

IT'S WILD OUT THERE



WHO WE ARE



WEST SLOPE YOUTH VOICE MISSION STATEMENT:

Engaging young people in our democracy & advocating for student issues with elected leaders to amplify youth voices.

IMPORTANCE OF VOTING

Oftentimes, youth feel as though their voices are overlooked. However, this is far from the reality. Together, we can build the future we deserve. By registering to vote, researching issues, and casting a ballot, the youth can create lasting change.

Every year, we conduct surveys to determine the priorities of students on the West Slope in order to support them. Our interns host voter registration drives, presentations, and other events to become involved in the community, while constantly making sure that their voices, and the voices of other young people, are heard.

GET INVOLVED

If you're interested in getting involved, please contact our Lead Student Interns at:
wsyv@westerncoloradoalliance.org



STUDENT STATISTICS

YOUTH PRIORITIES

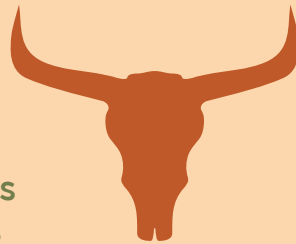
1. Inclusivity and diversity
2. Feeling safe in schools
3. Protecting Colorado's outdoors
4. Affordable healthcare
5. Mental health support
6. Feeling safe in your community
7. Affordable college and/or trade school
8. Access to nutrition and food
9. Comprehensive sex education
10. Access to good jobs in your community

PROS + CONS



PROS:

- Close knit community
- Access to outdoors
- Family and friends

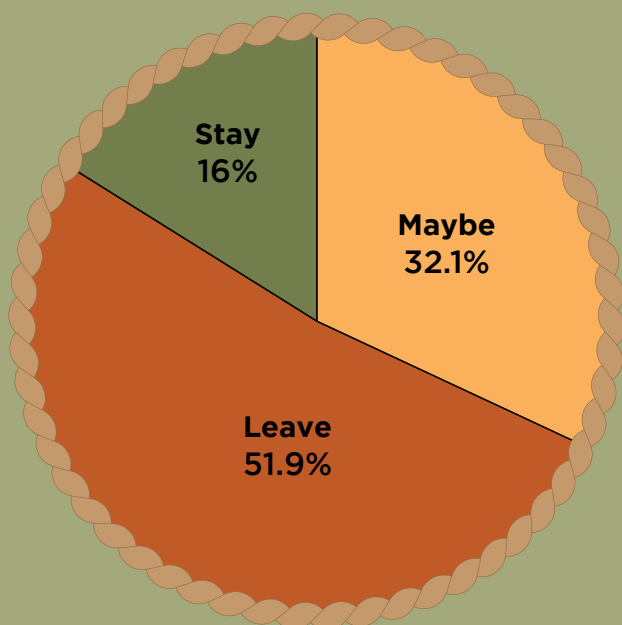


CONS:

- Lack of opportunities
- Narrow mindedness
- Limited mental health resources

FUTURE PLANS

Do you plan to stay on the West Slope?



RECENT CONCERNS



WHO WE ELECT

RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATIONS

Rural Electric Association Board

CITY

City Council Members

COUNTY

County Commissioners
Clerk & Recorder

Treasurer
Sheriff
Surveyor
Coroner
Judges

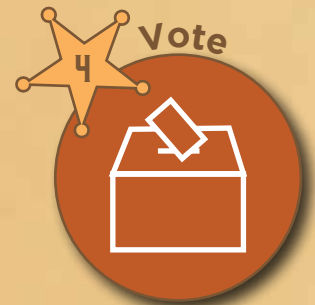
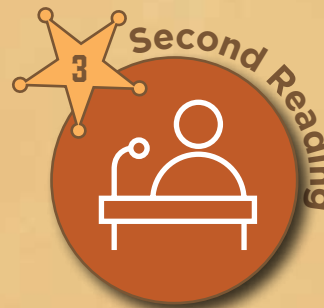
STATE

Governor
State Representative
State Senators
State Attorney General
Secretary of State
State Treasurer

