

REGION 5 NAMES ABSHIER AS 2019 SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

Region 5 Education Service Center is pleased to announce the regional winner for TASB's 2019 Superintendent of the Year, Dr. Cody Abshier of Liberty ISD. Dr. Abshier has been superintendent there for seven years and has been described as "the quintessential professional" who is "motivated by one thing – always doing what is best for children." He was chosen for his strong leadership skills, dedication to improving the quality of education in his district, and commitment to public support and involvement in education.

A notable accomplishment included in his nomination packet is his collaboration with other entities for the establishment of Lee College Education Center of South Liberty County, the first satellite college center for Lee College outside of its taxing jurisdiction. Dr. Abshier was influential in encouraging the local high school to provide feeder classes for the courses currently offered at Lee, with an emphasis on the needs of the local job market.

In addition, Dr. Abshier was instrumental in establishing the Liberty ISD Bookmobile and snow cone stand that travels to local churches, day care centers, and community events throughout the year. He also organizes, teaches, and recruits students to attend the mobile "Tool School" and "Tool School Camp" for students who are interested about the "why" and "how" things work through a practical hands-on approach.

The letter of nomination for Dr. Abshier reads, "The fact that he is willing to drive a fan bus and attends every event he is able to attend, proves he is the biggest supporter and cheerleader of all students and staff. He wants nothing more than for every student to achieve at their maximum potential." The letter goes on to say, "We fully support his nomination as Superintendent of the Year. We know of no other way of so totally and completely endorsing him."

Dr. Abshier was nominated for the position by his local school board, and a non-biased selection team of school board members from various districts made the final selection. He will be interviewed as a regional winner in late summer by the TASB State Selection Committee, at which time five finalists will be chosen to proceed in the process for the State Superintendent of the Year award.

Region 5 is very proud of Dr. Abshier, his accomplishments, and the difference he makes in the community and in the lives of students! Please join us in recognizing him for this very prestigious award. Congratulations to Dr. Cody Abshier and Liberty ISD!