



**Welcome** to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing, technology and workforce development.

Visit our website

*This Issue Sponsored By:*



## SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

### OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

**Awareness** of career opportunities.

**Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths.

**Planning** for what is needed now for future opportunities.

**Results** for how to measure success.



### Greetings!

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter!

Send info or questions to [swmpnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:swmpnewsletter@gmail.com)

[swmppartnership.org](http://swmppartnership.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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[Read the Full Press Release](#)

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# MANUFACTURING MAKES AMERICA STRONG



# MFG DAY

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022**

**10a.m. - 1p.m.**

Western Wyoming Community College  
2500 College Drive, Atrium, Rock Springs, WY



**BRINGING THE EXCITING CAREER PATHS OF TODAY & TOMORROW TO TODAY'S STUDENTS**

Western provides equal opportunities in education and employment. Learn more: [westernwyo.edu/eeo](https://westernwyo.edu/eeo)

## **Manufacturing and Academia Work Together Partnering Together to Educate the Future Workforce on the Importance of a Career in Manufacturing**

What is Manufacturing (MFG) Day? MFG Day is an initiative of The Manufacturing Institute. It is held annually on the first Friday in October to celebrate this important sector of the nation's economy. MFG Day encourages careers in this important sector by spurring companies and educational institutions across the nation to open their doors to students, parents, teachers and community leaders. It also empowers manufacturers to come together to address their challenges.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)



# GREATER GREEN RIVER & WIND RIVER BASINS

CORE-CM Annual Forum  
October 20, 2022



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING



## Carbon Ore, Critical Minerals (ORE-CM) in the Greater Green River and Wind River Basins: Transforming and Advancing a National Coal Asset Hosting Inaugural Forum

University of Wyoming in collaboration with Western Wyoming Community College will be hosting their first CORE-CM Annual Forum on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 5pm at Western's Rock Springs Campus, 2500 College Drive, Rock Springs in Room 3650.

### Objectives of CORE-CM in the Greater Green River and Wind River Basins:

- This project will develop and catalyze regional economic growth, job creation, and associated technology innovation in The Greater Green River Basin/Wind River Basin (GGRB-WRB) of Wyoming and Colorado.
- Growth will be achieved by increasing the supply of Carbon Ore (CORE), Critical Materials (CM), and Rare Earth Elements (REE) to manufacturers of non-fuel Carbon Based Products (CBP) and products reliant upon CM.
- The project will develop a coalition team to describe what relationships, technology, infrastructure, and scientific understanding of these resources are necessary to achieve this objective.

### Project Benefits:

- Provide an economic benefit to U.S. Coal Basins by stimulating new development of resources centered around current coal mining and related industries.
- Establish strategic plans to maximize the development of potential carbon ore, rare earth elements, and critical minerals; within the creation of public-private partnerships
- Leverage highly trained workforces, existing coal technologies, energy infrastructure in entire supply chain development within coal regions.
- Bring together a committed network of stakeholders, gaining acceptance of new energy technology within coal regions and across communities.



**Workshop:**

Join us for the Internet For All: Wyoming Local Coordination Workshop in Gillette on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

A virtual attendance option will be available.

**Hosted By:**

The Wyoming County Commissioners Association (WCCA), Wyoming Association of Municipalities (WAM), and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

**Workshop Details:**

This day-long summit will bring together critical stakeholders in Wyoming from the federal, state, and local governments, tribal communities, industry, and other key partners to discuss coordination on broadband efforts as the state prepares to receive significant broadband funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Connecting all people in Wyoming to affordable, reliable high-speed internet is critical to our economic stability and this event will provide an opportunity for us to discuss ways we can work together to efficiently and effectively utilize these federal dollars to the maximum extent. The day will feature a series of keynote addresses and panel discussions about relevant next steps, planning efforts, needs, and challenges.



## Culinary Arts Program Gets a Makeover

Ms. Marisa DeClercq has led the way on revamping the Culinary Arts Program at Green River High School. This

past summer the District transformed her classroom from a home based cooking model to a restaurant and hospitality model.

The newly remodeled classroom will allow Ms. DeClerc to focus on teaching skills in restaurant management, hospitality, nutrition and dietetics. The environment that these skills will be taught will change the learning and will build in students an understanding of what the food industry will look like when they enter the workforce.

The classroom includes 6 industrial cooking centers equipped with preparation tables and state of the art equipment. Each center looks like a smaller version of a restaurant kitchen. The students will not only learn about the food industry, but also how to work with the new equipment and how to be safe and sanitary in the process.

Marisa has been teaching Culinary Arts at Green River High School for 6 years. She also leads the high school's active student government and loves being a Wolf! She is so excited to be working with a new group of students this year and working with them to become better chefs.

Sweetwater School District #2 is fortunate to have dedicated teachers like Ms. DeClerc whose inspired work is preparing students for the future.



## BEFORE



## AFTER



Governor Mark Gordon's education initiative has completed its statewide listening sessions and is currently preparing a series of policy recommendations.

Building on the momentum of a statewide survey that garnered in excess of 7,000 responses, the Governor's Reimagining and Innovating the Delivery of Education (RIDE) Advisory Group hosted 17 listening sessions with more than 200 attendees. Participants included parents, students, employers, district employees and community members. Some of the



most common feedback received during the listening sessions included support for more individualized approaches to learning, including more flexibility for students to move at their own pace.

Attendees also advocated for addressing standards and expanding options that prepare students for careers and life, approaches which align well with the "Profile of a Graduate" work that the State Board of Education is completing. Additional topics that were also emphasized included an increase of focus on the early years before third grade, including pre-kindergarten; increasing mental health support for students and educators; and teacher preparation, retention and recruitment.

"We asked our citizens how they would improve Wyoming's education system so we can better prepare students for successful careers in our changing world," Governor Gordon said. "We heard a consistent message in both our small and large communities – they support their local teachers and want to maintain control. But we can do more to address challenges such as teacher retention, student engagement and the mental health of both students and staff members."

The RIDE Advisory Group is currently identifying opportunities for innovative approaches based on implementation methods that are achievable and sustainable in order to equip Wyoming students for success in a rapidly changing world. RIDE's work will include reviewing innovations within Wyoming, as well as other states and nations while conferring with experts and the State Board of Education to examine how these approaches might fit in Wyoming. A summary of policy recommendations will be available for public review later this fall.

"It is abundantly clear that we need to appreciate the uniqueness of each student; and to promote an educational system centered on preparing each student for a productive and fulfilling future consistent with that student's dreams and abilities," RIDE Chairman John Masters said.

More information on the RIDE Advisory Group is available [here](#).

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# THE LODGING TAX

## THE TAX YOU DON'T PAY BUT BENEFIT FROM

*In 2021, 8.1 million overnight visitors to Wyoming spent \$4 billion across our state, generating a whopping \$243 million in local and state tax revenues that every community benefits from.*

*Hospitality and tourism (the second largest industry and largest private sector employer in the state) is maximized by a three-legged stool of comprehensive promotion at the state, local and private business levels. The Wyoming Office of Tourism is the only entity tasked with promoting the State of Wyoming as a vacation destination both domestically and internationally. Once visitors are here, it is the local option lodging tax is used to promote the unique and varied offerings that all of Wyoming's counties, cities and towns have to offer. The third and final leg of the stool is private business- investing significantly as well, ensuring that visitors know about their lodging property, restaurant, museum, etc.*

*This comprehensive approach to marketing all that Wyoming has to offer- at the state, local and private business levels, maximizes the impact that the visitor economy has across our great state.*



Download the Printable Flyer

# Teacher Spotlight

Focus on Education for SWCSD#2  
**Heather Phillips**  
 (2nd grade at Monroe Elementary School)



Heather Phillips has been selected as the Sweetwater County School District #2 – Teacher of the Year. She began her teaching career at SWCSD#2 in 2013 in a first grade classroom.

Mrs. Phillips is currently a second-grade teacher at Monroe Elementary. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Wyoming in 2008. She began her career in education working as a one-on-one paraprofessional with a student with autism. The demands and rewards of this position sparked her passion and love for teaching, which drove her to earn a Master of Education in Elementary Education from Grand Canyon University in 2012. This allowed her the opportunity to teach in her own classroom, where she continues to believe EVERY student matters and every student is capable of achieving their full potential when they feel supported, challenged, and know what is expected.

Mrs. Phillips aims to promote passion and energy in every active life-long learner in her classroom by making learning meaningful and engaging to students.

She empowers students to be kind, compassionate, and accepting of differences. She is actively involved with her school's Leadership, School Improvement and Reading Committees. Her top priorities are making sure the focus is on working collaboratively with students, families, and staff members, as well as improving teaching practices, and refining student learning goals that relate to individual student achievement, both academically and socially. Mrs. Phillips is known for her collaborative style and loves sharing her ideas and successes with others. She serves as a mentor teacher to those wanting to become future educators and her open door policy encourages open communication, feedback, and discussion about how to better meet the needs of students.

Mrs. Phillips is the epitome of what an “excellent teacher is” and is a great example of the type of teachers that we have at Sweetwater



School District #2. Mrs. Phillips was nominated by her peers, then selected by a committee which consisted of teachers, administrators, and school board members.

The following comments came from her multiple nominations:

Mrs. Phillips models a positive, safe, intuitive, challenging, and fun classroom setting. She consistently promotes 21st learning skills to ensure Monroe Elementary students connect the importance of history and social studies to lifelong learning and every day application. Her students move on to 3rd grade with the tools and understanding of the importance of reading, writing, phonics, math, science, social studies, and social emotional related topics. Mrs. Phillips' students consistently exhibit high test scores, which gives these students the opportunity to be ready for 3rd grade content.



