

June 3, 2016

Dear Friend of Rural Wisconsin:

I am pleased to open nominations for the “2016 Standing Up for Rural Wisconsin Schools, Libraries, and Communities Award.” We are seeking nominations of partnerships between and among schools, libraries, and communities that have resulted in programs or projects which demonstrate the great potential and collaborative spirit of rural Wisconsin.

The “Standing Up for Rural Wisconsin Schools, Libraries, and Communities Award” began in March 2005, when eight schools and communities were recognized for exemplary programs. Since then, ninety-six more programs have been honored. For a description of the previous award winners, please see our website at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/rural/awards>.

This year’s award ceremony will be held in conjunction with the 8th Annual Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WIRSA) Fall Conference on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. The nomination form is enclosed with this letter and can also be downloaded from the above website. Please note the deadline for submission of nominations is Thursday, September 15, 2016. Submit applications to christine.smith@dpi.wi.gov or by mail to: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Attn: Christine Smith, Division for Academic Excellence, P. O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841.

I am humbled by the work that goes on across Wisconsin to help children become active citizens, productive and skilled workers, and leaders in our communities. While resources are limited, there are no limits to the enthusiasm, drive, and energy that characterize rural areas all across Wisconsin.

We hope you nominate a program in your area worthy of recognition and thank you for the great work you do to support the students and citizens of rural Wisconsin.

Sincerely,



Tony Evers, PhD
State Superintendent

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Enclosure