



Bridgett Heinrich <bheinrich@panaschools.com>

Fwd: Sad News to Share: The Passing of Andy Sisulak

1 message

Jason Bauer <jbauer@panaschools.com>
To: Bridgett Heinrich <bheinrich@panaschools.com>

Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 8:36 AM

May board meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools** <execdir@airssedu.org>

Date: Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 8:29 AM

Subject: Sad News to Share: The Passing of Andy Sisulak

To: <jbauer@panaschools.com>



**The Association
of Illinois Rural
and Small Schools**



For many of us the past two years have been filled with loss/death of friends and family. No loss hit closer to home than the recent death of **Andrew Thompson “Andy” Sisulak Dec. 25, 1962- April 9, 2022.**

I was saddened to learn upon my return home from travel in early April that my longtime friend and great supporter and ally had passed suddenly at his home on April 9, 2022. I am honored to call him friend, privileged to have worked alongside him to raise

awareness for Illinois Rural and Small Schools and will miss the many road trips together and his unique sense of humor.

For me personally, I had the privilege to know Andy dating back to my arrival in Carbondale in the late 1980's. However, the real impact Andy had on me personally and professionally was our reconnection when I was named the Executive Director for the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools. The first phone call I received was from Andy asking and offering his support, help and expertise.

For the next four years, if you looked at the AIRSS website, read an email from AIRSS, attended any event related to rural schools and saw any marketing or media for AIRSS, Andy Sisulak was solely responsible. If you attended the IASA Conference in Springfield or the Triple I/Joint Conference in Chicago, stopped by the AIRSS booth or enjoyed any social evenings around the hotel, Andy likely provided a warm hello and handshake, a good story, and probably a beverage in your hand. In many ways Andy was in part the outward face of rural and small schools. We, (AIRSS) were lucky to have Andy on our side, as a part of our team and for many of us privileged to call him friend.

The AIRSS Board of Directors and all its members send our deepest sympathies and prayers to the Sisulak family. We share your grief and hold on to all the memories.

It is with great sadness I say goodbye to a dear friend, see you on the other side.



Executive Director David M. Ardrey
Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools

[View Andy's Obituary](#)

4/28/22, 9:46 AM

Pana Community Unit School District #8 Mail - Fwd: Sad News to Share: The Passing of Andy Sisulak

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