

Chase County adviser named 'Yearbook Adviser of the Year'

Linda Drake, Chase County High School publications adviser, became the second Kansas adviser to receive the Journalism Education Association honor of "Yearbook Adviser of the Year" Friday, Jan. 16 at an all-school assembly at Chase County.

H.L. Hall, chair of JEA's 'Yearbook Adviser of the Year' selection committee made the presentation along with Linda Puntney, JEA executive director.

Drake has advised the yearbook at Chase County High School for the past 28 years. Chase County is a 2A school with an enrollment of just over 100 students. This was the first small-school adviser to win JEA's coveted award.

Drake had previously won the special recognition award for the 'Yearbook Adviser of the Year' in 1999, the same year that Susan Massy, adviser at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, was named 'Yearbook Adviser of the Year.'

Since Drake became a yearbook adviser in 1981, she has served two terms as president of the Kansas Scholastic Press Association, the only Kansas adviser to have done so. She currently serves on the KSPA Board as past president and coordinates the Kansas mentor program. In 2006 she was named to the National Scholastic Press Association's board of directors.

The Chase, the yearbook she advises, has been named an All-Kansas yearbook 14 of the 16 years the award was presented.

"Perhaps the greatest tribute to Linda Drake comes in the huge number of rookie advisers Linda has coached over the years. Linda lives journalism and creates a spark for yearbook journalism throughout the state," John Hudnall, KSPA executive director, said.

