

**Chris Moore:**  
East Elementary School

Chris Moore attended Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado where he completed his Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. Chris earned his Master's degree from the University of Colorado, Denver in Information and Learning Technology. Previous to and after the completion of his Master's, Chris was able to implement a plethora of technology into his classroom to enhance the learning of his students. Chris has been honored for his hard work and dedication to his students and their learning process in technology by being named to the NSBA 20 Education Technology Leaders to Watch 2009.



**Nicolette Vander Velde:**  
East Elementary School

Nicolette Vander Velde attended the University of Northern Colorado where she attained her Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Liberal Arts with an emphasis in English as a Second Language. Nicolette continued her education at the University of Phoenix with a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction. She cites the most inspirational aspect of integrating technology as the rela-

tionship she develops with her students as she guides them towards their highest potential. Nicolette was a finalist for the 2009 CSIA Top Technology Teacher in Colorado.

**Tammy Falcone:**  
Goddard Middle School

Tammy received her Environmental Education and teaching degrees from Colorado State, Edinburgh and Regis Universities, and has taught in Littleton Public Schools for past nine years after twenty years working in environmental education in National Parks around the world. Tammy is an early adopter in using technology, spurring her colleagues into action. In that regard, she is nearly as fearless as her students. Tammy values the role that technology plays in allowing students voice in the classroom.



**The Staff Voice**

**Purpose:**  
East Elementary teachers and staff will be joined by visionary leaders from Little-

ton Public Schools to discuss instructional strategies and impact in the district. District leadership will facilitate a discussion on the school/district's philosophy and integration with instructional improvement efforts.

**Anchor questions:**

Please share a story in which technology has allowed you to meet a student's needs.

What learning has been required by you, as an instructor, to integrate technology successfully?

What are the types of resources that you've accessed along the way as you've integrated technology in your classrooms?

What are some of the challenges you've faced? How have you overcome those challenges?

What advice do you have for policy makers as they shape the direction of technology integration in their districts?

## The Ground Rules:

The word “conversation” has as its Latin root words “con” and “versatio” or “versationis.”

In loose translation, they mean to turn or change together. And that’s what we are hoping to do. So please participate in the conversation: ask follow up questions and share stories from your own district.



## LPS Staff:

### Jennifer Claus:

Hopkins Elementary School

This is Jennifer’s fifth year in Littleton Public Schools. Before that, she taught in Pueblo, CO and Minneapolis, MN. She believes that “technology is a crucial element in today’s classrooms. We need to prepare students for lives surrounded by ever-changing technology. The eeePC’s (classroom netbooks) have brought new enthusiasm to the students and myself.” Jennifer has co-hosted standing -room only workshops on technology integration strategies.

### Jim Reiner:

Centennial Elementary School

Jim Reiner’s physical and virtual classrooms center around Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences Theory and the Positive Behavior Support Program (through the Crisis Prevention Institute). He’s taught elementary school students at both primary and intermediate levels in Albuquerque, NM and Centennial, CO. You might recognize him from either the Technology In Education Conference, Twitter For Teachers posts (as creativeclimate), or from *Full House*: he played Danny Tanner (just kidding). He is always searching for the most effective tools for student collaboration, whether he is teaching online or face to face.

### Sara Urbaneck:

Hopkins Elementary School

Sara has taught for seven years; four years of that were in second grade and the last three were in fifth grade. She has always thought that technology was an important part of teaching and education and has implemented it as much as possible her teaching career. It is her belief that students learn best by hands-on, real world experiences AND when they are excited about what they are doing. This is her second year using the eeePCs in the classroom and has seen many benefits. Sara has been an presenter at the Technology in Education conference.



### Steven Newell:

Sandburg Elementary School

Over the last five years, Steven started and led the Sandburg Center for the Sciences at Carl Sandburg Elementary in Littleton, CO. With an emphasis on hands-on science and engaged use of technology, the program seeks to build passion for STEM learning along with concrete tech skills – with projects ranging from robotics to nature research and writing. Prior to joining Littleton Public Schools, Steven worked for 15 years in corporate IT consulting in the areas of UNIX systems administration, network engineering and security, and software programming and testing. In both business and education settings, Steven has found that a combination of enthusiasm and encouragement is key to building technical competencies. Steve is the 2009 CSIA Top Technology Teacher for Colorado.

### Kay Bolerjack

East Elementary School

Kay is the computer coach and technology instructor for East Elementary. Her job responsibilities include hardware and software upkeep and introducing technology skills to students. When she is not working in the lab instructing students, she can be found on the classroom, helping out both teachers and students. Kay is currently enrolled in a teacher licensure program. Kay was recognized as a Star educator by the Morgridge Family Foundation in 2009 for innovative lessons using digital technology.