Facility Challenges of Rural School Districts
Moderated by

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FrontRow
Topics / Objectives:

• Why, in a rural setting, the community plays a crucial role and how to get community members involved

• How to obtain capital project partnerships and why they can make or break a rural project
Topics / Objectives:

• How to leverage grant, bond and other funds to complete vital rural school developments

• What rural schools need to do to develop and achieve their vision
Topics / Objectives:

• How you can become an integral part of a rural school’s success, transforming its achievements into wins for your own organization
What characterizes a rural school?

- Geographic isolation
- Small population size
- High need
3 Types of Rural Schools

1. Fringe:
   Located in a census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an urban cluster
3 Types of Rural Schools

2. Distant
Located in a census-defined rural territory that is more than 5 miles but less than or equal to 25 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is more than 2.5 miles but less than or equal to 10 miles from an urban cluster.
3 Types of Rural Schools

3. Remote

Located in a census-defined rural territory that is more than 25 miles from an urbanized area and is also more than 10 miles from an urban cluster.
Who Is Impacted by Rurality?

- 50%+ of regular school districts
- 33% of all public schools
- 25% of public school students
- 50 Million students
General Challenges of Rural Settings

- Teacher hiring
- Access to technology
- Spotty signal coverage
- Lack of community resources available
General Challenges of Rural Settings

• Poverty index is higher than in urban areas
• Lower education level among adults
• Language barriers
Deming High School Project

“Learning Today for Living Tomorrow”
+/- 1,000 students are from Mexico.
DEMING

Size: 2,968 Sq. Mi.
Population: 24,627
Enrollment: 5,488

1 Pre-K
5 Elementary Schools
1 Intermediate School
1 Middle School
1 Alternative High School
1 High School
1 Charter High School
1 Elementary School
Deming Public Schools
School Feeder Flow Profile
2017-2018

Deming HS: 9-12

Red Mountain MS: 7th and 8th

Deming Intermediate: 6th

Columbus ES: Pre-K-5

Bell ES: Pre-K-5

Bataan ES: K-5

Chaparral ES: K-5

Ruben Torres ES: K-5

Memorial ES: K-5

My Little School: Pre-K

Deming Cesar Chavez Charter HS: 9-12

Mimbres Valley Alternative HS: 9-12
DEMING HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TREND

+9th Grade

Historic Enrollment

Projected Enrollment

DPS 5,488 Students
New Mexico Public Schools Capital Funding Process:

COMMUNITY  STATE  DISTRICT  SCHOOL FUNDS

- Rate  Grants
2006 Deming HS Funding Process:

- District knew Deming HS needed to be replaced
State knew DHS needed to be replaced:

- FAD Ranking 24 out of 752 State Schools
- District applied for and received State Funding

**Deming HS 24**

- New School: Most in need school
- State: 76%
- District: 24%
District Administration to change High School organization.

DEPARTMENTS

ACADEMIES
Proposed Site

Deming High School

Proposed Location

Legend

- Proposed Site
### Results of 2006 DHS Funding Process

- **Voters DID NOT support District**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>In favor</th>
<th>% of Voters</th>
<th>Against</th>
<th>% of Voters</th>
<th>Total Vote</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Registered</th>
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*DID NOT*
What Happened Next:

• District looked at and discussed what went wrong
  – DISTRICT wanted to replace DHS
  – STATE wanted to replace DHS
  – DISTRICT wanted to change DHS organization
  – DISTRICT wanted to relocate DHS to new site
  – DISTRICT developed DHS Educational Specification
What Was the Missing Piece:

- Stakeholders not included in decision making process
2013 Developed Relevant DHS Facility Master Plan / Educational Specification

Safety / Security

Technology

Career Pathways

Ed Program
Stakeholders were active participants
Deming HS remains on existing site:
Results of 2012 DHS Funding Process:

SUPPORTED

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<th>% of Voters</th>
<th>Against</th>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>2,323</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>12,765</td>
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State Changes Adequacy Standards:

