

Embracing the Plurality of Rural Schools

<p><u>Kings Canyon Unified School District</u> CA</p> <p>A larger district of 10,000 students spanning ~100 miles through Central Valley agricultural communities and the Sierra Nevada mountains in both Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.</p>	<p><u>Park County Schools</u> MT</p> <p>A 12-school district serving mountain communities near Yellowstone, where tourism, logging, mining, and agriculture are the primary industries. Some residents have no cell phone service within 50 miles and must drive more than an hour to reach any stores.</p>
<p><u>Fremont County School District #2</u> WY</p> <p>A one-campus district of 150 students near Wind River Reservation, serving an area covering 14,094 miles² with 1 teacher for each grade K-6 and 1 science teacher for all of grades 7-12.</p>	<p><u>McKenzie County School District #1</u> ND</p> <p>A community near the Bakken field where the oil boom has led to student enrollment more than tripling in 10 years and infrastructure can't meet the demand. This hub for the oil industry is actively working to attract more teachers and other essential workers.</p>

Modest supports for the differing needs and contexts of rural schools

<p><u>Online NGSS Professional Learning</u> 5 days summer 2023, ½ day summer 2024 — teachers grouped by geographic region</p>
<p><u>#1: Virtual Meetings</u> 3x per year — teachers grouped by topic of interest or specific needs</p>
<p><u>#2: Social Media Groups</u> Established in summer 2023 — teachers grouped by topic of interest or need</p>
<p><u>#3-5: Dedicated Email Address, Newsletter, & Resource Library</u> All teachers provided these in summer 2023 and through the life of the project</p>
<p><u>#6: Engineering Support</u> Begins in summer 2023 — teachers provided support in PL and virtual meetings and \$100 stipend for engineering materials</p>