



### **Karen Casner - Colorado**

Based in Denver, CO, Karen Casner is a dedicated and innovative educator with a passion for language acquisition and cultural equity in education. With over a decade of experience in Denver Public Schools, Karen has excelled as a teacher, teacher leader, and curriculum coordinator, specializing in Spanish and French for K-5 students. She has led professional development on racial equity, mentored teachers on best practices, and pioneered initiatives like the Seal of Biliteracy for young learners.

Karen's contributions extend beyond the classroom as an elected board member for CCFLT and an ACTFL appointee, where she has delivered impactful training sessions, published educational resources, and influenced national standards in world language education. Her accolades include the prestigious SWCOLT Excellence in Teaching Award and recognition as an Emerging Leader in the Leadership Initiative for Language Learning.

A graduate of Metro State University with dual majors in Spanish and French, with an endorsement in Culturally Responsive Teaching, Karen combines academic rigor with hands-on expertise to inspire educators and empower students.

<https://youtu.be/MDiEUynti4s?si=Wca06UkLZtjjaEbA>