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A nationally refereed journal about rural and small school issues sponsored by the National Rural Education Association

Cover Photo: Prill School is one room school building near Henry Township close to Akron and Fulton County in Indiana. It was built in 1876 and closed in 1925. The school was restored in 1971 and opened to visitors as a museum. In 1981, the Prill School is on the National Historical Registry.
Welcome to the Fall 2015/Spring 2016 issue of *The Rural Educator*. This issue will be published both as a paper copy and for the first time as an electronic publication. The Rural Educator is hosted at Mississippi State University Library: [http://library.msstate.edu/ruraleducator](http://library.msstate.edu/ruraleducator)

As unveiled at the National Rural Education Association (NREA) meeting in October 2015, we are excited to announce some changes in the journal. As the major publication of NREA, the Rural Educator seeks to be a voice of quality research and promising practices for rural education. We anticipate that the audience for the journal will include higher education faculty with interests in rural education, school personnel in rural areas, policy makers who care about educating children in rural areas, and all others with passions for small and rural schools.

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](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

**Thank you to our Reviewers**

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