rogers has over 25 years of experience working in the field of health care informatics and healthcare simulation and 18 years of experience in higher education administration, fundraising, marketing, engineering, and business development. He has significant experience in the field of simulation-based training for the US Military Special Operations Forces and is a seasoned project manager. Mr. Rogers was the on-site coordinator for three Montana Economic Development Summits hosted by Senator Max Baucus and is a Past Chairman of the Board of the Mountain Health CO-OP. He holds an undergraduate degree in Petroleum Engineering and a Master's Degree in Technical Communication. He has three grown children and four grandchildren and enjoys running, mountain biking, skiing, hiking and fly-fishing. He has been on the Jeremy Bullock Trust since its inception and helped lead the efforts with the Walk Again Violence, the Jeremy Bullock Memorial Soccer Complex, and the Jeremy Bullock Safe Schools Summit.



RAYANN SILVA

UW SMART (School Mental Health Assessment, Research, & Training) Center

Rayann Silva's career has spanned various roles in education from: Classroom Teacher, ABA Therapist, and District Administrator, and State/Regional School Mental Health Training and Technical Assistance Provider. In her current role, she supports state and local education agencies, and individual school districts with promoting workforce capacity to deliver research and evidence-based strategies, policies, and practice models that foster social-emotional and behavioral well-being for all.



KATE STEI ZNER

Educational Leadership Consultant

Kate Stetzner holds a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and carries endorsements in Educational Leadership in Montana, Nevada, and Washington, specializing as a Superintendent, K-12 Principal, Gifted Education Specialist, Administrative Leadership Coach, and Principal Mentor. She has demonstrated exceptional leadership as the Principal of Margaret Leary Elementary School, where she successfully revitalized the school community in the aftermath of Jeremy Bullock's passing.

Kate's dedication extends beyond her current role as a School Improvement Leadership Coach and Principal mentor; she serves as a Trustee for the Jeremy Bullock Foundation and co-directs the Montana School Safety Summits, advocating nationally for safe learning environments. As a renowned national consultant, she addresses crucial topics such as prevention, intervention, and response strategies, ensuring that all schools can provide a secure educational setting for every child.



DALE STRIPLING

The Alabama State Department of Education

Dale Stripling holds a Doctorate Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Alabama, a bachelor's Degree in Secondary Language Arts from UAB, a master's in Educational Administration from UAB, and an Educational Specialist Degree from The University of Montevallo. Dale has served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, and principal in schools that range from urban to rural. He has worked as a Student Services Supervisor for the Jefferson County Board of Education in Birmingham, Alabama. He is currently a Safe School Regional Administrator for The Alabama State Department of Education. Dr. Stripling is a member of the Alabama Department of Education's Central Office Task Force on School Safety and regularly assists in regional safety trainings throughout the state. He has served as a judge on the Alabama Attorney General's Blue-Ribbon Council for safe schools. He is a certified trainer in the Colorado Threat Assessment protocol. He is currently training as an Adolescent Mental Health First Aid Trainer. Dale has been affiliated with The Alabama Association of School Resource Officers since 2003. He has served as a district education representative and currently serves as the Executive Education Advisor.



LAUREN TROUT

WestEd

Lauren Trout is a Senior Program Associate for the Resilient and Healthy Schools and Communities team at WestEd, leading restorative practices work. Trout provides training, coaching, and technical support to schools and communities, focusing on equity, climate, culture, harm prevention, and sustainable change.

As a restorative justice practitioner, Trout integrates trauma-informed practice, social-emotional well-being, and relationship-centered learning into organizational culture. Using restorative justice and critical pedagogies, Trout transforms systems of power to create inclusive, safe, and culturally responsive environments.

Previously, Trout led restorative justice programs for the Jefferson Parish District Attorney's Office and Public School System in Louisiana, facilitating victim-offender dialogues and overseeing school district implementation. With over a decade of experience, Trout has worked with youth, communities, and systems at local and national levels.

