

Volume 37, Number 2

Summer 2016

# The Rural Educator

A Journal about Rural and Small School Issues



The official journal of the National Rural Education Association



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A nationally refereed journal about rural and small school issues  
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Cover Photo: **Coker County School** is a K-8 school with 250 students. The school is located in the town of Tellico Plains, TN.

## *From the Editor*

Welcome to the Summer 2016 issue of *The Rural Educator*. This issue will be published both as a paper copy and as an electronic publication. The Rural Educator is hosted at Mississippi State University Library:

<http://library.msstate.edu/ruraleducator>

Beginning with this issue, the journal will regularly feature a policy information brief. In this issue, Dr. Devon Brenner, immediate past fellow in Senator Thad Cochran's office, details the new Elementary and Secondary Act. Specifically, she addresses all the ways rural is mentioned in ESSA. We hope our readers find this new feature useful in their work. If you have a specific policy concern you would like to see addressed in a future issue, please contact The Rural Educator [theruraleducator@gmail.com](mailto:theruraleducator@gmail.com).

The journal will accept two types of submissions: empirical-based, research manuscripts and promising practice manuscripts. Research manuscripts will be similar to what the Rural Educator has been showcasing all along.

In addition, we are excited to unveil a new category for manuscripts published in the Rural Educator-- Promising Practices.

We hope that this new, second category of articles will highlight effective and emerging practices by and for educators in rural settings. We hope to publish one of these in the very next issue! Specific guidelines for each of these type of manuscripts is available online at <http://library.msstate.edu/ruraleducator>

Finally, we would like to thank the individuals who have served as reviewers for the Rural Educator in last six months. We greatly appreciate the efforts of the individuals listed below for their expertise and feedback.

Sincerely,

*Dana Pomykal Franz, Ph.D., editor*  
*Anastasia D. Elder, Ph.D., co-editor*  
*Stephanie Bennett, Ph.D., review editor*  
*Shane McGregor, M.Ed., ed. assistant*  
*Mississippi State University*