



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

Randy Bergman | [Prentice School District](#)



Randy Bergman 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.

Since his start in the Prentice School District as Elementary Principal in 2008, shrinking budgets have necessitated cost saving measures. In the year the Prentice High School Principal retired, Mr. Bergman assumed the PK-12 principalship alongside the many other responsibilities he acquired on the way; among them, but not limited to, are Food Service Coordinator, Title I Coordinator, SAGE Coordinator, Grant Writer, Summer School Director, Basketball Coach, and sometimes student activities van driver.

Mr. Bergman has led many initiatives to transform education over the years including the Reading First federal grant for \$1,000,000, a system that changed the way reading was taught in the school district known as cafe centers, guided study groups and the Daily Five which eventually expanded into the middle school. Superintendent Bergman has distinguished himself as an outstanding educator/administrator, influencing an entire K-12 system to reach high academic achievement across all major disciplines consistently over multiple years being awarded with the Schools Of Recognition 5 times since its inception



in 2003 and has been identified as a Reading First model school. Mr. Bergman is guided by the philosophy that when reading is high, everything is good. Mr. Bergman's speech and actions convey a true love of education and the children he serves, a true servant heart of leadership, an admiration for the Prentice staff, and both the expectation and the support for all to achieve high standards.

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.