

**COLORADO BOCES ASSOCIATION**



*Joining Forces to Enrich Educational Opportunities for Students*

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- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Adams County BOCES           | Northwest BOCES       |
| Centennial BOCES             | Pikes Peak BOCES      |
| Colorado River BOCES         | Rio Blanco BOCES      |
| Education reEnvisioned BOCES | San Juan BOCES        |
| East Central BOCES           | San Luis Valley BOCES |
| Expeditionary BOCES          | Santa Fe Trail BOCES  |
| Front Range BOCES            | South Central BOCES   |
| Grand Valley BOCES           | Southeastern BOCES    |
| Mount Evans BOCES            | Uncompaghre BOCES     |
| Mountain BOCES               | Ute Pass BOCES        |
| Northeast BOCES              |                       |

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**COLORADO BOCES ASSOCIATION**



*Joining Forces to Enrich Educational Opportunities for Students*

***COLORADO BOCES***

***Boards of Cooperative Educational Services***

## A PUBLICATION OF THE COLORADO BOCES ASSOCIATION (CBA)

### MISSION

Supporting cooperative endeavors to help maximum educational opportunities for Colorado's children

### PREFACE

Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) are an important and vital part of the public educational system in Colorado. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the role of BOCES and the services they provide districts and students across Colorado.

BOCES services are those needed by children, their families, and school personnel, which can be more efficiently provided across school districts; examples of such services are provided on page 4. Better understanding of the process will potentially emphasize the important contributions of BOCES to the educational system of Colorado.

Colorado's BOCES (or Educational Services agencies) are unique in that they are an extension of the local member school districts. A BOCES in Colorado exists at the discretion of its members and provides only those programs and services authorized by its members.

### LET'S START WITH THE NAME—BOCES

BOCES is an acronym made up of the individual letters of the longer title—Board of Cooperative (Educational) Services. It is pronounced BO-Sees for a more simple and concise term. The statutory name of BOCES is Board of Cooperative Services, as set forth by Title 22, Article 5, C.R.S., Boards of Cooperative Services Act of 1965.

### WEBSITES

**Colorado BOCES Association Official Website**

[www.coloradoboces.org](http://www.coloradoboces.org)

**Association of Educational Service Agencies**

[www.aesa.us](http://www.aesa.us)

**Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies**

[www.aepacoop.org](http://www.aepacoop.org)

**For more information contact:**

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Colorado BOCES Association**

**11274 County Road 17  
Longmont, CO 80504**

**Email: [dale.mccall46@gmail.com](mailto:dale.mccall46@gmail.com)**

**Phone: 970-785-2064**

**Cell: 970-381-0720**

**Fax: 970-785-6324**

**Revised August, 2018**

## BOCES

## School Districts/Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities

### SOUTH CENTRAL

323 Purcell Blvd  
Pueblo, CO 81007  
Phone: 719-647-0023  
Fax: 719-647-0136

Aguilar RE-6  
Branson RE-82  
Cotopaxi RE-3  
Crowley County RE-J  
Custer Consolidated C1  
Fowler RE-4J  
Hoehne RE-3  
Huerfano RE-1  
LaVeta RE-2  
Manzanola 3J  
Primero RE-2  
Trinidad 1

#### Associate Members

Pueblo City 60

#### Non-member Partner:

Canon City RE-1  
Pueblo 70

### SOUTHEASTERN

703 South 3rd Street  
P O Box 1137  
Lamar, CO 81052  
Phone: 719-336-9046  
Fax: 719-336-9679

Campo School District RE-6  
Eads School District RE-1  
Granada School District RE-1  
Holly School District RE-3  
Kim Reorganized School District 88  
Lamar School District RE-2  
McClave School District RE-2  
Plainview School District RE-2  
Pritchett School District RE-3  
Springfield School District RE-4  
Vilas School District RE-5  
Walsh School District RE-1

### UNCOMPAHGRE

1115 W. Clinton  
P O Box 728  
Ridgway, CO 81432-0728  
Phone: 970-626-2977  
Fax: 970-626-2978

Norwood  
Ouray  
Ridgway  
Telluride  
West End

### UTE PASS

405 El Monte Place  
Manitou Springs, CO 80829  
Phone: 719-685-2640  
Fax: 719-685-4536

Manitou Springs District 14  
Woodland Park School District  
Cripple Creek-Victor School District

## WHO ARE THE BOCES AND HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE IN EACH

### WHAT IS THE LEGAL STATUS OF BOCES?

BOCES were established under the Boards of Cooperative Services Act of 1965 and upon adoption, the General Assembly declared: "...this article is enacted for the general improvement and expansion of educational services of the public schools in the state of Colorado; for the creation of boards of cooperative services wherever feasible for purposes of enabling two or more school districts to cooperate in furnishing services authorized by law..."

