What to Expect @ Teacher Fairs and the Job Search
Douglas County School District Director of Recruitment, Jack Kronser stated: “‘Do I really have to attend a teacher job fair?’ This question from a new applicant truly startled me. I wanted to reply: "No, unless you really want a job!" As a teacher recruiter for a suburban school district in Colorado, it's hard to imagine a candidate not wanting to attend a Job Fair.”

Even though we now live in a high tech world where job openings are posted electronically 24/7, Job Fairs are still an excellent way for school districts to gain face-to-face time with candidates.

Kronser went on to say: “Teaching occurs in a high-touch environment. Most teachers pursue this career because of the potential to impact students. They crave the interaction with people. The interaction skills necessary to be successful cannot be electronically viewed nor virtually experienced. This can only happen face-to-face. Getting back to the original question: Yes - candidates who really want a job, should attend job fairs.”
Teacher Fair Checklist:

As a soon to be licensed educator, you should take full advantage of attending 1 or 2 Teacher Fairs.

Please click here for some pointers on how to successfully make the most of a Teacher Fair: Teacher Fair Checklist
What You Can Expect:

**Teacher Fairs**

1. Lots of schools/districts are represented, each one at a different table in a large open space. It can sometimes be noisy so plan on speaking a little louder than usual and/or getting closer to the table when visiting with the representatives.

2. Most schools/districts are represented by a Human Resources recruiter or Principal.

3. When visiting with the Principal, bear in mind he/she is directly invested in getting the best hire, so they are valuable interviewers.

4. Most Fairs are entire day events. It is in your best interest to attend the entire duration of the Fair. Later in the day, it typically thins out and you may appear more dedicated to employers.

5. Some schools will have longer lines of candidates just waiting to talk to the representatives (typically the larger districts). Decide if it is worth the wait or if you would rather visit with more schools.

6. Each school will be different on how they handle interviews, however, here are some potential options. They may:
   - ask you to sit with them at their table for a quick 10 minute on the spot interview.
   - ask you to schedule an interview with them for later that day (at their table, or in a separate room).
   - offer you an in-person interview at their school for a different day.
Remember….

1. No matter what, attending a Fair is good practice for you to learn how to network, communicate your value as a professional educator, and gain interviewing skills.

2. What better way to research and get familiar with what school districts are looking for!?

3. It is a great opportunity for you to network with other teacher candidates, but more importantly, school districts and their professional representatives.
Ways to Search For Teaching Positions:

Where should you start looking for openings?

**District Websites** - once you fill out an online application, return to that application every 30 days and refresh it if you are still looking for work within that district. When districts go to their application pool, they generally query that pool for the last 30 days of applications.

**Teacher Fairs** – you are encouraged to attend 1 or 2 of the following [Colorado – Wyoming Teacher Fairs](#).

Represent yourself well in every opportunity you have in schools: residency/student teaching, coursework, shadowing, etc. Networking occurs even before you are searching for your teaching position.

**Network with people you know who work in the School District**

Use another online search database to access postings: [https://k12jobspot.com/](https://k12jobspot.com/)
How are you representing yourself?

What is posted when you plug yourself into:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Google

What about your voicemail recording? Is it professional or inappropriate?

What does your email address say about you!? 
Contact Western’s Career Services for additional assistance with job search strategies

Taylor Hall 302A • 970-943-7056
western.edu/career • mgreen@western.edu