



## GREEN SCHOOLS NATIONAL NETWORK

### **Sustainability Leadership: All together, for all students and the planet!**

**December 5 – 7, 2023 Boulder Valley School District, Boulder CO**

Join us in beautiful Boulder, Colorado, from December 5th to 7th for Sustainability Leadership: “All together, for all students and the planet.” Discover invaluable insights from the esteemed Boulder Valley School District, winners of the 2023 Best of Green Schools – School District award, and gain knowledge from their 10+ years of experience in creating healthy learning environments that equip all students and staff with the skills to build equitable and sustainable communities. Designed for both Executive Level and Building Level leaders, this Leadership Academy offers a unique opportunity to learn how to reduce expenses, reduce your carbon footprint, improve the well-being of your school community, and prepare students for the future with innovative thinking and learning methods. Be inspired as we delve into the systems and structures that have shaped their 5-year Sustainability Management System. Together, let’s explore how a shared vision of a sustainable future can lead to purpose-driven ideas, transforming culture, enhancing efficiency, and increasing student engagement in both school and community. Register now and be a part of this transformative journey in Boulder.

#### **Admission:**

GSNN Members: \$0.00 | Non Members: \$100.00

**REGISTER TODAY**



## Detailed Agenda

### Guiding Questions

- ◇ What structures and systems can a school district leadership put into place to become healthy, equitable, and sustainable?:

### Learning Targets

- ◇ I can identify the elements of a green, healthy, sustainable school;
- ◇ I can describe how and why a shared vision is the foundation of creating the culture necessary to shape a sustainable and just future for all students and their families.
- ◇ I can analyze how leadership, facilities and operations, curriculum and instruction, and climate and culture work together to shape a healthy, equitable, and sustainable school district.
- ◇ I can analyze how content standards shape skills-rich, interdisciplinary, and authentic projects and problems that help students find purpose in learning.
- ◇ I can discuss the metrics used to influence policies and programs that decrease our environmental footprint and save money; improve the health and well-being of everyone who works, learns, and plays in our schools; and deepens environmental literacy of faculty, staff, and students.
- ◇ I can describe strategies that can be helpful to engage all sectors of our community: school board; families; all sectors of the school district; and community partners.



## Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Time	Activity	Description	Speaker
3:00 PM	Opening Circle	<p>It's been a multiple decade journey for BVSD to get to where they are today. The Board Policy passed in 2010 has now morphed into, not only how BVSD builds and maintains assets, but how they function as an organization. In this session, participants will be welcomed by Superintendent Rob Anderson; Assistant Superintendent of Operations Rob Price, and Sustainability Officer Ghita Carroll.</p> <p>The goal of this session is to welcome participants to BVSD and provide a high level overview of how sustainability has shaped the district in the past and continues to influence the district today.</p>	Rob Anderson Rob Price Ghita Carroll
3:45 PM	BREAK		
4:00 PM	Advisory Group Meeting	<p>Participants will sit in on the Boulder Valley School District virtual Sustainability Advisory Committee. This committee oversees progress and continuous improvements related to the SMS Action Plan while ensuring the consistent collection and external reporting of key sustainability data. The Group will make suggestions and give advice to the Board in order to assist it in the decision-making process. While this is a regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee, there will be an opportunity for Q and A.</p>	Ghita Carroll BVSD Advisory Committee members
4:30 PM	Meeting End		
Dinner on your own			



## Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Time	Activity	Description	Speaker
8:00 AM	Gather and Chater		
8:15 AM	Panel of Experts	Data driven leadership is key to BVSD's success in achieving their sustainability goals over the past XX years. During this session, participants will hear from a panel of district and local leaders who have been key in implementing various parts of the Sustainability Action Plan. Panelists will share an overview of the tools they use, the metrics that drive their work, and the reports they generate to share outcomes with their community, Board of Education, and that help them stay focused on their desired outcomes. Both qualitative and quantitative measures and indicators will be discussed as they relate to Leadership, Curriculum and Instruction, Climate and Culture, and Facilities and Operations.	Ghita Carroll, moderator Miles Hoffman Amy Thompson Kim from Eco-Cycle  SMS Goals and Action Plan can be used to structure this panel.
10:15 AM	Break		
11:00 AM	BVSD Food Project	Many school districts across the country are shifting from heat-and-serve operations to whole scratch cooking. Boulder Valley School District has been the leader in providing nutritious, scratch-cooked meals for students while supporting many local food vendors. Plant forward nachos, Indian butter tofu, or BBQ pulled pork sandwiches are staples on the menu.	Carolyn Villa Food Services Director, Moderator  Yuri Sanow, Executive Chef, Food Services  Jorie Gronek, Executive Assistant to the Director, Food Services



## Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Time	Activity	Description	Speaker
12:00 PM	Lunch		
1:30 PM	Panel of Experts Teachers and Students	<p>“All together, for all students, and the Planet.” is the vision statement that is reflected in the Sustainability Management System and the SMS Action Plan. In this session, participants will hear from students and teachers about their efforts to integrate environmental literacy and education for a sustainable future across the curriculum. High School, middle school, and elementary school teachers and students will share their work and their enthusiasm to co-create a sustainable future.</p>	<p>Erin Greenwood Science Instructional Lead, Moderator</p> <p>Maya Chastang, Student Student Representatives from Advisory Board</p> <p>Marti Hirsch, ES Julie Thompson, HS</p>
3:00 PM	Break/Transport		
4:00 PM	School Tour	<p>We will tour one of BVSD’s schools and learn about how they are using their BVSD Green Building Guiding Principles to ensure that all schools are utilizing efficient operational systems. In 2010 the Board of Education at BVSD made a commitment to decreasing their environmental footprint, improving the health of their learning environments, and increasing environmental literacy. Part of that commitment is building 21st century schools that are net-zero ready and that meet the highest standards for indoor air quality. BVSD has been able to use bond funding to make the requisite infrastructure improvements so that BVSD can achieve their goals related to healthy learning environments and continue to reduce carbon emissions.</p>	<p>Ghita Carroll</p> <p>Miles Hoffman</p>



## Thursday, December 7, 2023

Time	Activity	Description	Speaker
8:00 AM		Gather and Chater	
8:30 AM		Opening Circle/Greeting	
9:00 AM	Thorne Nature Center  Jenny	<p>During this session, participants will have two opportunities to learn from critical BVSD partners and the role of community partnerships in achieving their goals.</p> <p>The first opportunity will be an exploration of the Thorne Nature Center and how the district leverages this partnership to provide most students with a meaningful watershed learning experience.</p> <p>The second experience will explore how Strategic partnerships have helped BVSD achieve their goals. You will learn how BVSD prioritizes, selects and structures community partnerships. You will also hear from key partners to learn how they assist BVSD achieve their goals while they stay mission focused.</p>	<p>Kim Orr, Eco-Cycle School Program, Moderator</p> <p>Keith Desrosiers, Executive Director, Thorne Nature Center</p> <p>Lindsey LeCuyer, Program Director, Garden to Table</p> <p>E-Movement, Rachel Edelman</p> <p>City of Boulder, Curry Rosato</p>
11:00 AM	Closing Circle & Lunch	We will do a closing circle with certificates prior to lunch.	





## Meet the BVSD Team



### **Dr. Rob Anderson, Superintendent - BVSD**

Rob Anderson is a passionate and dedicated educator with deep experience at every level of public education over the last two decades. As a teacher, an assistant principal, a principal, and an administrator, Rob has devoted his career to ensuring that every student gets the same kind of opportunity that allowed him to thrive.

In his most recent role as Deputy Superintendent of Academics in Fulton County, Georgia, Rob helped lead a district that has narrowed achievement gaps in the graduation rate, increased college and career readiness for students of all ages, improved ACT performance for four consecutive years, and expanded opportunities for Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment for all students.

Rob's passion for public education is rooted in his own experience. Growing up in poverty in a small town in Florida, Rob saw firsthand the power of education to change lives. After graduating from the University of Central Florida, Rob knew he wanted to give other students the support and opportunity his teachers gave him. He started his career as a Title I math and science teacher in Orlando, Florida, rising through the ranks of the Orange County (FL) Public School system to eventually serve as a department chair, administrative dean, assistant principal, and principal.

