

An Invitation to Apply for the Position of

Superintendent

Ottawa USD 290
Ottawa, Kansas



The mission of USD 290 is to nurture a safe, cooperative environment that values students, staff, and community and that ensures all students master the skills necessary to be productive citizens and reach their maximum potential.



The Position

The Ottawa USD 290 Board of Education, Ottawa, Kansas, is seeking a highly qualified, fully certified leader to serve as Superintendent. The Board wishes to have the successful candidate assume the responsibilities of the position 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.

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:

- A trustworthy leader who has demonstrated outstanding integrity and a history of strong moral and ethical leadership.
- A leader for all. The ability to lead and inspire the staff, students, board of education, and community in providing a world-class educational experience for all.
- An experienced and effective school administrator with experience and knowledge in the areas of school finance, educational policy, curriculum, and instruction.
- An innovative leader who is willing to embrace the “Gemini Project” as supported by the Kansas State Department of Education school redesign initiative.
- Effective communicator. The superintendent must be a person who has the ability to listen to and communicate with internal and external stakeholders through oral and written methods.



The Community

Ottawa is located in Franklin County, Kansas in east central Kansas, approximately 50 miles southwest of the Kansas City, Missouri metropolitan area. I-35 gives Ottawa direct access to Olathe in 30 minutes, and US-59 to Lawrence in 20 minutes.

The city of approximately 12,500 residents covers 116 square miles. The largest industry sectors in the area are transportation/warehousing, local government, and retail trade.

In Ottawa, medical care is available from Ransom Memorial Hospital, a not-for-profit 44-bed acute care facility. Additional medical facilities are available in the Kansas City area.

The region offers many recreational opportunities. Additional information can be found at <https://orcottawaks.org>.

Higher educational opportunities are available from Ottawa University and Neosho County Community College.

Additional information about Ottawa can be found at <http://ottawakansas.org>.



The District

Ottawa USD 290 is a member district of the Gemini School Redesign Project with Kansas State Department of Education.

In April of 2015, the community passed a \$63.1

million bond project. Included in the bond project:

- Sunflower Elementary which opened the fall of 2017
- Safety and security measures throughout the district (completed)
- Mechanical and electrical upgrades throughout the district
- Renovations and additions at Ottawa High School include remodeling the interior and a new science wing, performing arts center, center for career and technical education, and administration wing.

Budget Information

Assessed Valuation: \$121,602,502 (all funds except general)
\$113,407,375 (General Fund)

Budget: \$16,710,003 (2016-2017 General Fund)
\$5,069,420 (2016-2017 Supplemental General Fund Budget)
15.5 mils (2017-2018 Supplemental General Fund Levy)
8 mils (2017-2018 Capital Outlay Levy)
19.5 mils (2017-2018 Bond and Interest Fund Levy)

The Board of Education

The Board of Education consists of nine members who are elected to serve four-year terms. The incumbency of the board members ranges from newly elected to 14 years.

Name	Occupation	Years Served
Ms. Susan Ward, President	Nurse Practitioner	14 years
Mrs. Julie Dandreo, Vice-President	Speech Therapist	5 months
Mrs. Lynda Alderman	Retired Teacher	4 years
Mr. Tim Catlin	Self-Employed Marketing Consultant	4 years
Mr. Harold Wingert	Consultant, Owners Representative	2 years
Mr. Brian Kane	Plumber/KS National Guard	10 years
Mrs. Diana Staresinic-Deane	Museum Manager/Freelance Writer	4 months
Mrs. Shanda Olmsted	Home Care	Newly elected
Mr. Chris Cunningham	Concrete Contractor	Newly elected



Students:
2,386

Staff:
424

Administrative: 15
Certified teachers: 208
Classified staff: 200

Schools:
5

High Schools: 1
(includes Career
Technical Education
and Eugene Field
Alternative
Programs)

Middle Schools: 1

Elementary Schools: 3

Additional
information about
Ottawa USD 290 is
available at the
district's website:
www.usd290.org

VISION STATEMENT

ALL students will graduate from Ottawa High School college and career ready; have the knowledge, skills, and behaviors to hold life sustaining employment.



APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURE

available at www.macnjake.com

MCPHERSON  **JACOBSON, LLC**

7905 L St., Suite 310, Omaha, NE 68127

Phone: (402) 991-7031 Fax: (402) 991-7168

E-mail: mail@macnjake.com www.macnjake.com

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 (available from www.macnjake.com)
- Reference letters, certificates and licenses, and academic transcripts from colleges/universities indicating degree(s)

Selection Time Line

1. Application deadline:
January 3, 2018
2. Finalists selected by Board of Education:
January 22, 2018
3. Interviews with Board of Education:
Week of January 29, 2018
4. Starting Date:
July 1, 2018

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. In the final process, the board may visit the district where the candidate is employed, but will not proceed without the knowledge and consent of the candidate.

Ottawa USD 290 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.