

**The Rocky Mountain
Governmental Purchasing
Association
NEWSLETTER**

SUMMER 2019

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Rocky Mountain High Notes

2019 Article Deadlines:

September 13

December 13

FALL CONFERENCE 2019 & TAPE 2019

Reverse Vendor Trade Show

September 19, 2019 8am-5pm

The Moose Lodge

2210 Pratt Street

Longmont, Colorado 80521

New to RMGPA? If your individual membership is less than a year old, check out the New Member Discounts for Professional Development Classes to offset the cost of RMGPA-sponsored NIGP Pro-D.

What is ASPIRE? Log into NIGP to view webinars, review the Document Library, and take Online Instructor-Led classes.

Questions about the newsletter? Comments? Contact the editor, Michelle Brown, at michelle.brown2@jeffco.k12.co.us

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

SUBMITTED BY KERRY SHEAHAN

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." -Mother Teresa

What do RMGPA and Mother Teresa have in common? We understand that the collective capacity of people can effect positive change not just personally but also professionally. If you think about the people who have had a measurable impact on the world, you will realize that they didn't do it alone. You will also notice that these world (or regional or local) influencers have habitual ways of behaving and approaching life and work that distinguish them from those who can't or won't find a way to make a difference.

Being a member of RMGPA provides you with the opportunity to develop in yourself the same core behaviors of people who positively impact the world:

- Dedicate yourself to what gives your life meaning and purpose.
- Commit to continually bettering yourself.
- Engage with people in open, mutually beneficial ways.
- Invest time and energy not in what is, but what can be.
- Embrace critique.
- Spread what you know.
- Uplift others as you ascend.
- View the journey as the goal.
- Use your power and influence well.

Taking the step to be an influencer in your career and in public procurement is more than writing a check for your annual RMGPA dues. You need to be invested, to get involved, and to engage with other members at a meaningful level. Network with procurement professionals at our quarterly conferences. Share ideas and strategies with other agencies. Be part of a group that champions causes that can ultimately influence change within the industry and the local community.

If you are already a member of RMGPA, you know you will find encouragement, education, and an excellent opportunity to develop your leadership skills within the chapter. If you are not a member yet, what are you waiting for? Join the ranks and get involved. You will open the door to making a positive change in your life.

Don't be Groucho Marx who said, "I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member." Be more like Mother Teresa. We want you because of who you are. Come join us!

Thanks for all that you do!

~Kerry



Kerry Sheahan, RMGPA
President



ARE YOU READY TO NETWORK AND ENGAGE?



Forum 2019

AUSTIN, TEXAS - AUGUST 25 - 28

This annual networking opportunity for public procurement professionals encourages professional development and engagement with the supplier community. Browse the vast array of products and services

available to government while furthering your education by learning about the latest procurement hot topics and best practices.

Sign up today at: www.nigp.org



2019 ACPE Submitted by John Chaplain, Chapter Enhancement

For the first time, RMGPA hosted a table at the 10th Annual Advance Colorado Procurement Expo (ACPE) held on May 16, 2019 in Denver. This provided an opportunity for RMGPA to engage in outreach and awareness raising with Colorado's small business community.



John Chaplain, and Christine Weber, C.P.M., CPPB, Co-Chairs of the Chapter Enhancement Committee, represented RMGPA. Together, John and Christine spoke with dozens of vendors on a wide range of topics. The table was beneficial to RMGPA, as it also provided an opportunity for RMGPA to promote and invite the vendor community to attend the Fall Reverse Vendor Trade Show (called TAPE 2019), to be held in partnership with the Longmont Chamber of Commerce (called TAPE 2019) on Thursday September 19, 2019 at the Longmont Moose Lodge. The Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trades' Minority Business Office, the Colorado Department of Personnel & Administration, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the Colorado Business Development Foundation, hosts ACPE annually.

In the spirit of outreach, if you have strong relationships with vendors who might like to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please feel free to share their information or put them in touch with Chapter Enhancement, via email at: VendorEvents@RMGPA.org.



RMGPA FALL CONFERENCE & TAPE 2019

(Terrible Acronym, Productive Event!)

THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

LONGMONT MOOSE LODGE 1548

2210 Pratt Street, Longmont, CO 80501

RMGPA member organizations and entities which sponsor an afternoon table will receive two **FREE Fall Conference registrations.**

If you have vendors whom you think would like to sponsor or attend, please let them know now to "Save the Date"!

The Longmont Chamber of Commerce



Rocky Mountain Governmental Purchasing
Association (RMGPA)



Email: VENDOREVENTS@RMGPA.ORG for more Information

SUMMER 2019 RMGPA SPOTLIGHT



SPOTLIGHT ON PAT JOHNSON

SUBMITTED BY KELLY WOODEN

RMGPA Historian Pat Johnson is originally from north central Kansas where she attended a community college in her hometown, then K-State for a year. She was into sports in high school and played tennis and basketball at the community college.

After three years of college, when a family friend asked Pat if she wanted a job at a dude ranch for the summer, she packed her bags and headed to Colorado. She worked at the ranch for the summer and then decided to stay in the area. Pat was a server and/or cook at three or four restaurants, a teller at a bank and a production assistant at the drywall plant. During time spent in Beaver Creek, Pat became part of the road crew in the summer. In the winter, she oversaw a crew who kept the pedestrian areas clear of snow. She learned to operate equipment including a loader, skid-steer, pick-up plow and a Zamboni. She also worked for the State cleaning and mowing a couple of rest areas near Edwards, Colorado.

She met her ex-husband in the Eagle-Gypsum area and after getting married, moved to Longmont. Pat worked at a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in Boulder for several years and then was hired on at the City of Longmont where she worked for fourteen years. Like so many of us, she too fell into purchasing as a profession. At the drywall plant and the pharmaceutical plant, Pat worked with Lotus 1-2-3 and VisiCalc to run the manufacturing numbers. She was also responsible for purchasing materials needed for production at these facilities. She moved into purchasing full time when the pharmaceutical company automated their manufacturing processes. While at the pharmaceutical plant, Pat went back to school at night and earned her BS in Business from Regis.

At the City of Longmont, Pat started out as the light and power Buyer. After six years, she moved into purchasing for other departments including IT, Recreation, Parks and Forestry, as well as, services including printing, office supplies, computers and software.

After driving back and forth to Longmont from Fort Collins for nine of the fourteen years that she worked with the City of Longmont, Pat was hired on and is currently employed with the City of Fort Collins, where she has been for six years. Pat was very excited to get the position at the City of Fort Collins and to say goodbye to the I-25 drive. With the City of Fort Collins, Pat is back to purchasing utility items and services for light and power, water, wastewater, storm water and now broadband. Everything from engineers/design firms, contractors, software, environmental services, boring, studies, collection services and cybersecurity.

Pat joined RMGPA in 2001, the same year she passed her CPPB exam. She enjoys RMGPA very much, especially the camaraderie and the friendships she has made over the years. She is also very thankful for the opportunities for growth RMGPA has and continues to provide through classes and conferences. About six months ago, Pat became RMGPA's Historian. In this position, she takes photos at conferences and posts them on the website. She is also the back up to the Secretary and is responsible for archiving documents and assisting with RMGPA's Chapter of the Year Submittal.

Outside of work, Pat is particularly proud of her two kids. She has a twenty-one-year-old son who is a Marine and a daughter who will be fifteen and a sophomore by the time this article publishes. For fun, Pat is on a bowling league. Her current average is 167 and her high game is 286!

THANK YOU, PAT, FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO RMGPA!

Treasurer's Corner: Dollars and Sense

Submitted by Valerie Scott, CPPB, RMGPA Treasurer



Our RMGPA committees do their best to balance fiscal prudence with delivery of high-quality opportunities and services.

The following financial information was presented at the Summer Conference, in case you missed it:

Treasurer Report as of May 22, 2019

Cash		
Primary Account	\$41,572.92	
Secondary Account	\$57,062.07	
Money Market Account	\$11,410.98	
Total	\$110,045.97	As of 05/22/2019
Profit/Loss		
2019 Revenue	\$27,925.08	
2019 Expenses	\$9,610.52	
Net Income	\$18,314.56	As of 05/22/2019

The primary account is the source for day-to-day expenses of the association, and is the account where revenue is deposited. The secondary and money market accounts are reserves to help finance the association through difficult years.