Trout holds a BA in political science and international studies from Saint Louis University and resides in New Orleans, Louisiana.



MIKE VAN VUREN

Bozeman School District

Mike Van Vuren is a seasoned educator with over 20 years of experience in the field. He began his career as a teacher and later served as a principal, honing his leadership skills and dedication to student success. Currently, Mike holds the position of Deputy Superintendent for the Bozeman School District, where he plays a crucial role in ensuring school safety. With his vast experience and commitment to creating a secure learning environment, Mike addresses school safety concerns on a regular basis, working tirelessly to implement effective strategies and protocols to protect the well-being of students and staff alike.



TODD WESTER

Livingston Public Schools

Todd Wester has worked with Livingston Public Schools for 23 years and is currently Curriculum Director. Over his lifetime he has made his living as a fishing outfitter, commercial fly-tier, woodworker, and author. He is past president of the Livingston Baseball Association and of the Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana. He is a native of Billings, MT, and attended Stanford University (B.A. Philosophy) and Montana State University (B.A. Elementary Education, M.Ed. Educational Leadership). He enjoys fishing, hunting, gardening, old pickup restoration, cooking, sports, and music, especially when spending time with his three children and two grandchildren.



KRYSTAL WU

WestEd

As a Program Associate with Resilient and Healthy Schools and Communities, Krystal Wu (she/her) provides technical assistance, designs professional learning, and develops resources to create safe and supportive learning environments.

Specializing in culturally responsive education, co-design, and school climate, Wu prioritizes the voices of marginalized community members. She is an expert in anti-oppressive education and race-centered equity, creating curricula and professional development to help educators transform their ideologies.

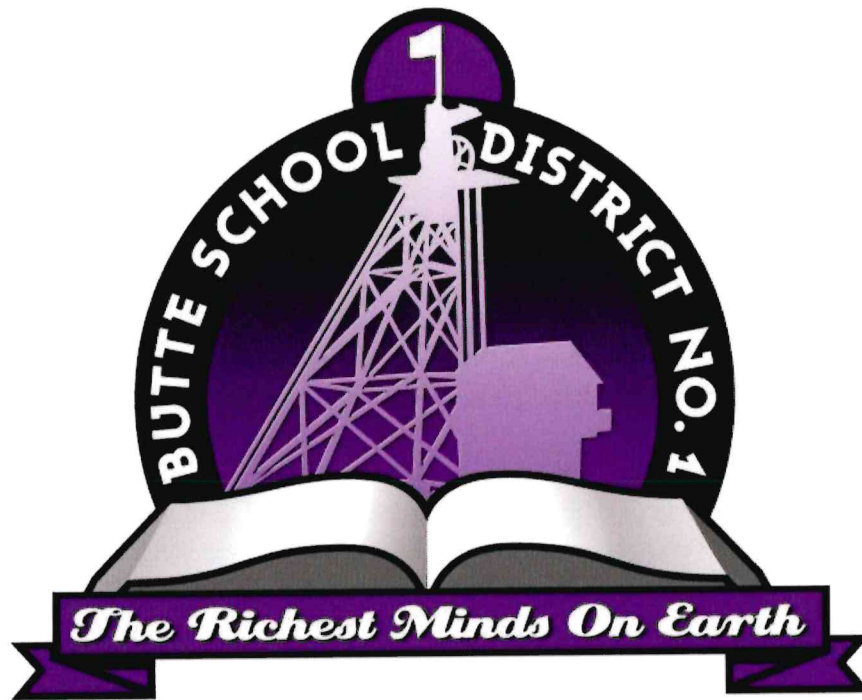
At WestEd, Wu designs and leads professional learning courses on racial equity and belonging through the Center to Improve Social and Emotional Learning and School Safety and the California Center for School Climate.

Previously, Wu was an equity coach, instructional coach, and award-winning secondary English Language Arts teacher with over 10 years of experience. She developed an antiracist curriculum and led an equity-focused professional learning series for faculty and staff.