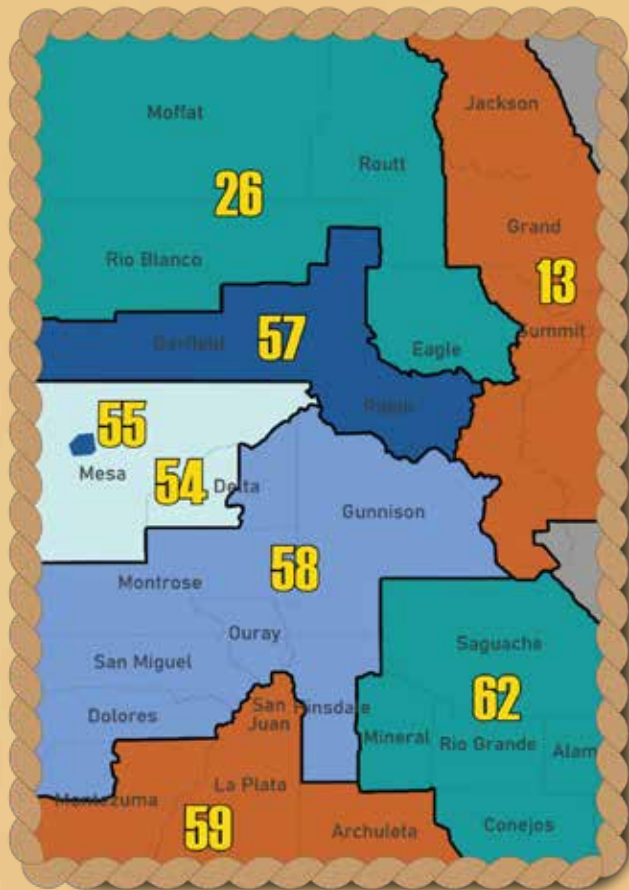
FEDERAL

US Senator
US Representative
President

BILL PROCESS



WEST SLOPE HOUSE DISTRICTS



Julie McCluskie*



Elizabeth Velasco*



Meghan Lukens*



Marc Catlin



Matt Soper



Barbara McLachlan



Rich Taggart



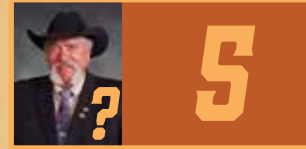
Matthew Martinez*



WEST SLOPE SENATE DISTRICTS



Perry Will



Dylan Roberts



Cleave Simpson*



Janice Rich











* Running for re-election with an opponent



? Open seat







BILLS WE TRACKED



By Priority with Student Summary

	<p>SB34: Increase Access to School-Based Health Care</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>BECAME LAW </p>
<p>Student Reasoning: We have seen health clinics on the West Slope help students. With more funding, more students can receive vital care.</p>	<p>West Slope Representatives YES: Lukens, Martinez, McLachlan, McCluskie, Velasco NO: Catlin, Soper, Taggart</p>	<p>West Slope Senators YES: Roberts NO: Rich, Simpson, Will</p>	
	<p>SB001: Continue Youth Mental Health Services Program</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>BECAME LAW </p>
<p>Student Reasoning: The “I Matter” program assists students in dealing with mental health struggles. We need to continue to fund this program.</p>	<p>West Slope Representatives YES: Catlin, Lukens, Martinez, McLachlan, McCluskie, Taggart, Velasco NO: Soper</p>	<p>West Slope Senators YES: Roberts, Simpson, Will NO: Rich</p>	
	<p>HB1017: Bill of Rights for Foster Youth</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>BECAME LAW </p>
<p>Student Reasoning: Many youth in foster care face difficulties. We believe there needs to be more protections for safety and future success.</p>	<p>West Slope Representatives YES: Lukens, Martinez, McLachlan, McCluskie, Velasco NO: Soper, Taggart Excused: Catlin</p>	<p>West Slope Senators YES: Roberts NO: Rich, Simpson, Will</p>	
	<p>HB1082: First-Generation-Serving Higher Education Institutions</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>BECAME LAW </p>
<p>Student Reasoning: We support students continuing education. Making sure colleges are welcoming of first generations students will really help.</p>	<p>West Slope Representatives YES: Catlin, Lukens, Martinez, McLachlan, McCluskie, Soper, Taggart, Velasco</p>	<p>West Slope Senators YES: Rich, Roberts, Simpson, Will</p>	

 <p>HB1039: Non-Legal Name Changes</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>BECAME LAW</p> 
	<p>Student Reasoning: We believe students should feel comfortable at school. That includes being called by their preferred name.</p>	<p>West Slope Representatives YES: Lukens, McLachlan, Martinez, McCluskie, Velasco NO: Soper, Taggart Excused: Catlin</p>

 <p>HB1049: School Mental Health Professional Loan Repayment Program</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>LOST</p> 
	<p>Student Reasoning: There is a mental health crisis on the West Slope. This bill would have given \$10,000 to become a mental health professional.</p>	<p>DID NOT RECEIVE A VOTE</p>

 <p>HB1070: Allowing Certain Items at School Graduation</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>LOST</p> 
	<p>Student Reasoning: Graduation is a celebration and as long as it is not a distraction, students should be able to wear items to help that celebration.</p>	<p>DID NOT RECEIVE A VOTE</p>

 <p>HB1068: Air Conditioning in Schools & School Buses</p>	<p>Student Stance: FOR</p>	<p>LOST</p> 
	<p>Student Reasoning: As the world gets hotter, our schools and busses need to have air conditioning for student health.</p>	<p>DID NOT RECEIVE A VOTE</p>

THE TRUTH YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Millennials and Gen Z will be the largest share of eligible voters within the decade. **In 2014, they made up 21% of active voters and in 2020, they made up 31%.** We're growing, and our voice is more powerful than ever.

REGISTER TO VOTE!

www.sos.state.co.us

**TAKE OUR
STUDENT SURVEY**



Contact Info

Reach out to wsvy@westerncoloradoalliance.org
Follow us on Instagram! [@westslopeyouthvoice](https://www.instagram.com/westslopeyouthvoice)

