Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning
Whatever It Takes!

Expert Database Community Request

At RMSEL, our mission states “As a K-12 community, the mission of the Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning (RMSEL) is to empower students and staff to be learners, thinkers, citizens, and explorers engaged in and inspired by the real world.” And we practice “We are crew not passengers.” In our relentless pursuit of excellence in fulfilling the mission and purpose of our school, community leadership and experts in their respective field of practice are imperative to creating applicable learning experiences that transcend beyond the walls of our brick and mortar classrooms. Connecting students with experts both in the classroom and during fieldwork allows teachers to plan for learning to connect beyond content descriptors in their expedition plans.

RMSEL teachers and crew leaders have done an amazing job connecting with contacts over the past twenty years, creating an informal network of experts. At this point, we are attempting to extend this professional network and create a formal network for all RMSEL staff members to draw upon as they plan their learning expeditions. We are requesting that parents take a moment to complete the following “Survey Monkey – Expert Database Collection.” The collection of this information will be exported to a shared excel document among the professional staff at RMSEL and will not be circulated outside of our school. We are not requesting private residence or contact information, but professional, public contact information. Participation in this request is certainly optional and you may share the link with any family or community member who may be interested in becoming an expert in the classroom or during fieldwork.

An example of how this information may be utilized by our teaching staff: the parent of a RMSEL student, “John Doe,” is a local architect in Denver. Our 7th grade mathematics teacher is teaching a unit of study on proportional reasoning and scale factor. To assist in connecting the content beyond the classroom, the teacher would contact “John Doe.” The teacher may request that the expert co-teach in the classroom for a day and/or for the class to attend the architectural design studio. By creating a network of experts in our community, our teachers can create partnerships that will assist us in our “engagement in the real world.” When completing the demographic section of the survey, please respond with your profession or any area of expertise. You may be a “weekend warrior” creating beautiful crafts that may not be your profession, but is an additional area in which you could serve as an expert at RMSEL. If you have any questions regarding this project, you may contact me directly as I am collecting the information and creating the database to support our amazing Crew Leaders and Teachers!

Link to Collection: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/expertRMSEL

Sincerely,

Chad Burns
Executive Director
Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning
Expeditionary BOCES - 9130