Wu holds a BA in English and Women's and Gender Studies from Santa Clara University and an MA in education from UC Berkeley.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMIT PARTNER



Butte School District is committed to provide each of our students with a comprehensive educational experience in preparation for current academic challenges and future educational and occupational endeavors.

Butte School District provides a safe and nurturing environment where all students are presented with enriching opportunities to learn the essential knowledge and requisite skills necessary to compete with "the best," access their dreams and realize their aspirations.

Through a belief in high expectations in a culture of respect, our team of highly qualified teachers, administrators, support staff and caring School Board members continually look for ways to improve our programs and services, the process, how we do things, and the quality of the product in our work in education.

Butte School District welcomes and encourages the participation of parents and the partnership with business and community members to enrich and broaden the educational experiences of our students.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
GRANT SUPPORTER**

DENNIS & PHYLLIS WASHINGTON FOUNDATION

The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation supports a broad spectrum of worthy organizations benefiting at-risk youth, economically and socially disadvantaged individuals and families, and those with special needs.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
SPONSOR**

Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation

The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation is a philanthropy founded to help transform lives and communities by uniting people across differences to find common cause. Started in 1995 by Arthur M. Blank, co-founder of The Home Depot, the foundation has granted more than \$1 billion to charitable causes. Our collective giving areas are Atlanta's Westside, Democracy, Environment, Mental Health and Well-Being, and Youth Development. Across these areas, we take on tough challenges by uniting the courage and compassion of our communities so we can all thrive together.

In addition to these areas of giving, the foundation maintains a significant portfolio of founder-led giving based on the chairman's personal interests and will continue its enduring commitment to the issues and relationships he cares deeply about, including the support of Atlanta and Montana nonprofit institutions, veterans and the military, and stuttering, among others. The foundation also leads giving areas for each of the for-profit businesses in Blank's portfolio, including a unique associate-led giving program, serving as an example of how philanthropy and business can combine for social good.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR



The Office of Public Instruction is one of Montana's five constitutionally recognized offices headed by a statewide elected official. Every four years, Montanans elect a Superintendent of Public Instruction to manage the OPI. The OPI serves as Montana's state education agency. Montana is a 'local control in education state' so much of the decision-making in education happens in our state's over 400 local school districts by a locally elected board of trustees. The OPI exists to serve students, parents, and local schools.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
GRANT SUPPORTER**



The B.W. Bastian Foundation was founded in 1997 by tech entrepreneur Bruce Bastian, co-founder of WordPerfect. Bastian's philanthropy has centered on cultural arts and LGBTQ equality. The B.W. Bastian Foundation strives to build community and understanding by supporting local and national institutions. Financial support is directed to the Arts through educational outreach. A strong commitment is placed on programs and organizations that benefit, encourage, and preserve the rights of individuals, promote equality for the LGBTQ+ community and HIV/AIDS programs. Bruce Bastian passed away in June, but the indelible mark he left will continue on.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
SPONSOR**



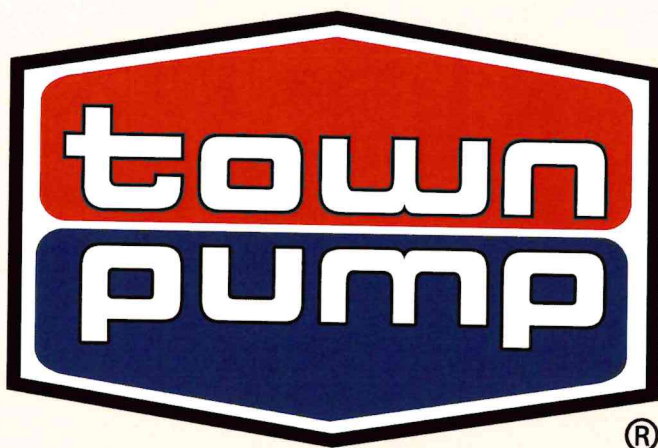
NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, is an investor-owned utility and one of the largest providers of electricity and natural gas in the northern tier states. We serve approximately 775,500 customers in Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska. Classified as a "mid-sized" utility by most industry standards, our service territory size is one of the largest in the country. The foundation of NorthWestern's energy business dates back to 1923, with the start of the utility operations in a few communities in South Dakota and Nebraska. Our electric system serves 337 communities and surrounding rural areas covering two-thirds of Montana, eastern South Dakota, and Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Our natural gas system serves 202 communities and surrounding rural areas in Montana, South Dakota and central Nebraska. NorthWestern Energy has approximately 1,600 full-time employees. Our corporate headquarters is in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with operational headquarters in Butte, Montana, and Huron, South Dakota. We are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol NWE.

