



# NREA Update

National Rural  
Education Association

*The Voice of Rural Schools and Communities*



2020 Weekly Newsletter # 3

**112<sup>th</sup> National Rural Conference and Convention: November 4-6, 2020 at the JW Marriott Hotel. More information to follow.**

**Mississippi is our featured state this week for the 50 States in 50 Weeks project!** Each week, the [#IAmARuralTeacher](#) Campaign is featuring a different state and what rural looks like to them. This collaboration between the [National Rural Education Association](#) and [I Am A Rural Teacher](#) demonstrates how vast the rural communities of America really are. Are you a Mississippi rural teacher? We would love to hear from you! Submit your story today at <http://bit.ly/RuralTeachersPerspectives>.

50 STATES IN 50 WEEKS

## MISSISSIPPI


ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
**MAGNOLIA**  
STATE

**20TH**  
STATE TO JOIN  
THE UNION



**48,431**  
MILES SQUARE

MISSISSIPPI HAS  
**130**  
RURAL AND  
SMALL SCHOOLS

**234,375**  
STUDENTS ATTEND  
A MISSISSIPPI  
RURAL SCHOOL



50 STATES IN 50 WEEKS  
IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY



### Colorado Rural Podcast:

**Michelle Murphy of Colorado Rural Schools Alliance and Denille Leplatt of Rural Services at the Colorado Department of Education sit down today with Colorado Governor Jared Polis.** They discuss his general philosophy of "Colorado for All" and specifically the administration's Rural Economic Blueprint.

In addition to efforts improving the lives of all Coloradans and supporting rural communities, Governor Polis is focused on efforts supporting early childhood education. Listen in to learn more about Governor Polis' priorities for rural Colorado and rural education.

[https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-tgpui-d08a50?fbclid=IwAR3ILCn8YVmk--Aa\\_cn2wv\\_pxxJNMpGf7gXWn355e\\_w1PaWLy4XJfyvTriY-.XiewE3SkIDk.facebook](https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-tgpui-d08a50?fbclid=IwAR3ILCn8YVmk--Aa_cn2wv_pxxJNMpGf7gXWn355e_w1PaWLy4XJfyvTriY-.XiewE3SkIDk.facebook)

### **Loss of Branch Banks Reduces Financial Services for Rural, Report Says**

Urban and rural America lost branch banks at a similar rate from 2012 to 2017, according to the Federal Reserve. But the loss could have graver consequences for a larger proportion of rural areas. By [Bryce Oates](#) and [Tim Marema](#)

[https://www.dailyyonder.com/loss-of-branch-banks-reduces-financial-services-for-rural-report-says/2020/01/20/?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=1-22-2020](https://www.dailyyonder.com/loss-of-branch-banks-reduces-financial-services-for-rural-report-says/2020/01/20/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=1-22-2020)

### **International Symposium for Innovation in Rural Education: ISFIRE 2020 Communities and Partnerships: Strengthening Rural Education**

ISFIRE focuses on the obligation of the global education community to influence policy aimed at delivering equitable and socially just outcomes for rural students. ISFIRE offers an international forum for sharing research findings, innovative ideas and evaluated approaches linked to positive, practical action. In our current global context, ISFIRE 2020 offers an opportunity for the rural education community to come together to celebrate the importance of rural education, discuss our common challenges, explore how research informs our rural practice, and share solutions to raise the profile of the teaching profession, support student learning, and recognize school leaders.

<https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/isfire2020/call-for-presentations/>

### **How Federal Policy Can Better Support Today's Rural Students**

[India Heckstall](#)

<https://medium.com/higher-learning-advocates/title-how-federal-policy-can-better-support-todays-rural-students-b31680266e04>

### **Guy-Perkins is 1st public school to fully switch to solar power**

[https://www.thecabin.net/news/guy-perkins-is-st-public-school-to-fully-switch-to/article\\_798d5754-c046-5b35-96fe-a96d32efb783.html](https://www.thecabin.net/news/guy-perkins-is-st-public-school-to-fully-switch-to/article_798d5754-c046-5b35-96fe-a96d32efb783.html)