

I would like to ask Deb Stephenson to join me.

The Honor Award is given to members who have made outstanding contributions to the field of health, physical education, recreation or dance in the state of Iowa. The recipient must be an IAHPERD member and have at least 10 years of experience as a teacher, supervisor, administrator or combination of the same in the field of health, physical education, recreation, and/or dance. They must have provided at least 10 years of contributions to IAHPERD through distinctive leadership and meritorious service.

Deb has been an IAHPERD member for 35 years. She was the author and educator of “Parents & Kids Can Talk About Sexuality” through the Iowa State University Extension in Council Bluffs for 11 years; also while in Council Bluffs she was the Head Dance Team Coach at Lewis Central High School for 20 years and a PE, Health, & Dance Instructor at Kirn Middle School for 15 years. Currently, she teaches in Rock Spring, WY where she is the Intermediate PE & Health Instructor for Sweetwater County School District #1.

Her professional contributions during her 35 years of membership are abundant. She has served on numerous committees and since 1981 has more than likely presented at every single state convention on a range of topics from health, physical education and dance. Speaking of conventions, she was the co-convention manager in 2005 and was the Exhibits Manager for multiple conventions. Deb served as the Vice President of Health for three terms and was our President from 2005-2008. She has now taken that leadership role to the next professional level, she is currently serving as our Central District President. As many of you already know, IAHPERD is in the process of restructuring and Deb is the chair person of the restructure committee. Along with this award she is receiving this evening, she has also been the very deserving recipient of the Health Teacher of the Year award, a Presidential Citation, Steve France Award, and is a University of Northern Iowa Hall of Excellence Inductee.

I think it would be fair to say, that there are not too many people in this room tonight that have not had the pleasure of working with Deb when she has served in one of her many leadership roles. It truly is an honor to experience your leadership and learn from you.

Thank you for your distinctive leadership and meritorious service, Deb. Please join me in congratulating our 2015 Honor Award winner, Deb Stephenson.