PLATINUM SPONSOR



The primary focus of the Mountain Plains MHTTC is to provide training, resources, and technical assistance to individuals serving persons with mental health disorders. Particular attention is given to serving providers with limited access to service delivery systems with attention paid to rural and agricultural communities. By providing free, innovative, and accessible learning opportunities on research-based practices in mental health services, we seek to help you better serve your communities, staff, and patients. The Mountain Plains MHTTC serves the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

PLATINUM SPONSOR



CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The Town Pump Charitable Foundation was established in 1999 with the mission of providing financial support to Montana charitable or governmental organizations with a priority of supporting/meeting basic needs and education for Montana citizens.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
SPONSOR**



MONTANA
HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION

The Montana Healthcare Foundation is a 501(c)3 private foundation that makes strategic investments to improve health in Montana. It provides funding, leadership, and expertise to help communities tackle Montana's most important health problems. It conducts policy analysis so that Montanans can be well-informed and engaged in decisions that impact their health. It prioritizes supporting the health and well-being of people and communities at increased risk for poor health outcomes because of income, geographic barriers, the availability and accessibility of health and social services, and health disparities.



Pioneer Technical Services, Inc. is a 100% employee-owned, full-service engineering and environmental services firm. Our corporate office is located in Butte, Montana, with 5 branch offices in Montana, and 1 branch office each in Idaho and Colorado. Pioneer was founded in 1991 as an environmental science and general engineering firm. We have continuously expanded our service lines to become a premier western region environmental, civil and geotechnical engineering, construction management, land surveying, and materials testing firm. We provide innovative and comprehensive start-to-finish solutions for our customers. We embrace state-of-the-art technology and strive to deliver high quality work products as efficiently as possible. This strategy has resulted in a very large percentage of repeat customers. As our world changes, we continue to stand ready to solve problems and deliver superior work products to all our customers.

COPPER SPONSOR



**Marsh McLennan
Agency**



**MONTANA
SCHOOLS**
**PROPERTY & LIABILITY
INSURANCE PLAN**

Marsh McLennan Agency is a full-service insurance broker focusing on all personal and business insurance products. Focused on our clients, colleagues and communities, Marsh McLennan Agency also manages the Montana Schools Property and Liability Insurance Plan, (MSPLIP). MSPLIP is the largest and longest standing property and liability insurer of Montana schools, commencing operations in 1995. MSPLIP is a leader in the scholastic public entity space and provides insurance and risk management assistance to public school districts throughout Montana.

GOLD SPONSORS



Montana State Fund is the state's largest workers' compensation insurance company, protecting approximately 24,000 businesses, organizations and their workers. In addition to providing injured workers the care they need to return to work, Montana State Fund is committed to making a positive impact on Montana's workplace safety culture. We believe workers deserve a safe and healthy workplace so they can safely return home to their families at the end of each day in the same condition as when they arrived. It is our vision to be an indispensable partner in achieving a safer, healthier and more prosperous Montana.



Since 1981, SMA Architecture + Design has been a leading provider of architectural services across the intermountain west. With offices in Helena and Bozeman, we specialize in educational, civic, institutional, and commercial projects.