### ARE BOCES UNIQUE TO COLORADO?

Yes and no. Forty-nine states have established what are commonly known as Educational Service Agencies (ESA's) or Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESA's).

In many states these agencies function at a regional level between the State Educational Agency and the local school district. It may serve as an extension of the State Educational Agency or it may operate as an independent agency from either state or local control. Still in other states, the RESA or ESA have specific duties and tasks assigned by the State. They are governed by an elected board, which has the authority to levy a tax, receive direct financial support and provide mandated services to local school districts.

### THE CREATION OF THE FIRST BOCES

On May 23, 1966, the school board presidents of the fourteen school districts in the San Luis Valley met and established the first BOCES in Colorado. Today there are 21 BOCES in Colorado with several established as Special Purpose BOCES providing limited programs or a single service. Most of the BOCES in Colorado are general purpose in nature and provide a broad range of services and programs.

## CAN A BOCES CONDUCT INDEPENDENT PROGRAMS?

No. Any programs or activities operated by a BOCES must be approved and authorized by its Board of Directors. Some programs may be for all members while other activities may be for a smaller number of BOCES members.

## WHY DO WE HAVE BOCES?

BOCES exist to provide educational services to two or more school districts or a school district and a higher education institution that alone cannot afford the service, or find it advantageous and cost-effective to cooperate with other districts. These services represent a financial commitment that is best met by several districts sharing costs and programs. In some instances, BOCES also operate as Special Education Administrative Units, in which Colorado Revised Statutes require approval of the Colorado Department of Education to serve as an administrative Unit.

The following examples are not intended to limit or define the scope of a BOCES, but rather are illustrative of the variety of services currently provided:

- Special Education
- Curriculum/Staff Development
- Implementation of Standards and Assessments
- Migrant Education
- Alternative Schools/Programs for at-risk and suspended students
- Federally Funded, Specialized Programs Including ESEA
- Standards and Assessment Support
- Cooperative Purchasing
- Technology Support
- Data Management and Utilization
- Career and Technical Education
- Alternative Schools
- Gifted and Talented Coordination
- Alternative Licensure programs for Teachers and Principals
- Grant Writing and Grant Management
- Professional Development
- Distance and Online Learning
- Other (as defined by member districts)

## BOCES

### SAN LUIS VALLEY

2261 Enterprise Dr.  
Alamosa, CO 81101  
Phone: 719-589-5851  
Fax: 719-589-5007

### SANTA FE TRAIL

P O Box 980  
302 Colorado Avenue  
La Junta, CO 81050  
Phone: 719-383-2623  
Fax: 719-383-2627

## School Districts/Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities

Alamosa  
Centennial  
Center  
Creede  
Del Norte  
Moffat  
Monte Vista  
Mountain Valley  
North Conejos  
Sanford  
Sangre De Cristo  
Sargent  
Sierra Grande  
South Conejos

### Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities:

Trinidad State Junior College  
Adams State University

Cheraw  
East Otero  
Las Animas  
Rocky Ford  
Swink  
Wiley

**PIKES PEAK BOCES (Cont'd)**

2883 South Circle Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
Phone: 719-570-7474  
Fax: 719-380-9685

**RIO BLANCO**

402 W. Main, Suite 219  
Rangely, CO 81648  
Phone: 970-675-2064  
Fax: 970-675-5738

**SAN JUAN****Durango Office:**

162 Stewart Street, Suite A  
Durango, CO 81303  
Phone: 970-247-3261  
Fax: 970-247-8333

**Dolores Office:**

101 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
P O Box 968  
Dolores, CO 81323  
Phone: 970-565-8411  
Fax: 970-565-1203

**Associate Members****Districts/Colleges/Universities:**

D-11 – Colorado Springs  
D-20 – Colorado Springs  
D-49 Falcon  
D-60 (Pueblo)  
Fountain Ft. Carson  
Widefield  
Harrison  
Cheyenne Mountain  
Ute Pass BOCES

Meeker  
Rangely

Archuleta School District 50 JT  
Bayfield School District 10 JT-R  
Dolores School District RE-4A  
Dolores County School District RE-2(J) (Dove  
Creek)  
Ignacio School District 11 JT  
Mancos School District RE-6  
Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1  
Silverton School District 1

**Associate Member****Districts/Colleges/Universities:**

Southwest Community College  
Fort Lewis College

The success of the BOCES concept is rooted in its cooperative, service-driven philosophy. Each BOCES exists because the school districts it serves see the value of the services provided. Individual districts may lack the personnel or the fiscal resources required to provide a broad range of administrative and student services. By pooling resources, districts reduce costs, avoid duplication, and provide for a more comprehensive range of services and programs.

