

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 1, 2025

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LINCOLN, NE — The Nebraska School Activities Association is proud to recognize Mrs. Justine Fischer of Leigh Community Schools as this week's Above and Beyond Award nominee. A dynamic educator, leader, and community builder, Mrs. Fischer exemplifies the spirit of this honor through her tireless dedication to both her students and her hometown.



For the past 11 years, Mrs. Fischer has served Leigh Community Schools as an English and Journalism teacher, while also coaching Play Production, sponsoring student leadership groups, and helping guide school and community success. As the One-Act Play Production coach for the last nine years, she has led the program to remarkable heights—earning two State Championships, a State Runner-Up, and engaging nearly the entire high school student body in the process. In fact, 60 of the school's 66 students participated in Play Production this past year alone—an extraordinary testament to the culture of inclusion and excellence she fosters.

Beyond the classroom and stage, Mrs. Fischer's leadership continues as President of the Leigh Legacy Fund through the Nebraska Community Foundation. In this role, she also sponsors and mentors the Leigh Youth Advisory Council (YAC), a student-led group focused on civic leadership and community betterment. Under her guidance, the YAC has completed numerous impactful projects—from funding a new ballfield scoreboard and

community pool furniture to leading beautification efforts across Main Street and the school.

Every dollar raised by the YAC is reinvested directly into the community, and Mrs. Fischer's commitment to student empowerment ensures those dollars create lasting change. Through it all, her positivity, work ethic, and heart for her students shine.

Mrs. Justine Fischer is a cornerstone of both Leigh Community Schools and the greater Leigh community. Her influence is far-reaching, her leadership is inspiring, and her impact will be felt for generations to come. She is a most deserving recipient of this week's NSAA Above and Beyond nomination.

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