



Rural Centered
March 2024

A Monthly Newsletter from the
Colorado Center for Rural Education

Marzano Research Helps Improve Rural Education

[Marzano Research](#) is a women-owned small business with a big mission—to empower educators and leaders to learn, evolve, and thrive. The organization offers sophisticated research and consulting services using a collaborative approach. They are committed to making a positive impact on their team members, clients, stakeholders, community, and the environment.

“Our efforts in rural education are driven by a deep and nuanced knowledge of the struggles and strengths these communities have,” said Director Caitlin Scott. “We recognize that a one-size-fits-all approach is ineffective, so we provide customized services that address the specific needs of the rural areas we serve.”



Caitlin Scott, Director and Rural Practice Area Team Lead at Marzano Research

In fact, the organization created an internal Rural Practice Area Team that meets monthly to stay ahead of the curve on rural education issues, collaborate on rural-focused work, and discuss innovative, practical strategies for rural districts and the students they serve.

The team draws upon a wealth of lived experience as evaluators and providers of technical assistance, and also as community members, parents, and former teachers in rural areas. Their efforts cover a diverse array of initiatives. For example, they have [developed systems to teach and assess 21st century skills in Colorado's rural districts](#) and [enhanced work-based learning opportunities for rural Nebraska high schoolers](#). They also supported a teacher recruitment work-group in rural Alaska by analyzing paraprofessional-to-teacher programs around the country.

Since 2021, Marzano Research has partnered with the [Colorado Center for Rural Education](#) (CCRE) in the area of rural education. Their work with CCRE includes conducting data analyses, [evaluating the CCRE rural teacher stipend program](#), and creating resources to share the findings with stakeholders.

This partnership allows Marzano Research to be at the forefront of rural education research and contribute to teacher recruitment and retention efforts. [Subscribe to their monthly e-newsletter](#) to stay current on their latest findings and initiatives in this and other crucial education topics.

And if you're leading a rural school, reach out to Marzano Research! Here are just a few of the ways they can help you:

- Designing, implementing, and evaluating programs to ensure high-quality teaching and learning;
- Developing and facilitating rural professional learning networks; and
- Generating evidence-based, practical approaches to teacher recruitment and retention.

Marzano Research gives you actionable insights that pave the way for student success. Contact Caitlin Scott, Director and Rural Practice Area Team Lead, at caitlin.scott@marzanoresearch.com for more information.

Free Webinar for Paraprofessionals, Teachers' Aides, and Non-Licensed School Staff

Western Colorado University, the Colorado Center for Rural Education, and TEACH Colorado invite you to join a webinar on Thursday, March 28, 2024, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM MDT, where we will answer your questions about how to become a classroom teacher with very few out-of-pocket costs. Register here: <https://lnkd.in/gw8WTW87>.

Upcoming Application Timelines

Colorado Rural Student Teaching Stipend applications for fall 2024 accepted:
December 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024

National Board Certified Teacher Stipend applications for 2024 accepted:
January 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024

Rural Inservice Educator Stipend applications for fall 2024 accepted:
May 1, 2024, through August 31, 2024

Colorado Rural Student Teaching Stipend applications for spring 2025 accepted:
July 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024

Applications are currently being accepted for the **Colorado Substitute Stipend**. Funding is limited, and the program will end this summer.

Visit TEACH Colorado's **Financial Aid and Scholarship Information** page for information about additional scholarships.

For financial aid available to in-service and aspiring educators, download the **Colorado Department of Education's Educator Recruitment and District Supports flyer**.

Now Accepting Applications!

Apply for the fall 2024 [Colorado Rural Student Teaching Stipend](#) by March 31, 2024!

This stipend is up to \$4,000 for the semester of student teaching in a Colorado rural school district. Recipients are expected to apply to and work in a rural school district after completing their student teaching.

Apply for the [National Board-Certified Teacher Stipend](#) by April 30, 2024!

This stipend is \$4,250, which is the amount needed to (a) enroll with the National Board; (b) register for each of the four components of the National Board portfolio; and (c) participate in the Rural National Board Cohort. All NBCT stipend recipients receive support and mentorship from NBCT facilitators in a Colorado Rural National Board cohort. Recipients must commit to remaining in a rural setting for three years after becoming a National Board candidate.

Both stipends are offered by the [Colorado Center for Rural Education](#) in collaboration with the [Colorado Department of Higher Education](#).

Featured Partners

Learn more about our [featured partners](#) and how they are helping to solve the teacher shortage in rural Colorado.



[Classrooms for Colorado Live](#) (CC-LIVE) supports new rural Colorado 7th through 12th-grade math teachers through virtual teacher mentorship. CC-LIVE also allows rural schools with math teacher vacancies equitable virtual access to certified, experienced Colorado math teachers regardless of location.

To have your organization added as a featured partner, please email Robert.Fulton@unco.edu.

Robert Fulton, PhD | Director

