Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA)
2015 Rural Support Staff Member Award Winner

Jim Booth | Bruce School District

Jim Booth, Support Staff Member, Bruce 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. 12, 2015.

Jim Booth is in a class of his own, head and shoulders above others. He has expert knowledge of systems and best practices that keep our buildings running efficiently. Jim is respected by all – students, staff, administration, school board, and the community.

The custodial staff reflects his passion, professionalism, and work ethic. They take pride in our school, which is evidenced in their hard work and attention to detail. Students as a Student Council leadership day were to list strengths of their school. One of the strengths they listed was the high quality of our custodial staff and how well our school is maintained. Often visitors comment about the great condition of our school, the cleanliness and upgrades in an older building.

This summer we had a company representative come in to meet with Jim and his superintendent. There were lengthy conversations about certain systems in our school that got quite in depth. The rep as very engaged and the superintendent looked at him and said, “No, you can’t hire him!”

There are other instances that could be mentioned, because they are many. The best, though, is a summary that his knowledge and expertise, his ability to work with others and his focus that all we do here at school is for the students is affirmed by the respect he has from our community and surrounding schools.

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.