

**2019**  
**Mrs. Brandi Varnell is the College Board National  
Rural Teacher of the Year.**



Pictured: Mrs. Allison Nys (Executive President-Elect), Mrs. Brandi Varnell, and Mr. Jeff Carlson (The College Board)

Mrs. Brandi Varnell teaches in the Sultan School District, in western Washington State. She teaches Sports Medicine/Anatomy & Physiology at Sultan High School which serves approximately 550 students in grades 9-12. The Sports Medicine Program at Sultan High School is part of the district's Career and Technical Education programs with STEM focus, and is a rigorous challenging program designed for students interested in future careers in medicine and other related health occupations. The program offers students the opportunity to learn industry relevant skills, serve and volunteer in their local community,

and immerse themselves in the study of the human body in order to help prepare them for careers in medical fields.

Brandi is a native Washingtonian and has been a resident of the Upper Sky Valley (Sultan and the surrounding small towns) for 20 years. She and her husband Mike raised six children, five of them attended school in the Sultan School District. She is a Registered Nurse with 23 years of clinical nursing, executive nurse leadership, and nurse consulting experience, and has practiced in a wide variety of clinical settings in rural Washington, Oregon and Alaska. She came to be teaching through the industry route of Career and Technical Education, and here has found a new passion blending secondary education with her passion for her career in medicine.