



RURAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY AWARD

The purpose of the *Rural Education Advocacy Award* is to recognize outstanding leadership in legislative advocacy efforts on behalf of rural and small school districts consistent with the education policies supported by the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

PARSS member districts are eligible to nominate one individual (a school board director, educator, school administrator, community member, business owner, etc.) per year for the award. Awardees will be selected based on the description and evidence provided in the nomination form that shows how the individual is working to affect educational policy and legislation through effective advocacy for rural school districts at the local, state and/or national level. Examples include: keeping the local school board updated on legislative issues; initiating the adoption of resolutions and letters; networking with legislators and other state policymakers through letters, phone calls, and visits to create awareness about rural education concerns; educating others about the issues affecting rural school districts; encouraging others to become advocates for public education; collaborating with the media to garner positive attention for Pennsylvania's rural and small schools.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS:

Applications are due no later than February 15. The Recognition Committee will review all applications and make a recommendation to the PARSS Board of Directors at their February meeting.

RECOGNITION OF THE RURAL EDUCATION ADVOCACY AWARD RECIPIENT:

The *Rural Educator Advocacy Award* recipient will be recognized at the annual PARSS conference in April. The individual will receive a certificate and a Barnes and Noble gift card. The recipient's name will also be added to a traveling plaque to be displayed in their local school district for one year.

Guidelines Established September 2017