



--YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR --
Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association

STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

NRCSA is active in representing rural public schools in the Unicameral. The Executive Director is the main spokesperson for NRCSA, but is also represented by the lobbying firm of Nowka and Edwards. NRCSA's Legislative Committee includes 20 Superintendents/ESU Administrators and 6 Board of Education members from member schools/ESUs. Former NRCSA Presidents serve as ex officio members.

PLANNING WORKSHOPS

The NRCSA Planning Support Service is an elective service that assists districts in planning and goal-setting. The service is conducted by veteran Superintendents whose professional lives were involved in rural education in Nebraska.

COMMUNICATIONS

NRCSA provides regular updates from the Executive Director to member schools. A more in-depth update is provided to all members just prior to monthly Board of Education meetings. The NRCSA webpage is www.nrca.net. NRCSA also has a social media presence on Twitter (@NRCSA1980) and on Facebook (www.facebook.com/nrcsahome).

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

NRCSA recently partnered with a-plum creative to provide an opportunity for rural districts to provide monthly digital citizenship materials to their students, parents, and staff. This is a purchased service.

NRCSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The 10-member Executive Board provides leadership and direction for the organization. Each of the six NRCSA districts is represented by at least one Superintendent from a district within the district.

NEBRASKANS UNITED

NRCSA is a strong member of this group which includes most education and ag-related organizations in the State. The purpose is to work to provide property tax relief, as well as to protect and promote funding to public education.

EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS COALITION

NRCSA is an active member of this group that is comprised of all of the major education associations in the state. The purpose of the group is to work together on legislative issues facing public education.

RURAL ADVOCACY

NRCSA is the only organization that speaks solely on behalf of public rural schools in the State of Nebraska. Other groups do a great job of representing their members, but at times cannot take a stand as they represent both very large and smaller districts. NRCSA is not necessarily tied down along those lines.

NATIONAL ADVOCACY

NRCSA is a member of the National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium (NREAC), which represents the interests of rural public schools in national forums where education issues are decided.

SPRING CONFERENCE

NRCSA offers an annual conference in Kearney in March. The conference targets issues and interests of rural schools. An opportunity is created to network with other rural school districts and to interact directly with policymakers and NRCSA leaders.

US BANK ONE CARD PROGRAM

NRCSA has partnered with US Bank to provide this unique purchase card program for school districts. Individual school districts decide which staff members receive purchase cards. The district has control over where purchases can be made and for what amounts. This can be especially helpful when sending sponsors out with student groups.

NRCSA SCHOLARSHIPS

NRCSA annually awards 23 \$2,000 scholarships to high school seniors from NRCSA-member schools who are entering college with the goal of becoming school teachers. NRCSA also presents two \$2,000 Gary Fisher Scholarships to high school seniors going into the fine arts.

NEW LEAF TELETHERAPY

Beginning with the 2023-24 school year, NRCSA has partnered with New Leaf to provide another tool in helping to provide cost effective Mental Health teletherapy services for their staff and students.

NATIONAL RURAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NNRCSA is a strong member of the NREA. The NREA provides leadership on issues facing rural education on the national level.

SUPERINTENDENT / PRINCIPAL SEARCHES

NRCSA's Superintendent and Principal Search Services are conducted by veteran Superintendents whose professional lives were involved in rural education in Nebraska. The service is available to all Nebraska school districts, with member districts paying a lower rate than non-member districts. A professional cost effective proposal and fee structure is available upon request.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Each fall NRCSA conducts a meeting in each of the six membership districts. These meetings provide an opportunity for rural schools to connect with NRCSA leadership on a face-to-face basis.

TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS

NRCSA provides six \$1,000 scholarship to employees of member districts/ESUs who are working to attain teacher certification either through a recognized "para to teacher" program such as offered by the state colleges or a transitional program such as offered by UNK.

NRCSA AWARDS

NRCSA annually recognizes individuals who are outstanding at serving member districts. At the Spring Conference each year NRCSA recognizes an Outstanding Elementary Teacher, Secondary Teacher, Classified Staff Member, ESU Staff Member, Music Teacher, Principal, Board of Education Member, and Superintendent/ESU Administrator.

EXCESS EQUIPMENT CLEARINGHOUSE

A free service to member districts and ESUs is the opportunity to post items for sale to all other members. Items such as vehicles, scoreboards, weight equipment, school furniture, and text books have been posted on behalf of members.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Each year there are over 70 leadership positions on the Executive Committee or other NRCSA committees that provide opportunities for member Superintendents/ESU Administrators.

RURAL TEACHER SHORTAGE

NRCSA has started a Rural Teacher Committee that was established to find ways to address the shortage of teachers in rural schools. Twelve member Superintendents work with representatives from Chadron State College, Wayne State College, and Peru State College in this work.

"QUALITY RURAL SCHOOLS"

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