



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 9, 2025

Contact: Taryn Retzlaff

NSAA Phone: 402-489-0386

LINCOLN, NE — The Nebraska School Activities Association is honored to recognize Ms. Bailey Svoboda of David City as this week's Above and Beyond Award nominee.

Bailey has served as an assistant speech coach at David City High School since graduating in 2013, and for over a decade, she has been a steadfast, humble, and deeply impactful presence in the lives of her students.

Bailey's work happens in the margins and in the quiet spaces behind the scenes—designing visuals, editing speeches, coaching performances, and mentoring students with unmatched compassion. Her dedication goes far beyond the classroom or practice room. From organizing meals and running errands to Omaha for supplies, to driving students to speech meets across the region, Bailey is always ready to do what's needed—no questions asked, no recognition expected.

Her greatest strength, however, might be her ability to connect. Having experienced anxiety herself, Bailey creates a safe, supportive environment for students who are navigating not only the nerves of performance but also the challenges of growing up. She listens, encourages, and gently pushes students to find their voices—in speech and in life.



Even though she has never officially registered as an NSAA judge, Bailey's influence is deeply felt at every competition and every team moment. She's not there for the accolades. She's there for the kids.

For more than ten years, Bailey has worked quietly in the shadow of head coach Mr. Ockander, never asking for the spotlight—but it's time she steps into it. Her tireless commitment, her selfless attitude, and her profound impact on students make her more than deserving of recognition.

Ms. Bailey Svoboda is what's right about educational activities in Nebraska. She is a champion for kids, a role model of service, and a reminder that the most meaningful contributions are often made without fanfare. The NSAA proudly thanks and honors her for going above and beyond.

The NSAA's Above and Beyond Program is designed to recognize the hidden gems of communities across Nebraska. [Click here to nominate someone today!](#)