

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 9, 2019

Brian Betts Named 2019 LEA Distinguished Lutheran Elementary Administrator

Brian Betts was selected to receive Lutheran Education Association's 2019 Distinguished Lutheran Elementary Administrator Award. Mr. Betts is administrator at Immanuel Lutheran School in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. He was selected by LEA's Leadership Network leadership team.

Brian earned a B.S. in Elementary Education from Concordia College [now University], St. Paul, Minn. His Masters in Educational Administration is from Concordia University Wisconsin.

Among Brian's joys in ministry, he said, "... is the opportunity to see God's hand in all that is part of ministry. The ministry at Immanuel makes such an impact to the families we serve. I love building those relationships with God's hand guiding as we go. My goal is that people see Christ through me."

In support of Brian's nomination, his pastor wrote, "Brian sets the bar high for our teachers, encourages and challenges his coworkers, and is always willing to jump in and help out. He never asks others to do something he isn't willing to do himself. Brian seems always to be with people, talking with students, greeting parents, and working on projects. For Brian, ministry is not a nine-to-five, clock-in-clock-out endeavor, but a vocation and a way of life. He does not limit his responsibilities only to what a 'traditional' principal or administrator would do, but rather identifies whatever needs or opportunities may arise and strives to meet them."

One parent commented, "The dedication he has to our ministry is above and beyond. The 25+ years I have watched Mr. B make huge strides in progressing our school. Over the last 25+ years that I have been able to watch Mr. B go from a brand new teacher with visions of science experiments to a great leader as the principal of Immanuel Lutheran School. His passion for ministry and those he serves is evident in the choices he makes for the greater good of the school and actions he makes EVERY day."

One colleague said, "Mr. Betts is an overcomer and a problem-solver as well. The parents of our school recognize that he is an approachable leader and most feel comfortable raising their concerns to him when necessary. When challenges arise he tackles them swiftly and with great concern. He investigates before judging, makes decisions with a level head, and protects the privacy of others when possible."

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