

# 107<sup>th</sup> NREA Convention

## Conference Pre-Session and Committee Meetings

Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Time	Meeting – Location
9:30AM	Executive Committee – STERLING 1
10:30AM	Legislative Committee (NREAC) -STERLING 2 Research Committee – STERLING 3
12:00 PM	Committee Meeting Lunch –STERLING 4
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM	Teacher of the Year Selection Committee- STERLING 4 Partners Committee – STERLING 3 Nominations and Elections Committee – STERLING 5
1:30 to 5:00 PM	Editorial Advisory Committee – STERLING 7 (Research Committee will join this committee at 4:00 PM)
2:45 – 3:45 PM	Awards and Recognition Committee – STERLING 2 Ways and Means Committee – STERLING 1 Committee for Diversity – STERLING 8 Technology/Telecommunications Committee – STERLING 3
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Convention Advisory/Site Committee – STERLING 4 Membership Committee – STERLING 1 Procedures, Bylaws Committee – STERLING 5 Teacher Activity - STERLING 3
6:00 PM	Hotel Reception for Attendees – GATEWAY EAST

Time	Meeting -Location
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	<b>STEM Academy: Connect the Dots</b> The academy will be led by Discovery Education experts with extensive experience partnering with rural districts and schools to transform teaching and learning and create a culture of STEM. REGENCY A

Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
8:00 AM – 9:20 AM

<b>Location</b> REGENCY ABC FOYER	<b>Event</b> CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (7:30 TO 8:00 AM)
REGENCY C/D	<p>Call to Order.....Gerald Thorne, Past President          Invocation.....Al Eads, Past President          Welcome to St. Louis          Recognition of NREA Partners....Gerald Thorne, Past President          Salute Our Country.....ROTC Color Guard, Southern          Illinois University, Edwardsville          Musical Entertainment.....          Recognition of First Time Attendees.....Sandra Watkins,          President</p>
REGENCY C/D	<p>Introduction of Speaker.....Sandra Watkins,          President</p> <div data-bbox="889 1236 990 1386" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Hall Davidson, Discovery Education Senior Director of Global Learning Initiatives</b> — During Hall Davidson's expansive career, he has worked with a variety of educational entities, from think tanks in Turkey to school systems in Tennessee, and has collaborated with thought leaders at all levels, including teachers, superintendents, school board members, and departments of education. A former K-12 bilingual math teacher and college faculty member, he left the classroom to become part of an Emmy-winning public television team that created math and technology integration programs. For forty years, he has been an educational innovator in important waves of change, first in broadcasting, then computers, and now digital learning. His talks blend humor, deep insight, and data from both education and industry and illustrate the big picture with real-world examples. He has worked with transformational industry groups, education ministries, and with thousands of students through guidance of the nation's oldest student media festival. Across four decades of work with education, he identifies right now as the most transformative and important time</p>

	<i>for teaching and learning.</i>
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Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (Sessions A)  
9:30 – 10:30 AM

Location and Session Number	Presentation
Room: REGENCY A	
A-1	<b>Schaefer –</b> Welcome to the Research Symposium
A-2	<b>Schaefer, Watkins, Williams, Gephardt, Harmon -</b> <i>The i3 Program: Presenting an Opportunity to Link Research, Practice, and Policy-making in Rural Education (</i> The field of education needs more rigorous research focused on rural