Being service-driven, BOCES have the flexibility to respond quickly to the evolving needs of today's changing student population. Programs can be developed, training provided, or outside expertise engaged as situations arise. BOCES also understand that school districts do not exist in isolation and most reach out to engage the community—at-large. To that end, the BOCES work in partnership with colleges, libraries, health care providers, mental health professionals and others.

**HOW ARE BOCES GOVERNED?**

Each BOCES is governed by a Board of Directors. Each legal member of the BOCES appoints one or more of its board members to serve on the BOCES Board. An alternate is usually appointed as well. Additionally any post-secondary member of the BOCES may have its governing board appoint its assigned member to the BOCES Board. The Board is required by law to meet at least four times a year.

The Board of Directors appoints an Executive Director who serves as the person responsible for the administering the affairs of the BOCES. It is important to note that since the BOCES serves its member school districts, there is a need for communication and information among the members.

Most BOCES have an Advisory Council composed of the Superintendent or his/her designee. This group advises the Executive Director and Board, and assists in planning and implementing the programs and services that will be made available to the member districts. The Advisory Council usually meets monthly and provides critical input into the BOCES operations and its direction.

## WHAT TYPES OF BOCES ARE THERE?

With the flexibility in the law, there are three basic types of BOCES in Colorado. Some serve only as a special education administrative unit; others serve only as specialized BOCES providing services such as professional development, risk management insurance, or operate an alternative school; the third type is a mixture of the first two that serve as a special education administrative unit as well as provide an array of different services for its member districts.

## HOW ARE BOCES FINANCED?

Participating member districts financially support BOCES. All BOCES currently receive state HB 1345 funds to provide professional development to member and non-member districts.

## WHAT CAN A BOCES DO?

- Maximize the impact of available dollars through collaborative funding.
- Reduce duplication of programs, personnel and services.
- Assist members in meeting responsibilities for mandated programs.
- Contribute to equalizing educational opportunities for pupils in diverse schools.
- Provide for the services of highly skilled resource personnel on a cost efficient basis.
- Promote inter-district communication and idea sharing.

## SUCCESSFUL BOCES SYSTEMS

- Serve in a non-regulatory function.
- Receive ongoing local, state and federal funding, and know how to leverage those dollars for the greatest impact.

## BOCES

## School Districts/Associate Member/Districts/Colleges/Universities

### NORTHEAST BOCES

301 W Powell  
P O Box 98  
Haxtun, CO 80731  
Phone: 970-774-6152  
Fax: 970-774-6157

Akron  
Buffalo (Merino)  
Frenchman (Fleming)  
Haxtun  
Holyoke  
Julesburg  
Lone Star  
Plateau (Peetz)  
Platte Valley  
Otis  
Wray  
Yuma

### Associate Member

### Districts/Colleges/Universities:

Northeastern Junior College

### NORTHWEST BOCES

357 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
P O Box 773390  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477-3390  
Phone: 970-879-0391  
Fax: 970-879-0442

East Grand  
West Grand  
North Park  
Steamboat Springs  
Hayden  
South Routt

### Associate Member

### Districts/Colleges/Universities:

Moffat County

### PIKES PEAK BOCES

2883 South Circle Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
Phone: 719-570-7474  
Fax: 719-380-9685

Big Sandy (Simla)  
Calhan  
Edison  
Elbert  
Ellicott  
Fremont RE-2 (Florence)  
Hanover  
Lewis Palmer  
Miami Yoder  
Peyton  
(Continued on next page)

## BOCES

### FRONT RANGE BOCES

c/o Boulder Valley School District  
6500 Arapahoe Road  
Boulder, CO 80303  
Phone: 720-561-5096