Updates:

- Expenses in the report do not include Summer Conference
- We currently working with Martillaro Raub and Associates for our 2018 audit.



PROCUREMENT CARD PROFESSIONALS

The first meeting of the new group of Colorado Procurement Card Professionals occurred June 17, 2019. The purpose of this group is to network, discuss relevant topics and collaborate with others. This group of superstars decided to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss pre-determined PCard topics. If you are interested in joining this group, please email Cyndi Vosburgh, Procurement Specialist at Jefferson County School District: cyndi.vosburgh@jeffco.k12.co.us. Kindly include your name, position, organization, work phone and email contact information.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The Legislative Committee: What We Learned

Submitted by Jenna Cifala and Richard Pennington

Do you use after-action reviews (AAR) in your teams? The Legislative Committee did. The AAR was first used in the U.S. Army and is a tool for assessing team performance and making improvements. This article describes how the committee used it and what we learned about the legislative process and the committee's legislative review activities.



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Legislative Committee Overview and After-Action Review

As part of our duties, the Legislative Committee prepares summaries and tracks the progression of bills introduced in the State Senate and House of Representatives throughout the legislative session. In the past, this committee consisted of two members, but membership increased this year to eight from various entities in Colorado. (Also new this year, the committee expanded its bill review to include Wyoming legislation!) The increase in members allowed us to disperse responsibilities, which helped prevent work overload by individual members.

Prior to the commencement of the legislative session, we held a teleconference to discuss the process and assign responsibilities.

Two of our members took on the challenge of writing the bill summaries, while three members were tasked with reviewing legislation to find relevant bills-- one assigned to the Colorado Senate, one to the Colorado House, and one to all Wyoming bills (since the Wyoming session was shorter). Our objective was to send a legislative update to RMGPA members at the beginning of each month from February through the end of the Colorado legislative session. To meet that objective, prior to each RMGPA update our reviewers sent the summary writers a list of relevant bills introduced since the last RMGPA update. The bill summaries were written, bill status revised on tracked bills, and the monthly legislative update distributed to RMGPA membership.

Following the Colorado legislative session, the Committee met virtually to reflect on the legislative process and the committee's activities. We used the after-action review to discuss ways we could improve our processes for the future. We asked ourselves the following questions:

1. What did we expect to see happen?
2. What actually happened?
3. Why were there differences?
4. What worked, what didn't and why?
5. What did we learn that can improve going forward?

What We Learned

The AAR process uncovered a few issues that if addressed could help the committee be more effective and efficient in future legislative sessions. These are the highlights.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES CONTINUED

To begin with, we found that the lack of an explicit monthly deadline for our reviewers to submit updated bill lists caused some uncertainty as to when updates were expected. It sometimes unnecessarily compressed the time for the summary writers to compile the report. A specific monthly deadline should be established.

In Colorado especially, there are hundreds of bills introduced into both branches of the legislature. Often it is difficult to determine from the title whether a bill is relevant. Our reviewers frequently must go through and read portions of the bills to make a relevancy determination, which can be time-consuming and can result in errors.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

Moreover, the initial Legislative Council bill summaries used in our monthly updates often are not revised to reflect amendments made in committees and both houses. SB19-196, Colorado Quality Apprenticeship Training Act of 2019, had significant revisions (described in the last newsletter), including explicit exemption of local governments from its applicability. The Legislative Council revised the initial bill summary to reflect those amendments. On the other hand, HB19-1132, School Incentives to Use Colorado Food and Producers, was amended to transfer program implementation from a nonprofit (in the original bill) to the Department of Education. The Legislative Council bill summary was not revised to reflect that amendment, however. The lesson: be cautious about relying on the

Legislative Council bill summary for the current bill content. On important bills, you have to read the most recent bill language, called the “reengrossed” or sometimes the “rerevised” bill. The General Assembly website nicely tracks the amendments and changes to bill language.