	<p>children and youth. The i3 Program has funded research aimed at improving the educational attainment-related outcomes of rural children and youth. i3 researchers focusing on rural education have promising practices that need to be shared broadly to practitioners and policymakers; you'll hear updates on 2 i3 grantee research efforts in different areas and with diverse populations. Policymakers need to meet the educational needs of rural children and youth, acknowledging the unique demands of conducting research in rural settings and guiding policies in support of research. i3 provides an opportunity for setting policies based on proven research that is related to the needs of rural schools and communities. Finally, practitioner voices should be a part of the dialogue on what gets researched and how the findings are shared. Come listen to this exciting panel share perspectives on how to blend research, policy, and practice in rural education.)</p>
<p>Room: REGENCY B</p> <p>A-3</p> <p>A-4</p> <p>A-5</p>	<p><b>Maxwell, Spring -</b>  <i>The Challenges and Resilience of School leaders: A Comparative Study of Rural Principals from Texas, USA and Ontario, Canada</i> ( This study investigates the rural social justice challenges faced by school leaders in two different rural areas of North America: from Texas, USA, and Ontario, Canada contexts.)</p> <p><b>Storie -</b>  <i>School and community conditions that contribute to student achievement in rural schools</i> (This presentation will share the results of a qualitative study that investigated reasons why students in rural schools do as well or better than students in urban and suburban settings.)</p> <p><b>Tine -</b>  <i>Rural versus Urban Poverty: Differences in Cognition and Academic Achievement</i> (This study uncovered that students from rural versus urban poverty exhibit different cognitive and academic abilities. Implications are considered and discussed.)</p>
Room; REGENCY E	<p><b>Biling, Brown ,Goar, Reeves -</b>  <i>Closing the Achievement Gap in Rural Districts Part 1</i>  The Central Regional Education Laboratory worked with the state of Colorado to identify rural districts that have closed the achievement gap between students who qualify for free/reduced lunch and those who do not. The presentation will include measures of gap-closure and practices and policies of those who sustained gap-closure for six years. Please note that this is one of two related workshops.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Seward</b>  <i>Total School Cluster Grouping: Helping Rural Elementary Schools Work Smarter, Not Harder</i>  Total School Cluster Grouping--a research-based application of cluster grouping combined with differentiation--focuses on meeting needs of gifted students while also improving teaching, learning, and achievement of all students.</p> <p><b>Paul</b>  <i>Connecting Gifted Rural Students and Their Teachers to Talent Development Opportunities Online</i>  This session will explore the use of free, online resources to extend learning opportunities for gifted students and to support professional development for the teachers who work with them.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>DeFeo</b>  <i>Let's Create' School – Research Partnerships</i>  In this workshop, we will discuss why schools are the critical link to increasing rural representation in national research. We will</p>


	<p>illustrate what a school-research partnership could look like and garner feedback on schools' concerns and researchers' expectations to ensure these partnerships are mutually beneficial. Our talk will include suggestions for what schools should ask and know prior to embarking on a partnership opportunity and how to find opportunities and get involved.</p> <p><b>Hellman, Wallace, For</b>  <i>Strategic Community partnerships</i></p> <p>This presentation will demonstrate how to form and enhance relationships among community stakeholders within the school facility and utilize collaborative partnerships to maximize resources and accomplish defined objectives.</p>
Room: STERLING 6	<p><b>Hart, Rice</b>  <i>Communicating Common Core to your Community</i>  <i>Get practical advice on communicating CCSS and how it truly impacts student learning and assessment. Learn where to find reliable resources and handle misinformation, including social media and crisis strategies.</i></p> <p><b>Corsello, Savell</b>  <i>Building Assets Reducing Risks (BARR): Lessons Learned from Implementation in Rural Schools</i></p> <p>Can building positive relationships among teachers, and between teachers and students, impact academic achievement as measured by credits earned and standardized test scores? The emerging answer for BARR is "yes"!</p>
Room: STERLING 9	

Friday, October 16th, 2015 (Sessions B)  
10:40 – 11:40 AM

Location and Session Number	Presentation
<b>Room: REGENCY A</b>  B-1     B-2     B-3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Davis -</b></p> <p>College Pathways for Rural Indiana High School Graduates ( This study examined academic preparation, presumptive college eligibility, college enrollment patterns, and distance traveled to attend college among Indiana's 2010 high school graduates using descriptive and geographic data representations)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>McHenry -</b></p> <p>Post-secondary Career Aspirations and Expectations of Four Females in a Rural Setting ( The post-secondary career aspirations and expectations of four generations of females from one rural school and community were explored through the lenses of school, community, and family values)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miller-</b></p> <p>The Unfortunate Sustainability of "Wicked Problems" in Place-Based Curricula ( We present findings from interviews and document analyses of a high school teacher's 4-year project devoted to increasing a rural community's awareness of a defunct river levee system.)</p>
<b>Room: REGENCY B</b> B-4          B-5          B-6	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Breshears, Hutchinson -</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>AN EXPLORATION OF A RURAL ARKANSAS K-12 EDUCATIONAL LEADER'S AND COMMUNITY'S SOCIAL MEDIA USE (</i></p> <p>This qualitative study asked students, parents, and faculty/staff members to share perspectives regarding their principal's professional social media use. Additionally, participants reported on their own technology and social media usage.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lotspeich,M -</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Adherence to themes in rural local education agency reorganization research: a meta-analysis review (An interdisciplinary lens was used to statistically evaluate completed perceptions survey research on rural LEA reorganization through quantitative data collection from case study dissertations using five independent coders.)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ulferts, Wolff-</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>AN EVALUATION OF STAFF RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IN THE SMALLEST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN ILLINOIS: What are the Implications (A study was conducted of the smallest school districts in Illinois to determine which recruitment and retention factors influenced teachers the most to accept and remain teaching in their assignments.)</i></p>
<b>Room; REGENCY E</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Billing, Brown, Habben, Malcom</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Closing the Achievement Gap in Rural Districts Part 2</i></p> <p>The Central Regional Education Laboratory worked with the</p>

