



Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WIRSA) 2019 Rural Board of Education Award

Jill Gaskell | [Pecatonica School District](#)



There are three main things Jill has done as a board member to impact Pecatonica school district in the most positive way:

1. Jill is an advocate for curriculum improvements for all children through the adoption of a high quality and engaging curriculum and hiring of outstanding teachers. She continually advocates for teacher professional development, coursework reimbursement, and gifted and talented curriculum development to positively impact the academic experience for all students.

2. Jill is relentless in her advocacy for rural schools, she is

on the Board of the Wisconsin Public Schools Education Network (WPEN). She is also a member of the CESA 3 Board of Control. In her leadership roles, Jill continually advocates for and places Wisconsin's rural public schools and rural students at the forefront of all her decisions.

3. Jill believes that the community is at the top of rural school success. She organizes community dinners about once a month at a public meeting space in the village where people can bring potluck dishes, beverages, or nothing at all – with the intention that they will engage with each other civically, connect with neighbors, and make new friends. Jill's, involvement in the PTA, has brought different experiences to the Pecatonica students.

Above all else, Jill Gaskell is a wonderful person who loves children. She could simply have retired; Instead, she has been busier than ever serving the Pecatonica Area School District proudly as a School Board Clerk and serving rural public schools through her involvement with the CESA Board of Control and the WPEN Board, and her community through the organization of communal gatherings. She is a role model for all the adults in in our community.

Jill was nominated by Pecatonica District Administrator Jill Underly.