

Agenda

Wednesday, February 16

- 5 - 6:30 pm Registration and reception
- 6:30 - 9 pm Dinner with keynote speaker Michael Corbett
- 9 pm Reception sponsored by WISIP Insurance and its partners—National Insurance Services and Group Health Trust

Thursday, February 17

- 7 - 8 am Continental breakfast
- 8 - 8:30 am What is the Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance? (WiRSA)
- 8:30 - 9:45 Keynote speaker William Draves
- 9:45 - 10 am Break
- 10 - 11 am Sectional presentations
- 11 - 11:15 am Break
- 11:15 - 12:15 pm Sectional presentations
- 12:15—1 pm Lunch
- 1 - 2 pm Keynote speaker Tony Evers, State Superintendent
- 2 pm Conference adjourns



Sectional Topics

1. Yes You Can: One-to-One Computers

Learn about two different options for implementing a one-to-one computer program.

- Stephen Seyfer, Superintendent of Gibraltar Schools
—Ron Welch, Superintendent of Algoma Schools

2. Equalized Access to Rigor

The ACT Testing Corporation will present data from small Wisconsin schools and will discuss how school counselors and parents can help students improve their test scores.

- Chris Mitchell, ACT Consultant

3. A Better Place to Learn

An architect specializing in small schools will present new ideas about how to build and remodel school facilities that focus on flexibility.

- Abie Khatchadourian, Plunkett Raysich Architects

4. Transforming Rural Education in the 21st Century

Author and Futurist William Draves will share ten steps schools can take to transform a 20th century school into a 21st century school.

- William Draves, President of Learn Resources Network

5. The Promise and Challenge of Rural Charter Schools

Charter school in small communities enhance opportunities for students, but is it a zero-sum game when it comes to funding? Hear the perspectives of a superintendent and the DPI.

- Frank Helquist, Superintendent of Birchwood Schools
—Barry Golden, DPI Consultant for Charter Schools

Registration deadline is February 11, 2011

WiRSA Conference Registration Form

Register online at www.cesa6.k12.wi.us or complete this form and send it to the address below by February 11, 2011.

Name _____

Title _____

District _____

Work Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Email Address _____

Note any special accommodations or dietary requirements

Registration Cost:

\$175 for non-WiRSA members

\$95 for a single WiRSA members

WiRSA team rates: 2 for \$150, 3 for \$200, or 4 for \$250

Please check your preferred payment method:

Check made payable to CESA 6

Bill my school district; PO# _____

Credit card payment using information below:

Cardholder Name _____

Cardholder city, state and ZIP code _____

Credit card number _____

Expiration Date _____

3-Digit Security Code _____

Return this registration form to:

Anne Kirk, CESA 6

PO Box 2568

Oshkosh, WI 54903-2568

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Michael Corbett

Dr. Corbett currently serves as a professor at the School of Education at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, Canada following a 19-year career as a public school teacher in Manitoba and Nova Scotia. His research focuses on the dynamic and ambivalent relationship between life in rural communities and the structures and processes of schooling and adult education. Corbett received his early education in Amherst, NS, and holds degrees from Acadia University, Mount Saint Vincent University and the University of British Columbia. His most recent book is titled: *Learning to Leave: The Irony of Schooling in a Coastal Community* (Corbett, 2007).

William Draves

Draves is a futurist and the president of Learning Resources Network, a leading association in lifelong learning with more than 4,000 members in 20 countries. His unique model for 21st century rural schools goes beyond survival to providing a superior and sustainable education in small communities. He has authored several publications including *Nine Shift: Work, Life and Education in the 21st Century*.

Dr. Tony Evers

Dr. Evers will address the financial challenges of small school districts and how his proposed changes to state funding will help financially-strapped rural schools. Evers was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Wisconsin in April 2009. With more than 30 years of public education experience, he has dedicated his life to public education. Born and raised in Plymouth, Wisconsin, Tony graduated from Plymouth High School, and went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1973, a master's degree in 1976 and a doctorate in 1986.



Rural Wisconsin is more than our state's heritage; it's home to almost 44 percent of the state's 860,000 public school students. Rural schools share the same responsibility to the community as their suburban counterparts—to prepare all students for successful future in a globally competitive marketplace.

The Wisconsin Schools Rural Alliance (WiRSA) was formed to help rural school districts address the unique issues that affect rural schools as they seek to achieve the highest quality education for every student. Our members include a cross section of educators, school board members, rural community members, business leaders, and other concerned individuals who want a strong voice for rural schools.

For more information, visit www.wirsa.com

Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center

1100 Imperial Avenue
Rothschild, WI 54474

715-355-6858

www.stoneycreekinn.com

The Stoney Creek Inn is located just minutes from Wausau at the intersection of Highway 39/51 and Business 51 at exit 185.

Wisconsin Rural
School Alliance

Third Annual Conference



The Transformation of
Rural Schools
into the 21st Century

February 16-17, 2011

Stoney Creek Inn
and Conference Center

Rothschild, WI