For the future, we hope to assign two committee members to each branch of the legislature in order to better share the work and improve the process of preparing summaries and updates.

Finally, a couple of the reviewers had difficulties determining what bills were relevant to RMGPA members, which slowed their review process at the beginning of the legislative session. Adding a second reviewer to each legislative branch would create a more collaborative environment by providing reviewers with a better opportunity to discuss their assigned bills with a team member.

If anyone “out there” would like to serve on the committee, contact any member or one of the committee co-chairs, Nancy Allen or Richard Pennington.

[Stay tuned for more from the Legislative Committee!](#)

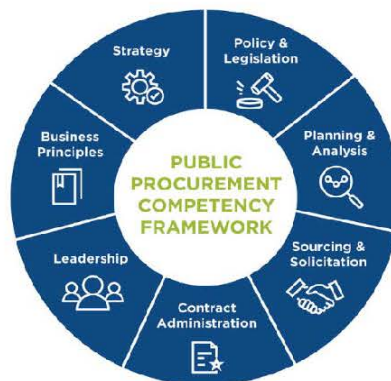


Have You Heard About NIGP Pathways?

What is Pathways?

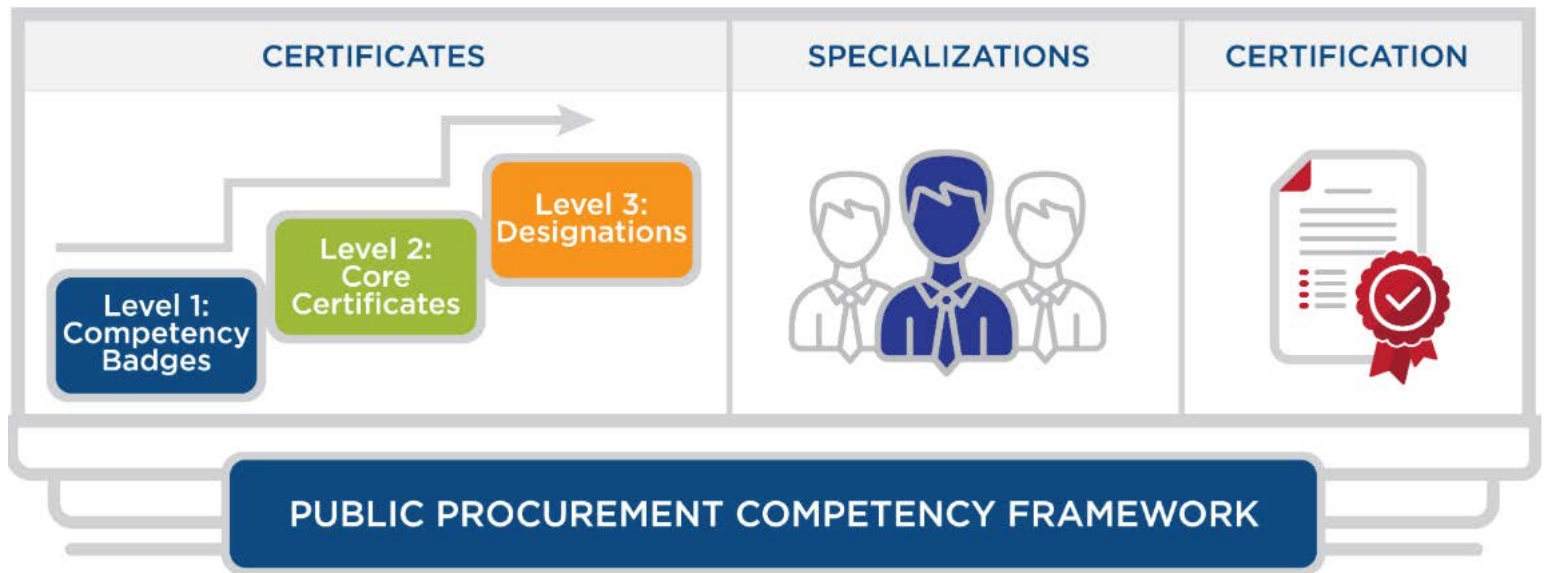
An innovative approach to help you develop personalized competency-based learning and credentialing paths for every phase and every stage of your working life in public procurement. It provides ultimate flexibility to create unique professional development experiences where you control your own destiny. You have the option to custom design your professional development to get focused learning for success in a current role, or to develop longer term strategic plans based on your career aspirations.

