

How to Register

Name

Position

Organization

Phone (Work)

Email

Special accommodations or dietary needs

Please check one:

- Check is enclosed, made payable to CESA 5
- Bill my School District, PO #
- Credit Card Payment

Cardholder Name

Cardholder Address (include city, state Zip)

Credit Card Type (VISA, MasterCard, etc.)

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date 3 Digit Code on Back of Card

Registration Fees:

WiRSA Members \$95 single
 \$150 team of 2
 \$200 team of 3
 \$250 team of 4

Non-Members \$175

Return registration to:

Jean Kabele, CESA 5
PO Box 564
Portage WI 53901
Contact information: kabelej@cesa5.org

Accommodations

Stoney Creek Inn
1100 Imperial Avenue
Rothschild, WI 54474
(715) 355-6858

\$70 for Standard Guests
1 King or 2 Double

Mention Wisconsin Rural
Schools Alliance
for group rate.



About WiRSA

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 futures 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 or to join please visit our website at www.wirsa.org



Presents

Annual Rural Schools Conference



Collaboration between
Rural School Districts in
Uncertain Times

November 16 - 17, 2011

Stoney Creek Inn
1100 Imperial Avenue
Rothschild, WI 54474
(715) 355-6858

About The Conference

Nearly 75% of Wisconsin districts are considered rural (less than 1,000 enrollment). A majority of these districts are under severe financial pressure occasioned by declining enrollment and dramatic cuts in state funding and tax revenue. One of the primary efforts of the Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) is to provide an annual conference where rural school educators and interested others can come together to network and learn from each other.

The Conference Purpose:

The default solution for struggling districts has been to consolidate with a neighboring district or dissolve and be divided up by contiguous districts. Neither option is attractive and our conference has as its goal to explore other options.

At this year's conference we focus on solutions - specifically, ways to collaborate that can simultaneously keep districts viable and retain a high quality education.

For More Information

Visit: www.wirsa.org



Conference Overview

Wednesday, November 16

4:00 - 6:00 pm
Registration and Opening Reception

6:00 - 7:00 pm
Dinner Buffet

7:00 - 8:30 pm
Keynote Speaker: Leah Lechleiter-Luke
English and Spanish teacher, Mauston High School,
Mauston, WI;
Classroom Fellow, 2011-2012
US Department of Education

8:30 pm
Networking

Thursday, November 17

9:00 - 10:00 am
Keynote Speaker: John White
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Rural Outreach
US Department of Education

10:00 - 10:45 am
Sectionals
1. Phil Daniel, ACT Midwest Consultant
2. Deanna Heiman, Neillsville Chamber of Commerce
3. Brad Saron, Superintendent, Cashton Public Schools

10:45 - 11:00 am
Break

11:00 - 11:45 am
Repeat Sectionals
1. Phil Daniel, ACT Midwest Consultant
2. Deanna Heiman, Neillsville Chamber of Commerce
3. Brad Saron, Superintendent, Cashton Public Schools

12:00 - 1:30 pm
Lunch
Lunch Speaker: Dr. Tony Evers
State Superintendent
Department of Public Instruction

1:30 pm
Adjourn

Featured Speakers

Leah Lechleiter-Luke

English and Spanish teacher, Mauston High School,
Mauston, WI;
Classroom Fellow, 2011-2012
US Department of Education

Ms. Luke has been a rural Wisconsin educator for 20 years and is the 2010 Wisconsin teacher of the year. Now she has been selected by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to participate in the 2011-2012 Teaching Ambassador Fellowship program of the department. This DOE program was created to give outstanding teachers an opportunity to learn about national policy issues in education, and to contribute their expertise to those discussions.



John White

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Rural Outreach
US Department of Education

Mr. White is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Rural Outreach within the Office of Communications and Outreach at the US Department of Education. Amongst other duties, he represents the Secretary of Education on the White House Rural Council.

