



## Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) 2014 Rural Administrator of the Year Award Winner

**Scott Foster** | [Land O' Lakes](#)



Scott Foster, Land O' Lakes Elementary  
Principal, SOAR Charter School Administrator,  
District Technology Coordinator and Educator  
Effectiveness Trainer in the Northland Pines  
School District was honored by the Wisconsin  
Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA), a non-profit

organization that is dedicated to helping address challenges faced by rural school districts, at the annual Rural Schools Conference on Nov. 13, 2014.

As an elementary principal, Mr. Foster's school was twice selected as a "School of Recognition" through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. He has worked diligently with his staff dissecting student data, best practices, differentiated instruction and developing school business community partnerships. He has created a very positive culture and is well respected by students, staff, parents and community.

Scott spearheaded the implementation of the first charter school in the Northland Pines School District leading the committee, site visits and the writing of the successful planning grant for SOAR (School of Options & Applied Research) Charter School. He has been instrumental in assisting the district in the passing of three operational referenda in order to maintain existing programs. As Technology Director, Scott is constantly moving the district forward. During the 2013-14 school year, Scott implemented a 1:1 Chromebook



initiative where every high school student received a Chromebook and in 2014-15 school year this 1:1 initiative will expand to the middle school. Another aspect of Scott's technology vision has been to provide free technology classes for community members in the use of iPads, laptops, smartphones.

Many parts of the Northland Pines School District have limited or no high speed Internet access. Mr. Foster works with the Vilas County Economic Development Corporation Board to bring increased bandwidth and Internet access to residents of Vilas County.

Along with the many hats he already wears, Scott has added one more duty to his plate this year as he coaches all district staff for Educator Effectiveness. Scott has quickly become an expert in this field.

The Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance 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. Members include a cross-section of administrators, educators, school board members, post-secondary representatives, rural community members, business leaders, and other concerned individuals who want a strong voice for rural education.