



## Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) 2014 Rural Support Staff Person of the Year Winner

**Pam Kumm** | [Pittsville School District Secretary](#)



Pam Kumm, Pittsville School District Secretary, 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.

Ms. Kumm is extremely dedicated to education, and always keeps the needs of the students in the Pittsville School District in the forefront of her actions. Along with her duties as high school secretary, she serves as secretary for the guidance and athletic departments. She keeps track of the school's attendance, serves as the nurse, is a mentor to students who need advice and direction, and, is the volunteer snowboard/ski club advisor. In a small school, everyone must serve in many capacities and Pam does so in a positive and proficient manner.

Ms. Kumm is an expert in the Skyward Student Management System providing valuable training and troubleshooting to users in the district. She performs all of the secretarial duties expected in a high school office, as well as mending the wounded and encouraging those students who may be having a bad day. Students know they can come to Pam to be in a safe, encouraging atmosphere. When security systems were installed the schools, Pam became the



first line of defense by greeting and filtering those who now must ring the bell to gain entry to the school.

Pam's interaction with students is almost magical, but she is not a push-over. If a student shows poor manners in her presence, she corrects the student's behavior in a firm yet kind manner. She is also the principal's eyes and ears in terms of understanding the "climate" of the school which is important in decision making for the school. Pam is truly an indispensable staff member in the Pittsville School District and a great asset to the community.

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.