



Communication Services  
5334 South Prince Street  
Littleton, Colorado 80120  
Phone: 303-795-5467  
Fax: 303-734-5470  
[www.arapahoegov.com](http://www.arapahoegov.com)

**For release: Dec. 22, 2017**

Contact:

**ANDREA RASIZER**

Communication Services Director  
Direct: 303-795-4284 or 303-882-1909  
[Email: arasizer@arapahoegov.com](mailto:arasizer@arapahoegov.com)

OR

**KELLY FOLKS**

A/D Works! Division Manager  
Direct: 303-636-1252  
[Email: kfolks@arapahoegov.com](mailto:kfolks@arapahoegov.com)

## **Arapahoe/Douglas Works! joins the Colorado Education Association, Hope Street Group and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce to address teacher shortages in metro Denver and throughout Colorado**

CENTENNIAL, CO --- Arapahoe/Douglas Works! was contacted by Kevin Hougen, President of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, and a member of Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Development Board, to work with Jill Cullis, a teacher with Aurora Public Schools and National Teacher Fellow with Hope Street Group, and Amie Baca-Wehlert of the Colorado Education Association, to discuss solutions on how to make teaching a cool profession again.

Arapahoe/Douglas Works! partnered with this group to come up with innovative ways to explore working with workforce development centers to help guide passionate, dedicated, and committed job seekers into the education profession.

Through these discussions Arapahoe/Douglas Works! was asked to pull together a profile on the K-12 education industry in the greater metro Denver region which emphasized trends in teacher demand by type and subject.

This profile was presented Dec. 5 by Arapahoe/Douglas Works! economist Patrick Holwell at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. Holwell was joined by Sen. Nancy Todd, Douglas County Commissioner Lora Thomas, a group of educators, the Colorado Education Association, and workforce board to review the research.

Research for this profile revealed several significant gaps contributing to the increase in teacher shortages. There are not enough new teachers entering the field each year to replace retirees and fill new jobs for entry-level teachers.

As we are facing a critical teacher shortage in Colorado as well as across the nation, it is important that we come together to ensure that every child, regardless of zip code, has access to a high quality public education.

To learn more about the K-12 Teacher Industry Profile visit: <http://bit.ly/ADworksteachers>.

A/D Works! offers no-cost services at that include employment workshops, career counseling, networking and hiring events, career and personality assessments, intensive job-search support, special programs for youth and job seekers 50 and older, certifications, GED preparation and training. A/D Works! can assist in

upskilling your career pathway to gain a better job; or if you are an employer who is beginning to experience a greater degree of difficulty filling skilled positions during this full employment market, visit A/D Works! website [www.adworks.org](http://www.adworks.org).

\* \* \*

**Connect with Arapahoe County**

Stay informed and give us your input about Arapahoe County Government. Sign up for news releases, agendas and updates to our website via our *Notify Me* [Link](#) at [www.arapahoe.gov](http://www.arapahoe.gov). Or, connect with us via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Nextdoor](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).