Why Pathways?



NIGP has spent the last year focused on you. We have assessed the landscape and understand the shifts and trends that impact you and the profession. Most importantly, we have spoken to you and listened to what you want and need.

PATHWAYS IS COMPRISED OF FOUR COMPONENTS:



Upcoming Webinars

June 13 - Introducing Pathways, *presented by NIGP CEO Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB, FCIPS. & Chief Content Officer Todd Slater, PhD.* [Register](#)

June 26 - Introducing Pathways, *presented by NIGP CEO Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB, FCIPS.* [Register](#)

July 10 - Introducing Pathways, *presented by NIGP CEO Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB, FCIPS.* [Register](#)

July 24 - Introducing Pathways, *presented by NIGP Chief Content Officer Todd Slater, PhD.* [Register](#)

August 5 - Introducing Pathways, *presented by NIGP CEO Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB, FCIPS.* [Register](#)

For More Information:

<https://nsite.nigp.org/nigppathways/home>

<https://nsite.nigp.org/nigppathways/faqs>



Do you need points for certification or recertification? This is a wonderful opportunity to become a bit more involved or a lot more involved with RMGPA and all the fabulous things we do throughout the year! And earn points!!

You can volunteer as much or as little time as you have available! You can volunteer for a one-time project or a more in-depth project. You can volunteer for one of the committees listed below or multiple committees by reaching out to the Committee Chair or you can email vicepres@rmgpa.org with your interests, strengths, and your likes/dislikes to we can make sure to connect you with the right people. Whether you like to plan events, are detail oriented, creative, an introvert, or extrovert we welcome your talents!

Awards: Coordinates Manager and Buyer of the Year awards, plans special awards and makes recommendations to the Board.

Chapter Enhancement: Coordinates, organizes, and runs RMGPA's trade show and reverse vendor trade show and arranges sponsorship and advertising opportunities. **CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A CO-CHAIR!!**

Communications: Maintains RMGPA's website including posting forms, job postings, and Chapter news and analyzes site traffic.

Education/Professional Development: Plans, develops, coordinates, and implements training and educational programs and administers the Scholarship Program.

Elections: Solicits nominations for officers, contacts potential candidates, prepares ballots and holds elections.

Legislative: Researches, reviews and stays apprised of new legislation, policies and regulations in the procurement field and provides a status report on current court actions which may impact procurement.

Marketing: Works with the RMGPA Board and Committee Chairs to assist with their marketing needs including materials, media outlets, and press releases and maintains the Chapter social media pages.

Membership: Develops programs and incentives to maintain and increase regular, lifetime, and student membership in RMGPA

Newsletter: Gathers articles and information from RMGPA's Board, members and outside organizations to compile and publish quarterly newsletters.

Programs: Makes all of the necessary arrangements for quarterly conferences by scoping out locations, finding speakers and coordinating before, during and after events.

Come join in the fun! Volunteer today!!



SUMMER CONFERENCE 2019

Submitted by Toi Matthews-Programs Committee Chair, Kerry Sheahan-President, and Diana Cantu – Membership Chair



FBI Denver

The 2019 RMGPA Summer conference occurred Thursday and Friday, May 30-31, 2019 in beautiful **Beaver Creek, Colorado**.



A Basketful of Opportunities at Summer Conference 2019

*Submitted by Jody McHazlett
Contracts Administrator, CDOT*

I was fortunate to be able to attend this year's RMGPA Summer Conference, held at Beaver Creek with the majestic sky and mountain backdrop! Wednesday, I was able to take advantage of learning from a seasoned State expert, with a broad review of specification writing and group activities, which promoted networking.

