*220 North Montana Street (406) 988-0164 (Office)*

*Dillon, MT 59725* [*www.mt-ssa.org*](http://www.mt-ssa.org) *(406) 988-0148 (Fax)*

**Jules Waber Memorial NREA Travel Award 2024**

The Montana Small Schools Alliance is seeking applications for the memorial NREA Travel Award which was created in honor of former Powell County Superintendent of Schools, MSSA Board Member, MACSS Member and NREA Executive Board Member, ***Jules Waber.*** Jules was instrumental in advancing both the MSSA and NREA and always supported teachers and administrators getting involved with both organizations. Jules was a champion of rural students, schools and education.

**Application Criteria:** *This award is made available to any teacher or administrator in member school districts. Please submit a letter of interest on your own paper, in a narrative fashion. Include anything you feel makes you deserving of this “Travel Award” in addition to what we are asking of you. Return either by mail or email to Janelle Beers at: jbeers@mt-ssa.org. The MSSA Board will score your application and the winning applicant will be notified by July 1, 2024.*

1. List all current or past memberships in MSSA programs: (Consortium, Standards, MAPS, NREA.)

2. Narrative of why you want to either get involved or continue involvement in the NREA and MSSA. If you have been involved over and above membership (*including attendance at previous conferences)*, please be specific as to how and in what manner you have had involvement with NREA and MSSA. If you have not been involved, what specific areas are you interested in getting involved in?

3. The award will cover up to $2000 in registration fees and travel costs to the NREA National Convention and Research Symposium on October 30-November 1, 2024 in Savannah, Georgia. Information about the convention can be found at: www.nrea.net/nfare.

4. After the conference you are required to give a formal report to the MSSA Board at their January meeting and to write an article for the MSSA Newsletter.

3. Applications are due by June 15th, 2024 in the Dillon office or via email to Janelle Beers.

*MSSA will register the winning applicants for this year’s National Forum to Advance Rural Education hosted by the NREA and their corporate sponsors. MSSA will also secure a room at the conference site. Plane fare and per diem will be reimbursed and will be the applicant’s responsibility to set up and save/send receipts for. The $2000 award will pay for conference registration, travel, hotel, per diem, and substitutes if needed; up to the total allocated amount. (NREA has agreed to sponsor a second award if the awardee is willing to help at registration, manning a table, etc. at the conference.) This means we will be awarding two scholarships.*

*Best of luck and thanks for participating. Jules would be proud.*

*Sincerely,*

Janelle Beers

*Janelle Beers, Executive Director*

*Montana Small Schools Alliance*

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