SMA's education portfolio includes projects of all scales, ranging from K-12 public education to higher education and early learning centers, prioritizing client visions and future-proof design. Our approach balances functionality with budget considerations, ensuring long-term success. As active members of organizations like the Association for Learning Environments (A4LE), SMA stays abreast of the latest trends in educational design innovation, as well as safety and security, pedagogical trends, and technological advancements.

Our commitment to creatively designing functional facilities extends to balancing future requirements with feasible budgets. Through long-term needs assessments, including cost estimation, utilization studies, facility condition assessments, enrollment projections, programming, and bond campaign support, we ensure the sustainability and success of public projects, resulting in enduring educational institutions.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
SPONSOR**



**MATTHIAS BRAEDEL-
HILCORP**

EXHIBITORS



Brightways Learning
Connecting Students to a Bright Future







3RD ANNUAL SCHOOL SAFETY RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS

The School Safety Recognition Awards are part of the Jeremy Bullock Safe Schools Summit's effort to help promote school safety. Individuals, schools, organizations, and youth all play an important role in these efforts and the awards allow for acknowledgement of the dedication, commitment and hard work put into striving for safer schools in our communities. The awards provide an opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of select honorees that make a significant difference in our schools and communities.

Champion of School Safety - Jeremiah Nitz, Havre High School Assistant Principal

Jeremiah Nitz is the recipient for his significant contributions to Havre Public Schools. Over the past decade, he has served on the District Safety Committee and recently stepped up as the Safety Coordinator. Despite the instability caused by having four Superintendents in five years, Mr. Nitz single-handedly updated and modernized the District Safety Plan in 2023, creating an effective emergency action plan for all five schools. His hands-on experience includes coordinating evacuations, managing bomb and shooting threats, and leading numerous ALICE trainings to prepare staff for violent incidents. Jeremiah's expertise, dedication, and proactive approach have significantly enhanced the safety and security of students and staff, earning him the highest respect and appreciation from his colleagues.

School Resource Office of the Year - Scott McCormick & Bozeman Schools SRO Team

Scott McCormick and the entire Bozeman School District SRO team are the recipients for their exceptional dedication, service and commitment. Handling an average of 230-260 calls monthly, they support students, families, and staff through various crises, including child abuse reports and high-level threats. Their proactive measures include student threat assessments, safety plans, and multi-agency preparation events. Embracing the NASRO triad model, they serve as public safety educators, mentors, and law enforcement officers, fostering positive relationships and a sense of security within the school community. Their compassion, professionalism, and visibility make them invaluable to the district and Bozeman community.

Youth Safety Spotlight Award - Great Falls Public Schools Peer Mentoring Groups

The Great Falls Public School District's Peer Mentoring Program is the recipient for its outstanding impact on student mental health and safety. Serving grades 7-12, the program trains students in evidence-based mental health practices to identify and refer peers in need, fostering a supportive school culture. Overseen by licensed therapists and supported by school counselors, the program ensures high standards of care. Its success is evident in reduced ER visits for suicidal ideation and decreased teen substance use, demonstrating a significant positive shift in mental health awareness and intervention.

THANK YOU TO ARNE PATE-TERRY FOR PRODUCING THE AWARD VIDEOS



Jeremy Bullock
**SAFE SCHOOLS
SUMMIT 2025**

AUGUST 5 & 6, 2025
BILLINGS, MT



Ben Steele Middle School
5640 Grand Ave.



In Loving Memory of Jeremy & Max Bullock



2024 marks the 30th anniversary of Jeremy's death, a milestone that underscores the enduring impact of his legacy. Over the past three decades, we have transformed our grief into a steadfast commitment to making schools safer for everyone. Your dedication to applying these valuable insights, engaging in discussions, and sharing knowledge is invaluable. Together, we can continue to enhance safety for students, educators, staff, schools, and communities throughout Montana and beyond. We deeply appreciate your involvement in the 5th Annual Summit and being an essential part of this journey!

-Robin, Bill, Kate & Ray
the Jeremy Bullock Memorial Trust