	<p>state of Nebraska to identify rural districts that have closed the achievement gap between students who qualify for free/reduced lunch and those who do not. The presentation will include measures of gap-closure and practices and policies of those who sustained gap-closure for four years.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Gebhardt, Minor, Montemayor Schaefer</b>  <i>Never Too Early or Too Late for Parent Engagement</i>  i3 project directors share insights into their work with parents of learners of all ages: from pre-Kindergarteners to high schoolers.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>Fuemmeler</b>  <i>Using Technology To Organize and Automate Daily Administrative Office Functions</i>  IMS will demonstrate how the use of technology in document search &amp; retrieval can reduce labor costs, space consumed by file cabinets and the headache of dealing with students records, board minutes and personnel files</p> <p><b>Coach-Johnson</b>  <i>Record Keeping &amp; Documentation</i>  Rural districts can many times find themselves wading through the weeds when it comes to personnel records. This session will outline the top strategies to consider when it comes to employee record keeping and documentation, including new hire paperwork, employee evaluations, discipline reports, background checks and payroll records, among others. With a small staff learn new ways to keep on top of your HR records.</p>
Room: STERLING 6	<p><b>Bagley</b>  <i>Supporting Staff in a 1:1 iPad School</i>  Any change in teaching requires that we support staff to embrace new techniques. Let's cover one model of how Eastern Howard Schools supports staff in a 1:1 school transition.</p> <p><b>Berg</b>  <i>The Importance of Modeling and Co-Teaching In Technology Adoption</i>  A full time technology coach explains his role and gives concrete examples of the importance of modeling and co-teaching practices in effective teacher buy-in and technology adoption.</p>
Room: STERLING 9	<p><b>Harmon, Savell, Friedrich</b>  <i>Rural School Innovations: Helping Students be Successful in High School and Beyond</i>  Three USED i3 projects will share insights and lessons learned about supporting students' transitions into high school, preparing them for college-level writing, and sharing responsibility for students' success in math.</p>

Friday, October 16, 2015  
11:40 – 2:00 PM

Time and Location	Event
11:40 AM Room: REGENCY C/D	Visit Exhibits
12:45 PM Room: REGENCY C/D	<p>General Session – NREA Awards Program</p> <p>Opening Comments.....Scott Turney, President Elect</p> <p>Introductions ..... Scott Turney, President Elect</p> <p>Edward W. Chance Best Dissertation Award ..Jody Isernhagen</p> <p>John Ulferts</p> <p>Howard A. Dawson Best Research Paper.....Victoria Schaefer</p> <p>Winner</p> <p>Lunch</p> <p>Introduction of Marcia Gentry....Scott Turney President Elect</p>  <p><b><u>Door Prizes</u></b></p>
	Please visit our Exhibitors



