



Nicole Blodgett &lt;nbloodgett@panaschools.com&gt;

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**Fwd: I Am A Rural Teacher Launch**

1 message

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**Jason Bauer** <jbauer@panaschools.com>  
To: Nicole Blodgett <nbloodgett@panaschools.com>

Tue, Jan 21, 2020 at 1:13 PM

January board meeting

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

From: **Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools** <[execdir@airssedu.org](mailto:execdir@airssedu.org)>

Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2020 at 12:59 PM

Subject: I Am A Rural Teacher Launch

To: <[jbauer@panaschools.com](mailto:jbauer@panaschools.com)>**ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS RURAL AND SMALL SCHOOLS****COMMITTED TO THE RURAL ADVANTAGE**

## Embrace Place: Alabama Feature for "I Am a Rural Teacher"

*"Embrace the reason behind your place... Don't look at what you don't have,  
look at what you do have and the possibilities that you could bring."*

*- Haley Richardson*

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In partnership with Rural Schools Collaborative and the National Rural Education Association, AIRSS is excited to share the I Am A Rural Teacher campaign with you. The first national feature went out this past Wednesday, and our state-level efforts will kick off this week. Read more from the RSC below about their first featured story.

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"We are so excited to be starting off our "I Am a Rural Teacher" Campaign with Haley Richardson of University Charter School in Livingston, AL. [You can read](#)

[her story here.](#)

Throughout the IAART Campaign, we will be featuring 10 in-depth rural teacher stories from across the country in addition to dozens of shorter teacher perspectives from all 50 states. The campaign's goal is to provide rural teachers with a powerful voice, and we are pleased that the National Rural Education Association is a partner in this endeavor.

For Haley Richardson, rural feels like “a family— small, warm, loving, home.” It’s why she’s chosen to stay in the same area that generations of her family have lived.

Haley grew up in the small town of Reform, deep in the pines of western Alabama. Reform is a special place for Haley. Not only did she graduate from Pickens County High School, her mother was the first to integrate the school in 1966. Now, her brother is the assistant principal.

It’s no wonder that when thinking of her home, she sees a place full of possibility.

We invite you to learn more about Haley and her community of Livingston, Alabama."

If you would like to get involved with the "I Am a Rural Teacher" Campaign, you can submit your story to us here. You can also check us out on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. If you'd like to participate in conversations around rural teaching, you can join our Facebook group.

**Read "Embrace Place" in its entirety.**



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**Our mailing address is:**

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