



## Outstanding Rural Administrator - 2019

**Angela Hanlin**

New Madrid Co. R-I School District

Angela Hanlin serves as the Principal at Matthews Elementary School which is part of the New Madrid County R-I School District in the Bootheel of Southeast Missouri. She has taught for 12 1/2 years, served as an instructional coach and curriculum coordinator for 3 1/2 years and is in her 5th year as Matthews Elementary Principal.

Christie Kenedy, 5th grade teacher, shares "Prior to Angie taking over as principal, our school was at its lowest point. Our scores on the MAP test had plummeted and the teachers were very discouraged. The school had been identified as a "Focus School" by DESE. Mrs. Hanlin has turned things around with her emphasis on research based programs and initiatives. The school exited Focus School status faster than any other school in the state. MAP scores have improved tremendously and the school culture is positive and encouraging."

Kathleen Hampton, Instructional Coach, notes "Angie Hanlin conducts herself honorably and honestly in all of her dealings. She is thoughtful and equitable in her decisions and always carefully considers their impact. She works tirelessly to better herself and she fosters that attitude in those around her. She meets every challenge head on. She always seeks the best outcome for everyone involved. Her character, depth and breadth of knowledge and her dedication and work ethic make her our Outstanding Rural Administrator."

Angie Jackson, Speech-Language Pathologist, comments, "Angie seeks to provide a structured and calm environment for our students, most of whom experience some type of home trauma daily. She's taken a school that most thought would never succeed, and brought our test scores to a status that other schools envy. Student's home lives are no longer blamed, and students are held to the same high expectations as everyone else. She has taught our students how to set academic goals for themselves, even as preschoolers. Discipline issues are almost non-existent since Angie began her tenure here."

Sarah Lawson, 4th grade teacher, had this to say, "Although the journey to come out of Focus School status was difficult, Mrs. Hanlin never stopped reassuring students and teachers that it was a winning journey we were on together. She could be heard many times counseling students to develop their growth mindset. For Mrs. Hanlin, words and actions are the same. Her actions follow her kind words. The support that she provides to teachers, students and all that she comes into contact with are commendable."

A closing thought from Christie Kenedy, "I will forever be grateful to Mrs. Hanlin for the difference that she has made in my life. Before she became principal, I had seriously considered leaving the teaching profession after my 16th year. Now, because of her guidance and encouragement, I know I can teach any student. I know that I can make a difference in their lives. I have a completely different mindset and I come to school each day ready to be my best and prepare my students for what lies ahead of them."

It is our privilege to recognize Mrs. Angela Hanlin as the 2019 "Outstanding Rural Administrator." Congratulations!