

An invitation to apply for the position of
Superintendent

Valdez City Schools



Valdez, Alaska

The Position

The Valdez City Schools, Board of Education, is seeking a highly qualified and fully certified Superintendent. The Board wishes to have the successful candidate assume the responsibilities of the position on July 1, 2018.

McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., Executive Recruitment and Development has been engaged as the consultant in a search for outstanding candidates. They will assist the Board of Education in identifying and screening the candidates.

The Qualifications

The candidate must have the background, skills, and abilities essential for excellence in educational leadership. The board recognizes that selecting a superintendent is one of the most important decisions it will make. The board has identified the following desired characteristics:

- Possesses strong leadership and management skills with a respect for the opinions of others to establish a good working relationship and focus on excellence with students, staff members, district patrons and the Board of Education. Be a visible and active participant in the school and community.
- Well versed in quality educational ideals. Has the ability to create a climate for strong educational values. Have a proven track record on successful implementation of effective educational programs
- Possesses excellent interpersonal relationship and public relationship skills. Has the ability to work effectively with all stakeholders, listening to all, while maintaining the focus of the district.
- Has the ability to identify strengths of others and build upon those strengths and develop collaborative relationships. A positive team builder with ability to delegate and create a climate for positive risk-taking.

The Community

Valdez, Alaska is located in the northeast section of Prince William Sound and at the beginning of the Richardson Highway. Located on the road system, with an active harbor and airport, Valdez is accessible by land, air, or water. Fairbanks is located 365 miles to the north, and Anchorage is 306 miles to the west.

The town and the surrounding area boasts spectacular scenery and diverse wildlife. Its location also makes it ideal for all kinds of outdoor recreational activities. Community events are held throughout the year and vary based on the season, with some of the most notable events being the annual Halibut and Silver Salmon Derbies and Gold Rush Days. School activities-from sports to music events- are a large part of the community and applicants can expect many opportunities to stay involved both in and outside of school.

The largest employers in the city of 4,011 residents include Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, Providence Medical Center, the City of Valdez/Valdez City Schools, the Coast Guard, Silver Bay and Peter Pan Fisheries, and Valdez Fisheries Development Association. The tourism and commercial fishing industries also provide a number of employment opportunities in the summer.

Higher educational opportunities are available from Prince William Sound College, which offers several associate level degrees, certificates, and continuing education opportunities.



Valdez City Schools

- Educates 651 students, including its Valdez Homeschool Program
- Has three school buildings and a homeschool program
- Is lead by 7 administrators
- Has 56 certificated teachers
- Has 55 classified staff members
- Enjoys a thriving partnership with Prince William Sound College
- Has high achieving students
 - * 95.74% graduation rate for 2016-2017
 - * 93% average attendance for all grades
 - * The 2017 graduating class of 45 students received scholarship's totaling \$1,305,656
- The assessed valuation is \$2,378,267,670
- The operating budget is \$12.65 million. The district is financially stable due to funding received from the City of Valdez. The district receives the maximum amount of funding for the operating budget, plus additional funding for extra projects.



Programs and Activities

- ELOP (Gifted and Talented Program)
- Title I
- Migrant and Indian Education
- Bilingual Education
- Career and Technical Education Classes
- Preschool
- Many extracurricular and sports activities

Board of Education

The Board of Education consists of seven members who are elected to serve three-year terms. The incumbency of the Board members range from 1 to 14 years.

| Name | Occupation | Years Served |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Joe Prax, President | Business Owner | 5 years |
| Kathleen Todd, Vice President | Family Physician | 11 years |
| Dolores Gard, Treasurer | Retired | 14 years |
| Alan Sorum, Board Clerk | Project Manager | 4 years |
| Tamara Holmes | Marine Technician | 1 year |
| Cara Bourne | Dispatch/Corrections Officer | 1 year |
| Jamie Winchester | Homemaker | 1 year |

MISSION STATEMENT

Schools, parents, and community united in education for life: instructing, inspiring, and empowering every student in a safe environment

Find out more about Valdez City Schools:

www.valdezcityschools.org

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURE

Available at www.macnjake.com



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Selection Timeline

1. Application deadline:
December 11, 2017
2. Finalists selected by
Board of Education:
January 7, 2018
3. Interviews with
Board of Education:
January 15-19, 2018
4. Starting date:
July 1, 2018



An application for superintendent should include:

- A letter setting forth personal qualifications, experiences and reasons for interest in the position
- A current résumé
- A completed application form
- Reference letters, certificates and licenses, and academic transcripts from colleges/universities indicating degree(s)

Candidates are asked to not contact board members directly. Any effort to do so may eliminate them from consideration. Names of applicants will be held in strict confidence whenever possible; however, McPherson & Jacobson complies with individual states' Freedom of Information laws.

Valdez City Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer.