



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

swmppartnership.org



UPCOMING EVENTS



November 30, 2022 4:30pm to 6:00pm
Western Wyoming Community College #3650

Join us on November 30th at Western Wyoming Community College as Mike Aitken, Senior Vice President of Membership for the Society of Human Resource Management provides insight on The Ever-Changing Talent Landscape. This education for business owners and human resource professionals will review how in the last several years, the world of work like the rest of our economy and society was struck with the tsunami of COVID-19, the Great Resignation and, social unrest -- forcing organizations into uncharted challenges and new opportunities.

In the post-pandemic world, the focus on talent shortages and the "great resignation" makes the headlines daily. To remain competitive, organizations must navigate this new world of work while staying focused on their organizational objectives in an increasingly complex, global environment. Key to this is hiring, retaining, and developing an inclusive and diverse workforce.

For more information on this education and to register, visit our website
at <https://highdeserthr.shrm.org/>

The High Desert Human Resources Association was formed in 2014 in hopes to bring together professionals along the I-80 corridor from Rawlins to Evanston. Meetings are held monthly primarily in Rock Springs. The organization would like to be a resource for human resource professionals in the area and small businesses who are unable to devote an entire position to HR. Membership is FREE as long as individuals are National SHRM Members. To become a member, click here <https://highdeserthr.shrm.org/join-now>



Senior Vice President of Membership
Society of Human Resource Management

Save the Date

CAREER FAIR

When: Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Time to be determined

Where: Pinedale High School
101 Hennick Street, Pinedale

Contact: Robin Schamber
rschamber@sub1.org

in partnership with

PINEDALE
High School

Sublette BOCES

WESTERN
WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATE



March 23, 2023
LANDER, WY

Save the Date for the 2023 NextGen Sector Partnership Academy!

Each regional team will meet with a NextGen facilitator and develop its NextGen Action Plan, which could include:

- Helping your existing sector partnerships seize new opportunities.
- Growing your team of community partners and industry champions.
- Launching a new sector partnership.

Next Gen is a national network of over 100 industry partnerships across 25 states, including Wyoming:

WWW.NEXTGENSECTORPARTNERSHIPS.COM

WHAT'S NEW



**Rock Springs High School Career Fair
was a SUCCESS!**

Rock Springs High School hosted a Career Fair on Wednesday, November 9th, and they had 51 industry partners represented. A special thanks to the Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership for their involvement in the Career Fair.



TerraPower and PacifiCorp announce efforts to expand Natrium™ technology deployment



BELLEVUE, Washington – October 27, 2022 – TerraPower, a nuclear innovation company, and PacifiCorp, a regulated utility, announced today their undertaking of a joint study to evaluate the feasibility of deploying up to five additional Natrium1 reactor and integrated energy storage systems in the PacifiCorp service territory by 2035.

PacifiCorp and TerraPower announced last year their plans to bring the Natrium demonstration plant to Kemmerer, Wyoming, where a PacifiCorp coal-fueled power plant is slated for retirement. The companies' combined commitment to providing carbon-free energy solutions, while maintaining grid reliability and integrating baseload power that can support intermittent energy resources, make the Natrium technology ideal for deployment across PacifiCorp's system.

"This joint study is a significant step toward building the energy grid of the future for PacifiCorp's customers and a tangible example of the promise advanced nuclear brings to utilities serious about leading the nation's energy transition," said TerraPower President and CEO Chris Levesque. "We have been impressed and humbled by our work with the Kemmerer community and PacifiCorp. We look forward to evaluating new potential sites for Natrium plants that have the same energy expertise and capabilities as our demonstration site."

"The study will allow us to explore a carbon-free, dispatchable energy resource that could provide reliable power to our customers," said Gary Hoogeveen, president and CEO of Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp. "This is just a first step, as advanced nuclear power needs to be evaluated through our resource planning processes as well as receive regulatory approval. But it's an exciting opportunity that advances us down the path to a net zero energy future."



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Western Completes HLC Accreditation Visit

Western Wyoming Community College (Western) recently completed its accreditation reaffirmation process through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of colleges and schools. The review process included a student survey, the submittal of a 35,000-word Assurance Argument document containing over 500 pieces of evidence, and a visit by HLC peer reviewers to Western's campus in early November.

Accreditation reaffirmation is an external review process assuring colleges, universities, and education programs meet rigorous standards for quality assurance and improvements. Every ten years Western must go through this process to remain an accredited institution.

This reaffirmation assures that Western meets the highest national educational standard. This includes affirming that Western is providing quality educational experiences for students and is meeting licensure and employment requirements set by HLC. Accreditation allows Western students to receive federal financial aid when attending Western. The process additionally enables Western to receive feedback in meeting its goals for student learning and provides an opportunity for the College to assess, evaluate, and improve programs and services.

"Going through the reaffirmation process was a team effort, and we put our hearts into it. We want our students to have the best education possible and for our peer reviewers to see how Western demonstrates this commitment to our students and communities," states college president Dr. Kim Dale. "While every organization has room for improvement, I am confident Western will do well."

The reviewers were very complimentary about our institution. They were impressed by our dedicated employees and students as well as our facilities, particularly our Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and Manufacturing and Industrial Technology (MIT) labs. They also spoke at length about our industry partners and how highly those partners thought of Western.

Western would like to give a special thank you to the members of the Southwest Wyoming Manufacturing Partnership for participating in the HLC - Workforce and Economic Development session on Monday, November 7th. Western anticipates final results from the comprehensive evaluation in January 2023.

Focus on Education: SWCSD #2

Expedition Academy Teachers Lee Harper and Andy Trumble are Making a Difference



Sweetwater County School District #2 is fortunate to have so many dedicated teachers in the schools. Teachers that bring out the best in their students and the other staff they work with. Their work beyond the classroom is what makes them special and memorable well beyond the students' years in their classrooms.

Expedition Academy (EA) has a talented, caring staff.

Two of the teachers that lead the way at EA Lee Harper and Andy Trumble

Mr. Harper and Mr. Trumble both do a tremendous job with our students. Their fellow staff have witnessed them building positive relationships with all students and modeling the high expectations they set for themselves and the students at Expedition Academy.

Through these individuals' efforts, students enjoy learning and take away real life skills that will greatly improve their opportunities for future successes. Not only does this impact their individual classrooms, but the efforts spill into our overall building atmosphere/morale.

Whether it's taking time at lunch to teach a student how to fly fish or showing students just how much they can actually accomplish on a mountain bike, these two individuals are true professional educators, who love their jobs and are dedicated to the students and staff of Expedition Academy and Sweetwater County School District #2 ideals/goals.



Andy Trumble - It's a privilege and honor to be a part of this district and the dedication it has for its staff and for the youth of our community; I've been very blessed during my 31+ years at SWCSD#2 to get to work with unparalleled administrators, staff members, and students in doing what we all enjoy. This year, in addition to getting to share my love of math with students, I've gotten the amazing opportunity to share with them an out-of-school activity of mine that I also love, that of mountain biking. This experience has been an absolute blast. The growth and excitement that I saw in my students (mostly newbies to the sport) over the course of the quarter was amazing; they can now all outride me! Moreover, when the quarter was nearly over and I asked them to share with me the benefits of mountain biking, I was extremely impressed with their list. I hadn't talked to them about the P.E. standards that we would be covering

during the course, but they pretty much nailed them with their list of benefits as follows: good cardio workout, gets you outside, improves balance, improves focus, reduces stress, improves mood, builds friendships, builds confidence, bigger calves (funny), and it's fun! Now, if that doesn't make mountain biking worthwhile, then I don't know what does. Thank you, students, for working so hard and making this inaugural class so memorable and fun!

Lee Harper - I have been teaching in SWCSD#2 now for 10 years, all of them at EAHS. I love sharing time with these students in the classroom and out in the field through various scientific and community service activities. We always work in our school to have a family atmosphere of positive attitudes where learning about one another is always encouraged. Strong relationships between students and staff are an integral part of learning for our students, but I always feel like I am learning just as much from them. Living in the great state of Wyoming, I work to excite students into outdoor activities as these are my passions outside family and school. We raise trout in our classroom and discuss fishing regularly and in the fall and spring, we talk about hunting and signing up for draw tags. I have been fortunate to teach Wildlife Conservation classes where our focus is on good stewardship of these resources and build upon the excitement many of our students have. I have also had the pleasure to teach math and weightlifting here at school, two more of my favorite subjects, and try to excite the students to find the importance of each. Many people dislike their jobs, but I wake up each school day excited to go to work and help prepare my students for life after high school.



Teacher Spotlight



Rich Ackerman
*Instructor, Instrumentation
& Electrical*

Highlights

Rich Ackerman holds an Associate of Applied Science in Electrical and Instrumentation Technology from Western Wyoming Community College (WWCC) and a Certificate in Electrical and Instrumentation Control Technology from WWCC.

Rich was employed with Rocky Mountain Power/Jim Bridger Power Plant in Point of Rocks, WY as a Controls and Electrical Technician from June 2020-April 2021. He has been a self-employed business owner/tattoo artist since 02/2011.



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.

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

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.

Learn more at williams.com

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