

**REGISTRATION**  
**\$90 Members**  
**\$140 Non-Members**

Register online @  
[www.myquickreg.com](http://www.myquickreg.com)  
 for registration assistance, contact  
**Michele McCune, CESA 5**

**Conference Cancellation Policy:**  
 Any conference registration cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the conference scheduled date for a full refund to be issued.

**Lodging Info:**  **Holiday Inn**

1001 Amber Avenue  
 Stevens Point, Wisconsin  
 Reservations: (715) 344-0200  
 Single Room-\$82.00 Double Room- \$109.00  
 Mention **WiRSA Conference** to receive rate.  
 (Deadline for lodging rate is November 1.)

Rural Wisconsin is more than our state's heritage; it's home to almost 44% 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 a successful future in a globally competitive marketplace.

The Wisconsin Rural Schools 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. More than 125 school districts have joined the Alliance.

For more information, contact:  
**Kim Kaukl, WiRSA Executive Director**  
 Phone: (608) 553-0689

**OUR SPONSORS**



*Strong Schools, Strong Communities*



**“Rural Schools on the Move through Innovation and Collaboration”**

**NOVEMBER 11 - 12, 2015**  
 Holiday Inn & Convention Center,  
 Stevens Point, WI  
*(see reservation information inside)*

A conference for administrators, board members, teachers, CESA employees, higher education professionals, public library administrators, elected officials and citizens interested in rural school and community issues.

## November 11 - Day 1

- 8:15 **Conference Registration**
- 9:20 **Welcome**  
Kim Kaukl, WiRSA Executive Director
- 9:30 **Use of Social Networking as a Strong Communication Tool,**  
10:15 Joe Sanfelippo, District Administrator, Fall Creek
- 10:20-11:10 **Key Stakeholders Developing Grass Roots Initiatives-Grass Roots Panel,**  
Heather DuBois, Bourenane, WPEN; Sandy Whisler, CAPE; Bruce Quinton, Superintendent, Pepin; Jeri McGinley, School Funding Reform for Wisconsin
- 11:15-12:45 **Lunch Standing Up for Rural Schools, Libraries and Communities Awards,**  
Dr. Tony Evers, State Superintendent, DPI
- 12:55-1:40 **FFA,**  
Sally Albers, FFA State President and Kevin Keith, National FFA Local Program Success Team Leader
- 1:45-2:30 **Whole Grade Sharing,**  
TBA
- 2:30-2:45 **Break**
- 2:45-3:30 **Reflecting on the 2015-2017 Biannual State Budget,**  
Todd Berry, Wisconsin Taxpayer Alliance and Tom McCarthy, DPI Communications Officer
- 3:35-4:20 **Breakout Session 1: Fab Lab Education for the Future,**  
George Karling and Steve Yahr, Three Lakes  
**The Morgridge Institute Summer Science Camps,**  
Wes Marner, Lab and Outreach Coordinator

- 3:35-4:20 **Breakout Session 1 (cont.): School Fair-School/Community Collaboration,**  
Shari Graffunder, River Valley  
**Teacher Retention,**  
Barb Herzog and Penny Buckley, UW-Oshkosh Center for Additional Teacher Licensing  
*Other Panel Members TBA*

- 4:30-5:30 **Reception**

- 5:30 **Dinner**

- 6:15 **Jim DeBroux,**  
Retired High School Principal, Mosinee

## November 12 - Day 2

- 7:30 **Breakfast**

- 8:00-8:45 **Teyanna Loether,**  
Alice in Dairyland

- 9:15-10:00 **Breakout Session 2: Building Strong Partnerships in Technology Education,**  
Bob Morehead, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser  
**Learning from this Year's WiRSA Exit Interview Program**  
Dave Hammelman, Hammelman Resources and Rick Waski, Adams Friendship  
**Rural School Collaborating Through Summer School,**  
Brandon Robinson, Kara Holden, Zack Fugate, Unity; and Renee Gavinski, Luck  
**Healthy Lifestyles-Engaging Students, Staff and Community,**  
Patricia Vickman, Southern Door; Nick Cochart, Algoma; Tony Klaubauf, Denmark, with Kevin Clougherty and Cindy Van Asten, M3 Insurance

- 9:35-9:50 **Break**

- 9:50-10:35 **Breakout Session 3: 2020 Vision Community and Agency Reciprocal Partnerships,**  
Christine Weymouth, Mauston  
**Fine Arts in Rural Schools,**  
Matt Snow and Rebecca Schinker, River Valley  
**Building Utilization, NWTC and Florence Partnership,**  
Ben Niehaus, Florence  
**WEA Members Benefits,**  
Sharon Schmidt, Worksite Benefits Consultant

- 10:40-11:25 **Breakout Session 4: Sharing Spanish via Technology for Elementary Students,**  
John Eyerly, Westfield and Louie Ferguson, Arcadia  
**Leadership Forgiveness,**  
Doug Kryder, Crandon  
**PLCs, A Dynamic Change to Our Small School Setting,**  
Owen-Withee High School PLC Leadership Team  
**Future Ready Districts with Trusting Partnerships,**  
Josh Robinson, Frederic

- 11:30-12:45 **Lunch WiRSA Annual Awards-NREA Update,**  
John Hill, NREA Executive Director

- 12:50-1:35 **Teach 2.0 and other Technology Initiatives,**  
Kurt Kiefer, DPI Assistant Superintendent for Division of Libraries and Technology, with Matt Yeakey and Terry Birk, DOA TEACH Administrators for the Division of Enterprise and Technology

- 1:40-2:10 **WiRSA Annual Meeting/Conference Adjourns**

- 2:30-3:30 **WiRSA Board of Directors Meeting**