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# Lyda receives award for excellence

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Sonna Lyda, superintendent of Transylvania County Schools, was honored as the 2009 North Carolina Excellence in Education Awards winner at the national AdvancED conference in Chicago on March 29.

The award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated unparalleled leadership in promoting and advancing excellence in education. Nominees have a vision and mission for high levels of excellence among students and faculty. They have a record of distinguished contributions to the education profession that provide a lasting positive impact on student learning. They are also called role models for both students and educators.

Lyda has been an educational leader in North Carolina throughout her career. She was honored by the North Carolina Association of Educators as the Central Office Administrator of the Year in 2004.

Under her leadership, Transylvania County Schools became the first school system in the state to achieve district accreditation. She was named West Region Superintendent of the Year for 2007-08 and was the region's candidate for state superintendent of the year. Current Superintendent Sonna Lyda announced in January that she will retire effective June 31.

AdvancED is the parent organization of the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Southern Association of colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement, and the Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation.



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Transylvania County Schools Superintendent Sonna Lyda, center, was presented with the 2009 North Carolina Excellence in Education Award during the national AdvancED conference in Chicago March 29.



