



Weedsport Central School District Community,

August 2023

We hope this update finds you well. We want to keep you informed about the ongoing search for the next Superintendent of Schools for the Weedsport Central School District. As you know, our current Superintendent is retiring, and the Board of Education has been actively working to find a qualified successor to lead our district into the future.

**Search Consultant Appointment:** On June 26th, the Board of Education officially approved the retirement of our current Superintendent and appointed the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES District Superintendent as the search consultant to assist in the selection process. The expertise and guidance of the consultant will be instrumental in ensuring a thorough and effective search.

**Community Involvement:** We value the input of our community members and staff in this important decision-making process. Throughout the month of July, while the position was being advertised and candidates were applying, a community survey was available for everyone to provide their thoughts and opinions. Additionally, we conducted four inclusive Focus Group interviews, allowing community members and staff to come together and share their valuable insights on the characteristics they believe the next school superintendent should possess.

**Survey and Focus Group Highlights:** We are pleased to share some of the highlights from the survey and Focus Group interviews. The following bullet points encapsulate the insights and contributions of all stakeholders that chose to participate in the process:

**Experienced and Visionary Leadership:**

- **Experienced Educator:** Boasts a robust background in education, including significant experience as a classroom teacher and administrator, showcasing a deep understanding of administrative dynamics and the ability to lead effectively.
- **Community-Centered Vision:** Possesses a visionary perspective on the school as an integral part of the community, understanding the small community dynamics and aligning the school's vision with the community's values and needs.
- **Adaptive and Innovative:** Embraces change, recognizing the evolving landscape of technology and social-emotional learning, while thinking creatively to address these shifts and maximize student success.

**Open Communication and Relationship Building:**

- **Engaged Collaborator:** Communicates and collaborates seamlessly with fellow administrators, fostering a cohesive administrative team that works coherently toward common goals.
- **Attuned to Community:** Demonstrates a deep understanding of the community's unique characteristics, building relationships through attendance at events and proactive engagement.
- **Approachable and Inclusive:** Maintains an approachable and social demeanor, actively listening to suggestions and feedback, promoting an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect.



**Strategic Financial Stewardship:**

- **Forward-Looking Mindset:** Combines a solid grasp of the business side of education with a forward-looking approach, infusing the district with fresh ideas, and steering the community towards growth, relevance, and adaptability.
- **Local Presence:** Is a consistent presence in the community, enhancing accessibility and the ability to connect with the community and school activities effectively.
- **Student-Centric Decision-Making:** Prioritizes the needs of students, regularly observing classrooms and interacting with staff to understand the learning environment firsthand, while effectively delegating to principals and maintaining a student-focused approach.

**Upcoming Steps:** As we move forward in the search process, the Board of Education will conduct confidential interviews with selected candidates at the end of August and again in early September. Simultaneously, a Google Form will be made available for those who wish to be considered for stakeholder discussions with the final candidates, which will take place in late September.

**Final Decision and Appointment:** After the final interviews have been conducted, the Board of Education will deliberate and make the final decision, extending an offer to the successful candidate. We anticipate announcing the appointment of the next Superintendent of Schools for the Weedsport Central School District in early November.

**Commencement of Service:** Our newly appointed Superintendent is expected to begin their service in early January 2024. Their fresh perspective and leadership will undoubtedly contribute to the continued growth and success of our district.

We sincerely appreciate your ongoing support and engagement throughout this process. Your input is invaluable, and we are committed to ensuring a transparent and collaborative selection process for our next Superintendent. Together, we will continue to provide an exceptional educational experience for our students.

Thank you for being an integral part of our Weedsport Central School District community.