There were diverse valuable presentations offered Thursday. My favorite was probably the FBI Case History, because I haven't had exposure to that before and it was interesting to learn the scope and some logistics about how the FBI serves, specific to the Public Contract Fraud & Corruption Initiative. I liked the range of presentations and breakouts, which had your usual pragmatic informational provided by esteemed professionals in their field. Also offered was a wellness session, and some who had never been exposed to those mindfulness concepts felt they could apply lessons learned as a productivity tool at the office. The breakfast and lunch provided were impressive, with a nice variety for those with dietary restrictions.

I'm a sucker for a good motivational speaker and was really excited to benefit from the Work Ethic presentation by Josh Davies, who brought great energy to early Friday morning! I left the conference feeling well taken care of, refreshed in my trade, and grateful for some real connections with my peers.

I really appreciate the thoughtful hard work that it took for Toi Matthews and those who helped conceive and coordinate this top-notch conference event!



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:

If you have changed agencies, please send your current and former contact information to: Membership@rmgpa.org to update your membership profile. The membership stays with the agency.



New Members

FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:

Shala Sandoval-City and County of Denver at DIA

Ben Ferrara-Jefferson County School District

Maria Johnson-CDOT

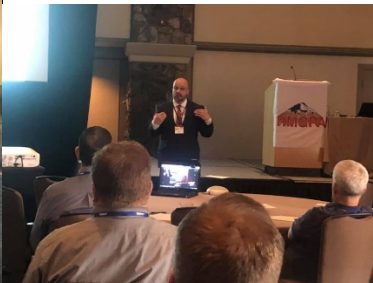
Brandon Garza-University of Northern Colorado

Neil Johnson-University of Northern Colorado

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIFETIME MEMBER CHRISTINE WEBER!

Membership Chair Diana Cantu presenting Chris with her Lifetime Member pin.

Reason #342 to attend Summer Conference? Door prizes!



2019 RMGPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POSITION	OFFICER NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
President	Kerry Sheahan	president@rmgpa.org	303-774-3671
Vice President	Traci Gorman	vicepres@rmgpa.org	303-805-3188
Secretary	Tara Larwick	secretary@rmgpa.org	303-866-4005
Treasurer	Valerie Scott, CPPB	treasurer@rmgpa.org	303-774-4887
Past President	Keith Ashby, CPPO	pastpres@rmgpa.org	303-795-4435

2019 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

COMMITTEE	CHAIR NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
Awards	Amanda Zila	mandy.zila@state.co.us	970-218-2213
Chapter Enhancement	John Chaplain	vendorevents@rmgpa.org	970-351-2040
Communications	David Musgrave	info@rmgpa.org	303-757-9861
Education & Pro-D	Andy Mild	prod@rmgpa.org	303-286-3074
Elections	Skyler Thimens	rthimens@psdschools.org	970-490-3554
Historian	Pat Johnson	pjohnson@fcgov.com	970-221-6816
Legislative	Richard Pennington	rpennington01@aol.com	303-324-7333
Marketing	Kim Taylor	marketing@rmgpa.org	303-866-3780
Membership	Diana Cantu, CPPB	membership@rmgpa.org	303-702-7715
Newsletter	Michelle Brown	michelle.brown2@jeffco.k12.co.us	303-982-6766
Programs	Toi Matthews	toi.matthews@state.co.us	303-757-9968

2019 STANDING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

COMMITTEE	CO-CHAIR NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
Awards	Curt Decapite, CPPB	curtd1977@gmail.com	
Chapter Enhancement			
Communications	Molly McLoughlin, CPPO, CPPB	molly.mcloughlin@bvsd.org	720-561-5045
Education & Pro-D	Christine Weber, C.P.M., CPPB	christine.weber2018@gmail.com	303-828-6094
Elections	Tim Wellmann, CPPB	wellmann_timothy@svvsd.org	303-702-7734
Legislative	Nancy Allen	nallen@arvada.org	720-898-7093
Marketing	Brenda Hannu	brenda.hannu@denvergov.org	720-913-8118
Membership	Jim Walker, CPPO, CPPB	rps.procurement@gmail.com	720-442-0708
Newsletter	Kelly Wooden, CPPO, CPPB	kwooden@psdschools.org	970-490-3617
Programs	Nikita Hildebrandt	nikitahildebrandt@elpasoco.com	719-660-2476