FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 2014

AVON CENTER SCHOOL TEACHER WINS STATE AWARD
Community Consolidated School District 46 (CCSD 46)

Grayslake, IL – The Illinois Art Education Association has named Kimberly Butts of Avon Center School in Round Lake Beach, IL as the 2014 Illinois Elementary Art Educator of the Year. This award recognizes the exemplary contributions, service and achievements of one outstanding member of IAEA annually. The award will be presented at the Illinois Art Education Association conference at the Sheraton in Lisle, IL on November 7, 2014.

Mrs. Butts was selected on the basis of her outstanding commitment to visual art education in her field as well as her wider contributions in the Northeastern Illinois region. Mrs. Butts is an art educator at Avon Center School and teaches Kindergarten through fourth grade. Her commitment to art education can be seen through the many art shows, parent communications, and art clubs for both students and faculty. Her dedication to art education leaves a lasting impression on many, including Avon Center School Principal, Chris Wolk. “We at Avon, are extremely proud of Kimberly for her accomplishments. She is a fantastic teacher and makes an impact, not only in the art classroom, but across the building and district with all of her hard work.”

Mrs. Butts has been an instrumental part of the Illinois Art Education Association (IAEA) by volunteering as Conference Registrar since 2010, has held leadership roles as NE Council Secretary, led conference workshops, and presented at local and state levels. In addition to her work with Avon Center School and the IAEA, Mrs. Butts also is a practicing artist and devoted to Artist Trading Cards. Each month, Mrs. Butts holds live swaps of Artist Trading Cards and the BCAC Gallery in Barrington, IL.

Mrs. Butts states, “I never truly realized how much I do and how my love for art education has impacted the people around me until I read the letters of recommendation that were written for me. I feel so honored to be
receiving this award and I am so very grateful for the fantastic friends, family, colleagues, students, parents and administrators who have helped me reach such great heights."

The IAEA is an association of the art educators of Illinois. The organization has been serving the children and art educations of Illinois for over 75 years by providing professional development for educators through workshops, conferences, grants, exhibition opportunities, facilitating communication, promoting conditions for the effective teaching of art, and working to influence education change and reform.

Community Consolidated School District 46 is located in North Eastern Illinois in central Lake County, approximately forty (40) miles north of Chicago and fourteen (14) miles west of Lake Michigan. CCSD 46 serves parts of the villages of Grayslake, Third Lake, Hainesville, Round Lake, Round Lake Park, Round Lake Beach, and Lake Villa.

The district is comprised of seven schools. Four kindergarten through fourth grade neighborhood schools – Avon Center, Meadowview, Prairieview or Woodview, one kindergarten through eighth grade neighborhood school – Park Campus, one fifth and sixth grade intermediate school – Frederick, and one seventh and eighth grade middle school – Grayslake Middle School.

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