



Jason LeMay, PhD - District Administrator
1700 EDGEWOOD AVENUE EAST
LADYSMITH, WI 54848
ph: 715-532-5277 | fax: 715-532-7445 | SDLWI.ORG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2026

Ladysmith Superintendent Dr. Jason LeMay Named to National "Superintendents to Watch" List

LADYSMITH, WI – The School District of Ladysmith is proud to announce that Superintendent Dr. Jason LeMay has been recognized as a 2025–26 "Superintendent to Watch" by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA). This prestigious national honor recognizes emerging school leaders who demonstrate exceptional commitment to strategic communication and innovative leadership.

Dr. LeMay is one of only 30 superintendents nationwide to receive this distinction, which celebrates leaders who are transforming how school districts engage with their communities. The award specifically recognizes superintendents with fewer than five years of experience who have implemented innovative communication strategies that strengthen community trust and support student success.

During his career, Dr. LeMay has distinguished himself through his strategic integration of communication goals into the district's overall vision, his active engagement with stakeholders through both digital platforms and face-to-face interactions, and his commitment to making district operations transparent and accessible to all community members.

The NSPRA "Superintendents to Watch" program identifies promising school leaders who exemplify best practices in communication, including the innovative use of technology, visible leadership, and responsiveness to community needs. Dr. LeMay joins a distinguished 2025–26 cohort that includes leaders from across the nation who are setting new standards for educational leadership and community engagement.

"Everything I have been able to do is because of the unbelievable people I have the privilege of working with each and every day," said Dr. LeMay. "Effective communication is the foundation of everything we do as school districts. When we listen to our families, staff, and community members and maintain open, transparent dialogue, we create the trust and collaboration necessary to provide the best possible education for our students."

Dr. LeMay's leadership extends beyond communication innovation. Dr. LeMay completed his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 2025), with dissertation research focused on superintendent communication strategies and school referendums in rural Wisconsin.

A proud product of Wisconsin public schools and universities (UW-Eau Claire, UW-Madison), Dr. LeMay has dedicated his career to Wisconsin public education, especially in rural settings. He resides in Chippewa Falls, WI with his wife and two daughters. Prior to joining Ladysmith, he served as superintendent in the Pardeeville Area School District.

Only three other Wisconsin school leaders have been honored in the past with this prestigious recognition: Mark Duerwaechter, Kaukauna (2016), Jeff Wright, Sauk Prairie (2022), and Vince Breunig, Lodi (2025).

LeMay will be officially recognized at the NSPRA National Seminar in New Orleans this July. To learn see the full list of winners and learn more about the honor you can visit the NSPRA website <https://bit.ly/3YARwDf>