- 2007: 160sf/student  \[160 \times 1,628 = 260,480\text{sf} \]
- 2012: 130sf/student  \[130 \times 1,478 = 201,500\text{sf} \]
- 2013: 94sf/student  \[94 \times 1,550 = 145,700\text{sf} \]
Project Costs Increased

$35,972,568

$70,200,000

State Match: $27,339,152 (76%)

District Match: $8,633,416 (24%)

State Match: $53,352,000 (76%)

District Match: $16,848,000 (24%)

2007: 2012:
Richgrove School District Project
Richgrove School District

• Established in 1952
• The town of Richgrove is mostly comprised of farm laborers and has a population of approximately 2500. It is predominantly Latino with some Middle Eastern and Phillipino Families
Agricultural Setting in Central California
Richgrove School District

• Our one school district has 630 TK-8th grade students plus two preschools.
• The student population is 98% Latino with over 65% of them being second language learners.
• The teaching staff is at 35, with 9 instructional aides and several Student Services Support staff.
Richgrove School District

• Richgrove faces several obstacles with its remote location.
  – We have no police or hospital services within the town.
  – There are a few stores and one gas station.
  – There no entertainment venues or parks.
  – There are no clubs or recreation centers.
  – We do not have any major funding groups.
  – There are no restaurants.
Richgrove School District

• Stakeholders
  – All decisions for Richgrove school come from the teaching staff and parents as the town is unincorporated and there are no major financial contributories or organizations.
  – Parent and staff feedback on many items is gathered several times a year through surveys, parent meetings and committees.
The Richgrove Vision

- Our District has always put the needs of our students before anything. We strive to provide for them all that they need to compete with the world outside of Richgrove. Much of which they will never see. The tools provided to them are used to close the achievement gap created by their lower socio-economic status and sheltered life. We try to level the playing field.
Richgrove School District

• In a rural setting the one great equalizer to seeing the world is through technology and where it can take you. We have focused much funding to allow for our students to “see” the world this way.

• Richgrove has used long term grants and categorical funds to give our students the opportunity to use higher end technology.
Richgrove School District

• Technology has taken a vital role in our school as it has allowed for increased collaboration, exposure and differentiated instruction.
Richgrove Technology Timeline

• 1990s
  – $2M Voluntary Integration Program Grant
  – Individual computers for each teacher
  – Computers built from parts

• Early 2000s
  – Computer lab for 30 created
  – Wifi Upgraded
Richgrove Technology Timeline

• 2010-2015
  – 100 laptops for staff and students
  – 30 Kindles for e-reader era
  – 300 tablets for all students
  – 50 Chromebooks for teachers
  – Upgraded wifi
Latest Technology Implementation

- Promethean Interactive TV panels & 3D Printers
- Purchased surface tablets for teachers to be mobile in classroom
Latest Technology Implementation

Campus-wide FrontRow communication, including:

• Classroom audio
• Integrated emergency response, paging, and bells system
• Lesson capture
FrontRow Control Panel
Benefit to all stakeholders

– Student participation
– Academic outcomes
– Teacher health
– Parent involvement through lesson review
– Student lesson review
– Campus-wide peace of mind
Richgrove School District

• Having an integrated communication platform has allowed for so many of our actions on campus to be merged together to allow for smoother and quicker outcomes. Teacher, students and administration are not directly connected and audible at literally the push of a button.
Our school has done and re-done our technology access many times as our older buildings were not built to carry the access points and power needed to support our current technology. Current design plans should always be designed to support the “what if” classroom that we may have someday. Visit high tech schools to see how you should plan for accommodating the future classroom.
Do your design plans support?
Richgrove School District

- Top-3 Takeaways on Learning Environments Being Developed in Rural Spaces

1. Plan for what your school could need 20 years from now.
2. Seek out grants and put a team together to shoot for grants even if they seem out of reach and leverage all funding pockets.
3. Get staff “buy in” and training before you implement new technology, pedagogy or tactics.
Brief Summary by Jaime
Q & A
Thank You