### GRAND VALLEY BOCES

2508 Blichmann Avenue  
Grand Junction, CO 81505-1010  
Phone: 970-255-2634  
Fax: 970-255-2626

### MOUNTAIN BOCES

1713 Mt Lincoln Dr.  
Leadville, CO 80461-3723  
Phone: 719-486-2603  
Fax: 719-486-2109

### MT. EVANS BOCES

320 Hwy 103/ PO Box 3399  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452  
Phone: 303-567-3878  
Fax: 303-567-3880

## School Districts/Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities

Aurora  
Boulder Valley  
Brighton 27J  
Cherry Creek  
Denver  
Littleton  
Mapleton  
Poudre

Mesa 51  
Montrose Re-1J  
**Associate Member**  
**Districts/Colleges/Universities:**  
Colorado Mesa University  
Western Colorado Community College

Buena Vista R31  
Lake County RE-1  
Park County RE-2  
Salida R-32-J

Gilpin County  
Platte Canyon  
Clear Creek

## SUCCESSFUL BOCES SYSTEMS

- Have a close working relationship with the state education department.
- Embrace local control in how they are governed and in the services they provide.
- Are held accountable and audited by independent private auditors.
- Are not hamstrung by overly burdensome state regulations.

## ASSOCIATES

### AESA

The Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA) is a professional organization serving educational service agencies (ESAs) in 49 states. There are approximately 600 agencies nationwide with over 400,000 employees. Educational Service Agencies serve over 80% of the public school districts in the nation. Annual budgets for ESAs are estimated to be between \$15 and \$16 billion per year. AESA's membership is agency wide and includes all ESA employees and board members.

### AEPA

The Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies (AEPA) is a group of Educational Service Agencies/political subdivisions organized through a Memorandum of Understanding between all participating member states for the purpose of establishing a universal bid and awarded operating contract. The operating contract is based on the combined purchasing volume of AEPA participating agencies. All bids follow the competitive bidding requirements including local solicitation. Of the many advantages to this unique purchasing group are the combined human resources representing purchasing/bidding expertise, current and past vendor relationships, past experience and overall vision with regard to the specific needs of the qualified customers within each represented state. This group started with ten states in 2000 and now has grown to 26 states representing over 25 million students. The Colorado BOCES Association joined AEPA in 2002.

BOCES	School Districts/Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities:
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**ADAMS COUNTY BOCES**

1400 W. 122nd Avenue  
Suite 110  
Westminster, CO 80234  
Phone: 303-286-7294  
Fax: 303-286-9078

Adams 12  
Adams 50  
Brighton 27J  
Mapleton

**CENTENNIAL BOCES**

Greeley Office:  
2020 Clubhouse Dr  
Greeley, CO 80634  
Phone: 970-352-7404  
Fax: 970-352-7350

Briggsdale RE-10  
Brush RE2J  
Eaton RE-2  
Morgan County RE-3  
Park R-3  
Pawnee RE-12  
Platte Valley RE-7  
Prairie RE-11  
Sterling RE-1  
St. Vrain Valley RE-1J  
Weld RE-1  
Weld RE-9  
Weldon Valley RE-20J  
Wiggins RE-50J

Fort Morgan Office:  
821 W Platte Ave  
Fort Morgan, CO 80701  
Phone: 970-867-8297  
Fax: 970-867-6129

**EDUCATION reENVISIONED BOCES**

4035 Tutt Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80922  
Phone: 719-481-5276

Falcon 49  
Pikes Peak Community College

**COLORADO RIVER BOCES**

460 Stone Quarry Road  
Parachute, CO 81635  
Phone: 970-948-3045

De Beque School District 49 JT  
Garfield 16 School District  
Garfield County School District Re2  
Roaring Fork School District

BOCES	School Districts/Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities:
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**EAST CENTRAL BOCES**

820 Second Street  
P O Box 910  
Limon, CO 80828-0910  
Phone: 719-775-2342  
Fax: 719-775-9714

Agate  
Arickaree  
Arriba-Flagler  
Bennett  
Bethune  
Burlington  
Byers  
Cheyenne Wells  
Deer Trail  
Elizabeth  
Genoa-Hugo  
Hi Plains  
Idalia  
Karval  
Kiowa  
Kit Carson  
Liberty  
Limon  
Stratton  
Strasburg  
Woodlin

**Associate Member Districts/Colleges/Universities:**  
Morgan Community College

**EXPEDITIONARY BOCES LEARNING SCHOOL**

1700 S Holly St  
Denver, CO 80222  
Phone: 303-759-2076  
Fax: 303-757-7443

Aurora Public Schools  
Cherry Creek Schools  
Denver Public Schools  
Douglas County Schools  
Littleton Public Schools