Friday, October 16, 2015 (Sessions C)  
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location and Session Number	Presentation
Room: REGENCY A	
C-1	<p><b>Genareo –</b>  <i>What happens to traditional policies and practices? The oil boom's effect on rural schools, teachers, and students</i> ( This presentation offers findings resulting from ethnographic research in two rural schools experiencing dramatic population growth. From new student demographics to overcrowded classrooms, adjustments were needed at nearly every level.)</p>
C-2	<p><b>Gerverdt –</b>  <i>Digital Divides and Funding Flexibility: Consequences of Rural Classifications Used for Federal Education Programs</i> ( This investigation compared the geographic criteria used by federal education programs (REAP, E-RATE, and NCES locales) and assessed how different criteria affected the classification of rural schools.)</p>
C-3	<p><b>Gilles –</b>  <i>Local Interpretations of Teacher Evaluation Policy</i> (This session presents findings from a study that explored how rural educators interpreted teacher evaluation mandates, navigating the complex policy environment that surrounds this newest chapter in the accountability movement.)</p>
Room: REGENCY B	
C-4	<p><b>Amys, Downey, Schmitt-Wilson, Versland, Will-Dubyak -</b>  <i>Definitions of Success: The Influence of a Rural Background on the Next Generation of K-12 Teachers</i> ( This research examines the perspectives of pre and in-service teachers raised in rural settings to identify their definitions and explanations of success for future generations of rural students.)</p>
C-5	<p><b>MHenry-Sorber, Moffa -</b>  <i>Learning to Be Rural: Lessons about Being Rural in Teacher Education Programs</i> ( This presentation shares perspectives on teacher preparation from teachers raised in rural areas. The results stress engaging pre-service teachers in rural-specific challenges and the realities of economically distressed communities. )</p>
C-6	<p><b>Maxwell, McNair, Gutierrez, Mosqueda</b>  <i>Premont ISD: A Study of School Improvement Grounded in Improving Teacher Self Efficacy</i>  This study shares mid-project results of a partnership between Premont ISD and Texas A &amp; M University - Kingsville including a Texas Education Agency Educator Excellence grant effort to improve teacher self-efficacy and student</p>

	achievement.
Room; REGENCY E	<p><b>Brenner, Franz</b>  <i>Preparing Teachers for Rural Places: An Open Discussion about the Role of Teacher Education for Teachers for Rural Schools</i>  In this ignite session, teacher educators will lead a discussion about what it means to prepare new teachers for rural places and the ways that a place-based focus on rural schools and communities might support teachers who graduate from our programs and teach in rural districts.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Cox, Lambarth</b>  <i>Yoncalla Early Works: A prenatal-through-3rd grade (P-3) initiative promoting school readiness and success in rural Oregon</i>  Learn about Yoncalla Early Works, a school-based, community-led, data-driven initiative in rural Oregon, promoting school readiness and success through aligned birth-to-8 services and supports for children and their families.</p> <p><b>Mauerer</b>  <i>e-Lementary e-Learning</i>  K-5 learning can occur anywhere and anytime with flipping the lessons using various apps, software, and websites. Create engaging lessons for in and out of school. By flipping the classrooms and using the right management tools, e learning days are not frustrating and unobtainable. They become mobile, enriching, and no internet is needed!</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>Peterson</b>  <i>No More Snow Days: One State's Approach to Digital Learning when School is Cancelled</i>  A state program encourages districts, especially in hard-hit rural areas, to implement digital learning on snow days, increasing academic continuity in the winter and decreasing make-up days in the summer.</p> <p><b>Bessette</b>  <i>Rethink the challenges associated with geography: Supporting students with disabilities in rural settings</i>  Learn how a special education software company, in partnership with rural school districts nation-wide, created cost-effective professional development opportunities, professional learning communities, and improved student records via online technology.</p>
Room: STERLING 6	<p><b>Senturia</b>  <i>The New E-Rates &amp; Connected: Funding for internet, and connecting classrooms to Wi-Fi online learning</i>  We will explain the major changes in 2015-2017 E-Rates, and show how to maximize funding within the new filing process: telecom, internet, new Wi-Fi installations and maintenance.</p> <p><b>Meyers</b>  <i>Baby Boomer Teaching On-line: Out of the Classroom, Onto the Computer</i>  Baby Boomers represent one-third of all online and social media users, therefore, the possibility of a Boomer using technology to teach families and professionals in rural areas is limitless!</p>
Room: STERLING 9	<b>McHenry-Sorber</b>

	<p><i>Land Grant Universities and Rural Schools</i></p> <p>In this working session, we will facilitate a discussion about the mission of land-grant institutions to serve their states and communities, possibilities for successful rural school-university collaborations, and rural education research needs.</p>
Room: REGENCY C/D	<p><b>Innovation Forum #1</b>  <b>Moderator: Hobart Harmon</b></p> <p>Forum 1 is designed for district and school administrators, and school board members. Participants will interact with Shane Mulhern, Director, USED Investing in Innovation (i3) program, to discuss the leadership challenges in planning, implementing and sustaining educational innovations. Of particular interest are access to innovations that exist, participation in developing appropriate innovations, and policy decisions that support effective implementation and scale up of innovations.</p>

Friday, October 16, 2015 (Sessions D)

3:10 – 4:10 PM

Location and Session Number	Presentation
Room: REGENCY A  D-1	<p><b>Grady, Holman –</b>  <i>Diversity within Diversity: An Approach to Migrant Education</i>  (When you discuss diversity in a rural state, there is diversity within diversity. This presentation of an approach to migrant education reflects this diversity within diversity.)</p> <p><b>Freeland</b>  <i>Indiana Superintendent Perceptions of the Statewide Principal Evaluation Process</i></p> <p>Indiana has mandated yearly evaluations of building principals. The research focuses on the perceptions of the effectiveness of the mandated evaluations.</p>
Room: REGENCY B	<p><b>Griffith, Murley, Pratt, Wood</b>  <i>Collaboration Across Tennessee for Rural Economic Support</i>  Battelle for Kids, Tennessee Rural Education Association, and University of Memphis Lambuth Campus sponsored regional meetings to gather information regarding needs. Participants included government officials, industry, education, higher education and others.</p>
Room; REGENCY E	<p><b>Goode, Goode</b>  <i>Cutting Edge Technology in Speech Therapy</i>  There is a growing shortage of Speech-Language Pathologists in rural areas. Online speech therapy is a proven, effective and efficient solution, endorsed by ASHA as an appropriate service delivery mode</p> <p><b>Ritter</b></p>

	<p><i>Implementing an Early College Program in a Small Rural High School</i></p> <p>Learn how Lakeland High School partnered with a local community college to challenge high-achieving students, increase expectations, and have students graduate high school with an Associate of Arts degree.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Bridges, Maxwell</b>  <i>A look at Early College High Schools: A Proposed Solution to Secondary Transition Services in Rural Texas School Districts</i>  This qualitative study explored the feasibility of mirroring students with disabilities transitional process with that of Early College High School in a rural school setting.</p> <p><b>Grady, Holman</b>  <i>Diversity within Diversity: An Approach to Migrant Education</i>  When you discuss diversity in a rural state, there is diversity within diversity. This presentation of an approach to migrant education reflects this diversity within diversity.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>Anderson</b>  <i>Showing How Awesome You Are: School and Leadership Branding</i>  The digital age is making it easier for parents and the community to learn what happens inside the school building. Using social media, schools and districts can more deeply engage with those stakeholders, providing a more unified foundation for better relationships. It also makes it easier for professionals to tell their stories and take control of the message they want all to know about the great things happening in schools and districts. Join Steven W. Anderson, author of the book <i>The Relevant Educator</i> as he will examine the current social media landscape and describe personal and school branding. He will also show how to accomplish it easily and simply with little or no funds but having maximum impact.</p>
Room: STERLING 6	<p><b>Bicknell, Clyburn, Pratt</b>  <i>Promoting Rural Education and Community Development through Innovative School Partnerships</i>  The highly interactive workshop highlights a nationally recognized rural school partnership, offering corporate funding and community and professional development opportunities for school teachers and community leaders in seven rural counties.</p>
Room: STERLING 9	<p><b>Hardre</b>  <i>Unveiling the JCSEE National Classroom Assessment Standards 2015--this is the annual report of the JCSEE rep, required by the Board, and also proposed as a workshop to involve practitioners</i>  The Joint Committee for Standards on Educational Evaluation just published its updated Classroom Assessment Standards. The NREA's JCSEE representative shares them, inviting interactive discussion on rural school and classrooms utilization.</p>
Room: REGENCY C/D	<p><b>Innovation Forum #2</b>  <b>Moderator: Hobart Harmon</b>  Forum 2 is designed for teachers, teacher educators, and others that provide direct assistance to support teacher effectiveness (e.g., coaches, mentors, consultants). Participants will interact with Shane Mulhern, Director, USED Investing in Innovation (i3) program, to discuss educational innovations needed and the kinds of supports teachers desire</p>

	to effectively participate in development of an educational innovation. Of particular interest are access to professional development and beneficial instructional resources.
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Friday, October 16, 2015  
4:20 PM - ??

Time and Location	Event
4:20 PM Room: REGENCY B	Delegate Assembly Meeting and NREA Membership Meeting
6:00 PM Room: GATEWAY EAST	President's Reception
7:00 PM Room: GATEWAY EAST	NREA Foundation Auction

Saturday, October 17, 2015 (Sessions E)  
8:20 – 9:20 AM

Location	Presentation
7:30 Room: STERLING 1	State Executive Directors' Breakfast and Annual Meeting
7:30 Room: REGENCY A/B/C FOYER	<b><u>Breakfast</u></b>

Location	Presentation
Room:	



Room: STERLING 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VanTuyle</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Rural School Board Leadership from the Female Board Presidents' Perspectives</i></p> <p>This presentation highlights results of an extensive study of female school board presidents in a mid-western state and focuses on rural presidents, their self-efficacy and perspectives on role, responsibilities, and relationships.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Davidson</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recognizing and Addressing Generational Changes in Rural Schools and Their Communities</i></p> <p>Dramatic generational social/cultural shifts occurring within our rural communities are radically impacting schools. This program will engage in providing assistance in recognition of and possible solutions of such issues.</p>
Room: STERLING 9	

Saturday, October 17, 2015 (Sessions F)  
9:30 – 10:30


Location	Presentation
Room: REGENCY A F-1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Billing, Brown, Buffington, Cirks, Flory, Frazelle, Hensley, Johnson, Osborne-Lampkin, Williams-</b></p> <p>Advancing a Rural Research Agenda Through Alliances: The Regional Educational Laboratory System (Learn how research practice partnerships are supporting educators and policymakers across the country to leverage data and research to address rural education issues.)</p>
Room: REGENCY B F-2  F-3  F-4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stout –</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Classroom Technology Planning and Use Across Diverse School Settings</i></p> <p>( The study focuses on how technologies are currently being used in classrooms of the participants and if there were any differences in technology use based on campus size or location.)</p>



Room: REGENCY E	<p><b>Carrier, Whaland</b>  <i>Developing a School-wide Data Team in Small Rural Schools</i>  In order to become more effective the purposeful use of data is necessary. Through a clearly articulated process of data inquiry small rural schools can develop a school-wide data culture.</p> <p><b>Hicks, Rahman</b>  <i>Measuring Student Success in Rural Communities</i>  How are rural students performing across the nation and in your state in mathematics and reading? The National Assessment of Educational Progress answers this question and more in 30 minutes.</p>
Room: REGENCY F	<p><b>Davidson</b>  <i>Where is the "magic bullet" for School Finance?</i>  Most rural schools in America are struggling with the ever present impact of diminishing financial resources. We will analyze, discuss, suggest and enlighten participants on the "magic bullet" of finance.</p> <p><b>Brown</b>  <i>School Safety and Security Using Alternative Funding Sources</i>  Overview of school safety and security programs using private industry as the funding source. Review of the model of how Van Buern Intermediate School District Heart Safe Schools program was privately funded.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Bird, Kero</b>  <i>Portraiture Design Study: Rural Educational Leadership</i>  This presentation is a qualitative portraiture design study examining rural educational leadership in Montana. Participants provided a photo that represented their "personal leadership" and participated in a follow up interview.</p> <p><b>Allred, Maxwell</b>  <i>What Women Know: A qualitative Study of the Perceptions of Female superintendents in South Texas</i>  This naturalistic study of seven female superintendents in south Texas, including five leaders in small rural high needs districts as well as two leaders from larger high needs districts, provided insights into the lives of these superintendents through portraiture including common themes regarding their motivations to serve as female educational leaders.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>Nunez-Olmstead, White</b>  <i>Creating Relationships: Connecting Rural Schools and Youth</i>  While rural schools are often isolated and struggling to survive across the nation, a small private school called Carleton Project has discovered ways to connect, opening opportunities for school districts and students alike.</p> <p><b>E. Lotspeich</b>  <i>Reorganization Options: Deactivation</i>  How does a community come to understand and accept a district's move to deactivation of their high school? Examining reorganization options, the community and the students: does it really work for students?</p>
Room: STERLING 9	

Saturday, October 17, 2015  
10:40 AM – 1:00 PM

Time and Location	Event
10:40 AM – 11:00 AM Room: REGENCY C/D	Exhibits open
11:00 AM – 12:20 PM Room: REGENCY C/D	<p>General Session</p> <p>NREA Hall of Fame Award and the Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year Awards Banquet</p> <p>Opening Comments.....Jason Bell</p> <p>Introductions.....Jason Bell</p> <p>Recognition of the 2015-2016 Essay Winners...Allyson Nys</p> <p>Recognition of the NREA Hall of Fame Inductee...Mary Lou Gammon</p> <p><b><u>Lunch</u></b></p> <p>Introduction of the 2015-2016 Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year Finalists.....Michele Insko</p> <p>Margie Looney – Wilcox, AZ</p> <p>Dawn Dawson – Fort Benton, MT</p> <p>Bonnie McPhillips – Belgrade, NE</p>

	<p>Kirsten Long – Whitwell, TN</p> <p>ZoeAnn Chernowsky – New Castle, IN</p> <p>Katherine Cass – Paris, TX</p> <p>Recognition of the 2015-2016 NREA Rural Teacher of the Year.. Michele Insko</p> <p>Special Presentation by the 2015-2016 Monsanto Fund Rural Teacher of the Year...Craig Cegielski</p>  <p>Closing Comments.....</p>
<p>12:30 – 1:30</p> <p>Room: REGENCY C/D</p>	Visit Exhibits

Saturday, October 17, 2015 (Sessions G)  
1:30 – 2:30 PM

Location	Presentation
<p>Room: REGENCY A</p> <p>G-1</p>	<p><b>Alley, Bennett, Brocato, Elbert, Franz, Ryther</b> <i>The Face of Education in the Rural South</i></p> <p>This Ignite Session will provide a “look” into realness in the Deep South. It will draw attention to some of the unique challenges of being rural coupled with issues of race and poverty.</p>
<p>Room: REGENCY B</p>	<p><b>Hart</b> <i>Opening Doors, Building Relationships</i></p> <p>Tips for improving community relationships and engaging by offering school facilities and resources to community during non-school hours</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sanderson</b>  <i>Approaching Rural School Reform Holistically: Ensuring Hunger Doesn't Widen the Education Gap</i>  Educators know well that hunger pangs make it difficult for students to perform at their academic best. Transform the school learning environment by creatively implementing the School Breakfast program and boosting participation.</p>
Room: REGENCY E	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Schaefer</b>  <i>What Are Capacity-building Needs in the New Demographics of English Learner (EL) Populations?</i>  The presentation describes demographic data and research findings on capacity-building challenges faced by districts with emerging EL populations; presents examples of the types of support districts receive, including under Title III's English Language Acquisition State Grants Program; describes examples of how districts with emerging EL populations structure services for their EL students; and identifies next steps to support districts' capacity-building that addresses student needs and recognizes the languages, cultures, and skills EL students bring.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bain, Guerrero, McCuiston</b>  <i>The efficacy and impact of the Honors College program at a rural South Texas, Hispanic Serving Institution</i>  This presentation will focus on the efficacy and impact of the Honors College program at Texas A&amp;M University-Kingsville which is a rural, Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI).</p>
Room: REGENCY F	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Asplund, Horn</b>  <i>Vision-Seeing more clearly as you lead in times of turmoil</i>  Learn how a small rural district created a shared vision and use it to drive decision-making. Participants will learn what tools and processes needed to create a vision.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Isernhagen, Lin, Scherz</b>  <i>How to determine whether your school district's policies support best practices for parent, family, and community involvement</i>  This workshop shares a model for evaluating policies at state and local levels. Using this protocol, one can evaluate district family and community involvement policies in relation to best practices.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Terry</b>  <i>Teaching Experience and Advanced Degrees: Do they really matter for Teacher Quality?</i>  Teacher experience and degree level have a major role in perceived teacher quality; including teacher search/recruitment, and teacher salaries. Is there a correlation between these two characteristics and student performance?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Estrada, Lowe, Menchaca</b>  <i>What Superintendents say about leading small, rural schools: Results of a Grounded Research</i>  Preliminary results of a grounded survey distributed to over 400 superintendents about recruitment and retention of teachers and their responses to the growing numbers of ELs will be presented.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Downey, Schmitt-Wilson, Versland</b>  <i>Social Justice in the Bakken: Identifying Challenges and Opportunities that Affect Principal Self-Efficacy in a Boom and Bust</i>  Our research examines the effects of financial, social, educational and cultural changes associated with the Bakken Oil boom on the self-efficacy of principals in rural Montana schools  Environment</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grady, Holman</b>  <i>Ethnic and Racial Diversity: One Rural State's Successes and Challenges</i>  Based on state databases and interviews with key school and community leaders, the story of the growth of diversity in a rural state will be presented.</p>

Room: STERLING 9	
REGENCY C/D	<p><b>Research Focus Session #1</b>  <i>The Rural Research Agenda</i></p> <p>Participants will participate in a discussion as part of the process in the development of the NREA Rural Education Research Agenda</p>

Saturday, October 17, 2015 (Sessions H)  
2:40 – 3:40 PM

Location	Presentation
Room: REGENCY A	<p><b>Oram</b>  <i>Building Capacity for Mental Health Service Provision in Rural Schools</i>  The focus of this workshop is on building capacity for mental health service provision in rural schools. Objectives include exploring school-wide mental health screening, mental health service coordination, and student intervention.</p> <p><b>Flory, Kannapel –</b>  <i>Education Issues and Needs in Middle Appalachia: 1995-2015 and Tomorrow</i> (A literature and data review updates what's known about recent education issues and challenges in "Middle Appalachia." It points policymakers and researchers toward what we need to know and do next.)</p>
Room:	<b>Bennett, Brocato, Elbert, Ryther</b>

REGENCY B	<p><i>Equity--Seeking Programs at Work in the Rural South</i>  Presenters describe equity-seeking programs that fit assessments and measurement, to which rural contexts must attend, while simultaneously attempting to increase the probability for addressing other important educational issues.</p>
Room: REGENCY E	<p><b>Asplund, Horn</b>  <i>Social Media: A Comprehensive Curriculum</i>  A social media curriculum developed by a school board member for use in small rural schools. There is so much to teach and so little time.</p> <p><b>Spring</b>  <i>Rural Education Investigated Through an Arts-Based lens: The Power of Metaphor in Rural Music Education</i>  In this study, four music educators described the contexts of their rural elementary music education praxes through an arts based lens using a literary device, the metaphor.</p>
Room: REGENCY F	<p>Meloy  <i>Community Partnerships and Rural Dropout Prevention Strategies: What Works!</i>  There are fifteen research-based practices that positively impact high school completion, one-half of those involving partnerships with individuals/agencies/ businesses within a rural community or region. Those practices will be presented, along with examples from communities where they have been implemented.</p> <p><b>French-Healea</b>  <i>The Rural Community Partnership Starts with an Open Door</i>  For rural schools desiring to start, or improve upon, community partnership activities, this presentation is for you! A focus group of partners share insights about working with the school community.</p>
Room: STERLING 2	<p><b>Stuckey</b>  <i>SCICAST: Stimulating Community Involvement by Cultivating Screencast Technologies (preliminary findings and discussion)</i>  This presentation discusses ongoing SBIR research sponsored by USDA regarding a unique approach to increase awareness, understanding and participation in STEM among rural students, their parents and teachers.</p> <p><b>Surface</b>  <i>Creating Hope for Rural America: how can we change the deficit narrative?</i>  We need to change how we talk about Rural America! There are many reasons for "HOPE". Educators, community leaders, and citizens working together can restore hope and create a strong future.</p>
Room: STERLING 3	<p><b>Scherz, Harmon</b>  <i>How to submit a winning proposal for the Research Symposium</i>  Presenters will share techniques and strategies that will help attendees develop a winning proposal.</p> <p><b>Scherz, Harmon</b>  <i>Developing a Championship Presentation for the Research Symposium</i>  Presenters will demonstrate how to develop your presentation for the Research Symposium</p>
Room: STERLING 9	
REGENCY C/D	<p><b>Research Focus Session #2</b>  <i>The Rural Research Agenda</i>  Participants will participate in a discussion as part of the process in the development of the NREA Rural Education Research Agenda</p>

Saturday, October 17, 2015  
3:40 PM - ??

Location	Presentation
Room: REGENCY D	NREA Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
	Visit St. Louis Area

Sunday, October 18, 2015  
8:00 AM – 8:50 AM

Location	Event
Room: REGENCY C	The Annual NREA Church Service NREA Chaplin – Andrew Segriest

Sunday, October 18, 2015  
10:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Location	Event
Room: REGENCY C	<p><b>Blast Off Session</b></p> <p>Opening Comments.....Sandra Watkins, President Recognition of Past Presidents..... Sandra Watkins, President.</p> <p>State of the NREA..... Sandra Watkins, President Introduction of the 2015-2016 President..... Sandra Watkins, President</p> <p>Looking Ahead to 2015.....Scott Turney, President Elect</p>

	<p>NREA Membership Development Award....John Hill, Executive Director NREA</p> <p>Ray Drage Membership Attendance Award....John Hill, Executive Director NREA</p> <p><b>BRUNCH</b></p> <p>Directions for Serving Brunch.....John Hill</p> <p>Introduction of Panelists.....John Hill, Executive Director NREA Helen Hazi Anthony Milanowski</p> <p><b><u>Door Prizes</u></b></p>
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