WEST BEND SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 5, 2026
Contact: Nancy Kunkler
Email: nkunkler@wbsd-schools.org
Phone: (262) 335-5459

Four Teachers in West Bend School District Win Annual Rolfs Educational Foundation Awards

WEST BEND — For the fifty-fifth straight year, the Rolfs Educational Foundation awarded four deserving teachers of the West Bend School District the Rolfs Educational Foundation Award during celebratory events on Monday, May 4, the first day of Staff Appreciation Week.

The awards were presented by Claire Rolfs of the Rolfs Educational Foundation and Superintendent Jen Wimmer and include a $1,000 gift to each winner.

The Rolfs Educational Foundation Award goes to a nominated teaching staff member in each of the four categories: elementary school, middle school, high school, and special services. Nominations for the award can be submitted by students in grades 5-12, parents, community members, peers, or administration. The 2026 winners include:

Leah Miller, Fifth Grade, Silverbrook Intermediate School
Leah is an exceptional educator who creates a classroom where all students feel valued, supported, and challenged. Her thoughtful planning and deep understanding of her students allow her to provide meaningful, differentiated instruction that meets learners where they are and helps them grow. She has been with the West Bend School District since 2001. She also serves on the building leadership team and leads the fifth grade math team.

Laura Seidensticker, Speech/Language, Early Learning Program
Laura is an exceptional speech-language pathologist who creates meaningful and engaging learning experiences for her students. She skillfully connects communication development to real-life situations, helping students build confidence, independence, and the ability to express themselves. Through creative, individualized instruction and the thoughtful use of technology, she ensures that every child is supported and empowered to succeed. Laura is widely

recognized for her expertise in augmentative and alternative communication and has played a key role in advancing the district's use of these systems.

Holly Walls, Math, West High School
Holly is an exceptional educator who creates engaging, rigorous learning experiences for her students. Her classroom is highly interactive, often filled with students collaborating at whiteboards and applying math concepts to real-world situations. She carefully plans instruction, clearly communicates learning goals, and uses data to provide targeted support, ensuring all students have the opportunity to succeed. She also leads the Algebra Professional Learning Community.

Nicole Williams, Special Education, McLane Elementary
Nicole each day displays patience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to meeting the needs of every student. Since joining the West Bend School District in August 2000, she has been an exceptional educator whose genuine care for others is evident in everything she does. She creates a safe and engaging classroom where students feel valued and supported while being challenged to reach their full potential.

The West Bend Joint School District #1 is proud to serve about 5,000 students and their families from the city of West Bend, villages of Jackson and Newburg, and townships of Barton, Polk, Trenton, Jackson, West Bend, and Addison. We strive to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts, and co-curricular activities. Within our community-based 4K program, Head Start program, five elementary schools (K-4), one intermediate school (5-6), one middle school (7-8), and two high schools (9-12), families can expect a caring, inclusive learning environment that supports the development of the whole child. Visit wbsd-schools.org for more information.

###