

## YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD FINALISTS

### Adryanne Warren

Superintendent, LaRue County Schools

Adryanne Warren has proudly served as Superintendent of LaRue County Schools since July 1, 2024. With a deep-rooted commitment to student success, family engagement, and staff support, she has focused her leadership on fostering a strong district culture, expanding learning opportunities, and improving access to essential resources. A lifelong learner and dedicated educator, Adryanne began her professional journey in the business sector. While working in Accounts Receivable at Hardin Memorial Hospital, she earned a Business Degree from Western Kentucky University. After a brief tenure at Abound Credit Union, she discovered her passion for education and returned to school, earning her master's degree in elementary education from the University of the Cumberlands. In 2014, she began her teaching career as a 5th grade writing teacher at Abraham Lincoln Elementary in the LaRue County School District. While in the classroom, she continued to further her education, earning her Rank I certification through Asbury University with credentials in school administration, instructional supervision, and as a Director of Pupil Personnel. After six years in the classroom, she transitioned into a district-level role as a Curriculum Specialist, serving both elementary schools in LaRue County for two years. In 2022, she was asked to step in as interim principal at LaRue County Middle School. Her leadership and impact led to her permanent appointment as principal in March 2023, a role she held until her selection as superintendent the following year. In the fall of 2023, she returned to Asbury University to pursue her superintendent certification. In April 2024, she was named the next superintendent of LaRue County Schools. During her first year in the role, she prioritized innovation and access by launching SOAR Academy, a new virtual learning program designed to provide flexible learning opportunities for students and families. She is also leading efforts to establish a school-based childcare center to support both staff and the broader community. Her leadership has emphasized building a positive, inclusive culture through increased visibility, engagement, and support across all schools. Outside of her professional life, she has been married to her husband, Cody Warren, for 17 years. Together, they are raising four daughters—Ava, Kaylee, Leah, and Hannah—on their family farm in LaRue County, where they enjoy life alongside cattle, horses, rabbits, and their dog, Jenny.



### Why Should This Nominee Be Recognized as Kentucky's Young Professional of the Year?

Adryanne Warren exemplifies many qualities of a true leader. She is capable, compassionate, and deeply committed to the people she serves. She strikes a rare balance of being firm in her convictions yet empathetic in her approach. During Adryanne's interview, my fellow board members and I were impressed with her concise vision and goals for her first year as

superintendent. Despite her clarity and conviction, she demonstrated flexibility and adaptability throughout the year by postponing some goals to focus on the district's more immediate needs. Adryanne inherited a once-strong school culture and community relationship that needed to be renewed and realigned. Even before her official start date, she began reaching out to board members, staff, parents, community leaders and stakeholders to not only speak, but to genuinely listen. Through collaboration, mutual respect, and open lines of communication, Adryanne has already helped shift the culture by rebuilding relationships and restoring confidence. Additional traits that set Mrs. Warren apart from other great leaders are her humility and self-awareness. I've heard her sincerely ask, "Is there another perspective I should consider?" While confident in her strengths and goals, she never assumes she has all the answers. Her willingness to learn, adapt, and engage with others makes her not only an effective leader—but an exceptional one. Watching Adryanne lead this past year has been inspiring. She is tireless in her commitment to the district and community. She leads with integrity and passion for students, staff, and her community. In just one year, she has brought about meaningful change to our district. I am excited to see that the future holds under her leadership.