Building Partnerships to Serve Montana's Rural Schools & Communities

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Photo by Kelly Gorman, MSU
A Coming Crisis in Teaching?
Teacher Supply, Demand, and Shortages in the U.S.

Leib Sutcher, Linda Darling-Hammond, and Desiree Carver-Thomas
Teachers Quit Jobs at Highest Rate on Record; Small raises, budget frustration and opportunities elsewhere persuade teachers and other public-education workers to move on.

My child and I share a bed in a small apartment, I spend $1,000 on supplies and I’ve been laid off three times due to budget cuts. I’m a teacher in America.

I have a master’s degree, 16 years of experience, work two extra jobs and donate blood plasma to pay the bills. I’m a teacher in America.

I have 20 years of experience, but I can’t afford to fix my car, see a doctor for headaches or save for my child’s future. I’m a teacher in America.
Teachers are not all right: How the COVID-19 pandemic is taking a toll on the nation’s teachers

Julia Kaufman and Melissa Diliberti

January 2021

Schools are losing teachers at an unprecedented rate

https://qz.com/2060734/is-there-a-shortage-of-teachers/
MSU’s Land Grant Mission
Student Teaching Placements
Conversations
Relationships
Partnerships
Well Prepared Rural Teachers & Counselors
Classroom Ready
School Ready
Community Ready
Ready to Thrive
Master of Arts in Teaching
Place-Attentive Preparation
Preservice Teachers’ Insights

- I used to think that rural schools were just bottom-of-the-barrel, no funding, no technology, nothing, believe it or not, but now I think that rural schools are creating lots of brilliant minds and putting them out into the working world.
Preservice Teachers’ Insights

• There’s a lot you don’t see at first glance. The relationships that are there. The students, how they all fit into the community. How the teachers fit into the community. How the community works with the schools.

• I really got understanding about the importance of relationships with students and parents.
Preservice Teachers’ Insights

- I used to think that it was never an option, but now I think that it might be an option. Just depends how rural.

- It interested me, but I just didn’t know because I never have really been to a rural school. And now I definitely could see myself teaching in a rural school.

- I think going to Broadus really confirmed I would totally do this someday.
http://www.montana.edu/crre/ruralmentalhealthpathways/index.html
Accessibility. Availability. Acceptability

Developing counselor efficacy and longevity in and for rural communities
Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM)
Montana State University

http://www.montana.edu/crre/youthawareofmentalhealth.html
YAM in Montana

- 9,270 students participated
- 60 certified YAM Instructors trained
- 28 schools participating
- 4 certified YAM Trainers
- 88% of youth surveyed said their schools should teach mental health
Partnering with Montana’s Educators
Rural Researchers Across the Globe
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