As principal at Lake Nona High School, Rob led the development of challenging, engaging programs that set all students up for success in higher education and the career of their choice. Among them: a Collegiate Academy that allowed students to have earned an Associates Degree when they graduated high school, a Health Career Pathway that provided students the ability to earn industry certification upon graduation, and an International Scholars program designed to prepare English Language learners for the rigors of college.

Rob was drawn to Boulder Valley School District by the shared commitment to the core values of equity and excellence. He looks forward to building on the hard work of Boulder Valley's students, families, and educators to continue improving outcomes for all students while closing opportunity gaps.





## **Rob Price, Assistant Superintendent, Operations**

As Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Mr. Price is responsible for setting direction and providing oversight for the operational services that support the educational mission of the school district by providing clean, safe, secure and comfortable facilities as well as reliable transportation every day. In this role, he ensures fiscally responsible management of facilities and supervises capital improvement planning and construction efforts. He furthers the district's sustainability goals by leading efforts in energy management, green building, and alternative transportation.

Prior to coming to Boulder Valley School District, Rob worked 15 years in the construction industry with a focus on K-12 facilities. In 2015, he was hired as the Executive Director of Bond Planning to provide leadership for the implementation of the projects described in the 2014 Bond Program. He was appointed to his current position, Assistant Superintendent of Operational Services, in 2017.



## **Ghita Carroll, Sustainability and Energy Officer**

Dr. Ghita Levenstein Carroll is the Sustainability and Energy Officer for the Boulder Valley School District in Colorado. She is a pioneer in advancing district level sustainability planning and initiatives and her award winning work has touched tens of thousands of students. Dr. Carroll's successes include defining a vision and goals for district-wide environmental sustainability, receiving Board of Education approval for a policy that supports sustainability initiatives, and significantly green building design strategies, outdoor learning and environmental awareness throughout the district.



## **Miles Hoffman, Sustainability and Energy Analyst**

Miles is the Sustainability and Energy Analyst for Boulder Valley School District (BVSD). Miles focuses on energy related matters including energy efficiency and renewables, utility programs, GHG reduction actions, and community and student engagement. Miles has spent over 10 years in the sustainability industry, working both in-house and consulting for organizations of all sizes, helping create and implement sustainability plans. Miles received his BA from The George Washington University, and holds an MBA from Trinity University in Washington, DC.







## **Carolyn Villa, Director of Food Services**

As Director of Food Services for Boulder Valley School District, Carolyn is passionately committed to providing nutritious meals and has been instrumental in revolutionizing BVSD's food program, laying the groundwork for scratch-cooked, locally sourced, and maximally nutritious meals that set a new standard for school dining. Her emphasis on locally sourced ingredients has been instrumental in developing strong partnerships with local farmers and ensuring a viable business model for those community partners. In addition to 56 schools, Carolyn also oversees the state-of-the-art BVSD Culinary Center.



## **Erin Greenwood, BVSD PK-12 Science Coordinator**

Erin Greenwood has taught young scientists for over 20 years. She is currently working as the BVSD PK-12 Science Coordinator. Erin works with students, colleagues, district staff, community members, and university researchers to design and publish Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)-aligned units. She created a complete NGSS unit design toolbox, teaches district-level professional development courses, and coaches other science teachers. Erin leads an outdoor experiential education program for students. In eight years, she has led over 300 students on expeditions to wild places that bring science to life in authentic and engaging ways.





### **Dress Code:**

Dress code for the entirety of the site seminar is business casual.

### **Travel:**

Denver International Airport (DEN) is approximately 45 minutes from Boulder Valley School District. Travel to and from the airport is best via the rental car company of your choice.

### **Lodging:**

The following hotel is within a ten minute drive of Boulder School District

#### **Courtyard by Marriot Boulder**

4710 Pearl E Cir  
Boulder, CO 80301  
(303) 440-4700