Mrs. Phillips is a person of integrity, persistence, loyalty, passion, empathy, and energy. All of these characteristics and attributes aid her to be a fantastic mentor and it should go without saying that she knows how to mold young minds in a positive fashion. She understands her role as a professional educator. Relationships with students and staff are a real strength of hers. She has created a positive impact on building climate in all schools in which she has worked.

Outside of the classroom, Mrs. Phillips is a mother to four beautiful children. She enjoys attending her children's sporting events, camping, traveling, reading, crafting, and playing volleyball. She is known for attending dance recitals, gymnastic competitions, cheer performances, football and soccer games, and other recreational activities that her students are involved with.

**Mrs. Phillips will represent Sweetwater County School District #2 for the Wyoming Teacher of the Year.**



## Become a Business Champion!

It's simple to sign up!

Send us a short write-up, 3-4 photos, your logo, and contact information.

Email us @ [swmpnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:swmpnewsletter@gmail.com)  
-or call 307-389-1510

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

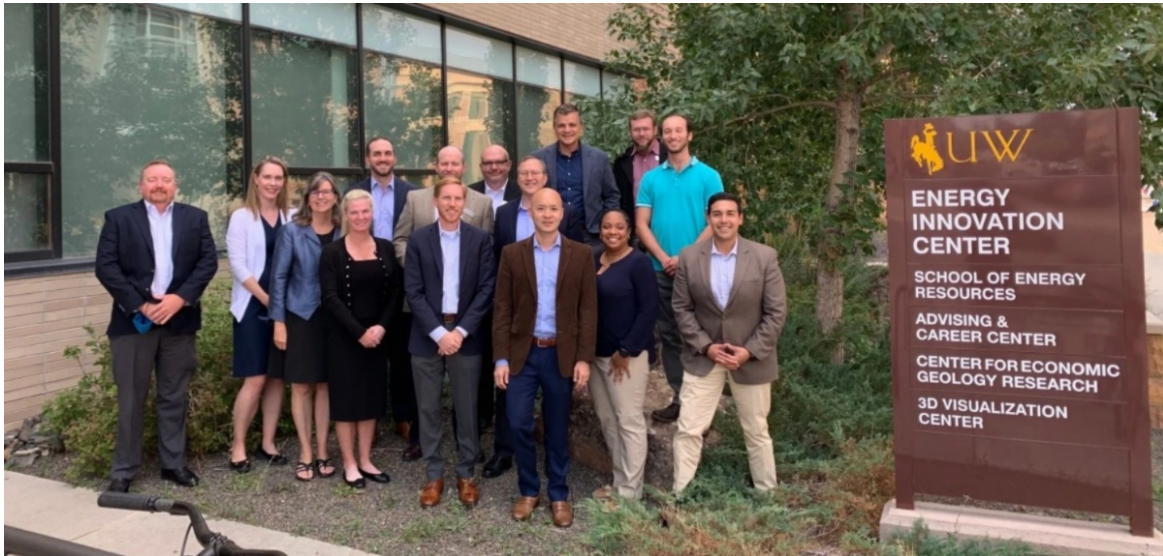
Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.



Thank you to our Sponsor



Williams handles 30% of the natural gas in the United States that is used every day to heat our homes, cook our food and generate electricity. We work with customers to provide infrastructure that addresses unique challenges to serve growing markets and safely deliver natural gas products to reliably fuel the clean energy economy.



Williams owns and operates a variety of energy infrastructure in Wyoming including natural gas gathering and processing and transmission facilities. Primarily serving producers in the Greater Green River Basin. With 4,602 miles of total pipeline in Wyoming, Williams delivers value to our employees, investors, customers, and communities by running our business with authenticity and a safety-driven culture.

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**Our 191 employees in Wyoming have district offices in Opal, Wamsutter, Green River, Big Piney, and Kemmerer.**

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Williams is also a key supporter of a new center dedicated to applied hydrogen research at the University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources (SER). We've committed to giving \$500,000 over five years to support the center and growing hydrogen industry in Wyoming. In the fall of 2021, Williams was a recipient of a grant from the Wyoming Energy Authority as part of the Wyoming Hydrogen Pilot.

## Friendly Reminder . . . .

### What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?

#### ***Purpose:***

#### **Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes**

- **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve**

- **Awareness** of career opportunities
- **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
- **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities

- **Results** for how to measure success

- **Awareness**

- Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community
- Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community
- Engagement events and opportunities
- Career Fairs,
- Jr. High and High School events
- Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
- Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders

- **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**

- Direct from high school including career technical training
- Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
- University alignment (pathways and career paths)

- **Planning**

- What is needed now,
- Where will the opportunities be
- What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
- Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
- Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes

- **Membership**

- **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

#### ***Membership:***

**Core Business Champions:** Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Matt McQueen, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil, Marty Carollo

**Core Co-Conveners:** Bridget Stewart, Lacey Bluemel, Tosha Garner





Rock Springs, Wyoming  
Phone: 307-251-3980

[Get In Touch](#)