

# Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance (WiRSA) Teacher Education Scholarship Winners 2019-2020

## Region 1: Madeline Buechel | [Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah High School](#)



My name is Madeline Buechel and I am graduating from Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah High School. I have had the opportunity to grow up in a rural community where I have been able to develop many lasting relationships of support with neighbors, teachers, and community members! Throughout high school, I have been active in Family, Career, and Community Leader of America, Student Council, National Honor Society, Poetry Out Loud, volleyball, The American Red Cross, Lakeland Mathematics Meet and the English Academic Team. I plan on attending a Lakeland University and receive a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, as well as become certified in Special Education. I want to be an inspiring teacher to students to help them realize their dreams are achievable.

## Region 2: Gracey Mlsna | [Cashton High School](#)



Gracey will be attending UW- La Crosse to major in elementary education.

## Region 3: Kaitlyn Webster | [Gilman High School](#)



My name is Kaitlyn Webster, and I am from Gilman, Wisconsin. This fall I will be attending the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to major in Agricultural Education and minor in Animal Science and Spanish. My passion for agriculture started at a young age as my parents raised my sister and I on our family owned dairy farm on the outskirts of our small town. Throughout high school I was involved in multiple clubs including NHS, FFA, Student Council and Band. I also played Varsity Softball and competed in the NASP Pirate Archery Club. Although at the time I felt stuck in a tiny town with nothing to offer, as I graduate from GHS and look into the future, I see the huge impact that the community has made on my life. I have been blessed to grow up in a town of a whopping 410 people, and I hope every person will have the chance to live in a rural town and cherish those lifelong memories that are easily made there.

**Region 4:** Kyli Blume | [Marathon High School](#)



My name is Kyli Blume and I am a senior at Marathon High School. Growing up in a rural community with my six siblings has been a tremendous blessing for countless reasons. The interdependence of such a community has been truly beneficial throughout my life. It has allowed me to be involved in many different things such as volleyball, basketball, and track. I have also been an active member in various clubs, serving as the president for both Future Business Leaders of America and National Honor Society during my senior year. I also have been a class officer for all four years of high school. Next year, I plan to further my education at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. I will be pursuing a degree in secondary education. Through being a religious education teacher, helping out the special education program at my school, and being involved in teacher aiding, I have been able to solidify my love for helping others. I only hope that one day I can use my career path to give back to the rural community that helped me become who I am today.

**At Large Region 2:** Sophia Sander | [Cuba City High School](#)



My name is Sophia Sander. I grew up in a small town in Wisconsin called Cuba City. I am very active in community service and helping others. Growing up in a close-knit community taught me to stand up for others and to always cheer for the underdog. I am the President of our school's LEO Club and NHS chapter as well as being Vice President of our Chemistry Club. I served three years as my class President and Student Council President. I also am a three-sport athlete, participating in volleyball, basketball, and track and field. I will be attending the University of Wisconsin Platteville to pursue an Elementary Education major with a Spanish minor.

**At Large Region 4:** Evelyn Sanda | [Drummond High School](#)



My name is Evelyn Sanda and I will soon be a graduate from Drummond High School. This fall, I plan to further my education at the University of Wisconsin-Superior and major in Elementary Education. Growing up in a rural community has provided me with many personal values that I will keep with me as I enter this next chapter of my life. Throughout my high school career, I have played a very active role in extracurriculars, leadership councils, and community service events. I am eager to begin my career and make a positive impact on my community!