

Bev was born and raised in southern Illinois in a very non-political family. She left Illinois to attend a “small college in the mountains in Colorado” and ended up teaching in Riverton, Wyoming with a career that included everything from teaching art to kindergarteners on the Wind River Reservation, 6th grade Language Arts, middle school computers, high school computers and yearbook adviser, GED classes, junior college credit and non-credit, to a credit class for the University of Wyoming.

During her career, she tried to give her students opportunities to interact outside the classroom. Her 6th graders had their Christmas poems read on the radio, the middle school computer students designed the ads for an edition of a local advertising newspaper and collaborated with the local history museum to create ad campaigns for time travel adventures to events in Riverton’s past with Power Point presentations, brochures displayed at the museum, and web pages. During this time, she earned a Masters in Computers in Education from Leslie University. The computers used were still Apple 2e’s. Her 8th grade computer students worked on a project with schools in Japan and Ukraine to create a joint website. The students met through ICQ chats and See You See Me video conferences. It was all very new and exciting. She also had her students collaborate with the elementary schools by bringing their students to work with 8th graders on multimedia projects and to create their schools’ websites. She was named *Technology & Learning* Wyoming Teacher of the Year with her multimedia lesson plan described in the magazine.

She moved to Thermopolis, WY in 1998 to teach at the high school level and became the yearbook adviser and totally changed the culture of the yearbook. She started self-publishing after one year with a commercial publisher and eventually had the equipment to even make the hard covers in-house. Her students were very proud that every part of their book was created in the yearbook room. Their books won the first All State award in the history of the school and continued to win several more. To help her students look beyond Wyoming, she found money to take them to national conventions, and at one of them her students presented their method of self-publishing. The books won awards at Columbia Student Press Association and she was asked to judge for them. When the Associated Press stopped selling photo CD’s to yearbooks, she worked with Knight, Ridder, Tribune in Chicago to help them develop a service to sell photos to yearbooks and then to help them let advisers know about it. She was named Wyoming Yearbook Adviser of the Year and served as president of the Wyoming Student Press Association. In that position, she brought presenters to the state convention that she had met at the national conventions to help expand the view of all Wyoming students.

Bev retired in 2010 and moved to Denver, CO to be near her daughter. In June of 2011, she attended a meeting at the Adams County Democratic Party office and got involved in the Obama campaign. There she learned how organizing happens and saw the few people making calls at her house develop into a huge network of volunteers with multiple offices in the area. She found it very exciting to finally live in a Blue state and see her candidate win the state.

She met her husband in 2012 and they relocated to Arizona in 2015 to get away from the snow. She hopes to bring her years of thinking outside the box and experience organizing to help eventually turn LD22 blue.