

*An Invitation to Apply for the Position of
Superintendent/Principal*

Thorp School District #400



Thorp, Washington

The Position

The Thorp School District #400, Thorp, Washington, Board of Directors, is seeking a Superintendent/Principal. 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 Directors 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:

- The selected candidate will have the knowledge, skills and experience in the areas of curriculum, finance and evaluation.
- Possesses the qualities of leadership that is both collaborative and inclusive.
- The selected individual is a strong communicator who is able to articulate a vision for the Thorp School District that will be collaborative, innovative and inspiring.
- The selected candidate has a positive attitude that conveys a joy and passion for the profession.
- Understands and appreciates the values of a smaller community and school system.

NOTES:

*Per contract, the selected candidate must reside within 25 miles of the Thorp School District boundary.
Superintendent credential preferred, but not required
Must be a state-credentialed Principal*

The Community

Thorp, settled in 1868, is located in the heart of the beautiful Kittitas Valley in central Washington state, and is a rural area known internationally for its timothy hay production.

The area teems with outdoor recreation opportunities such as golfing at Suncadia Resort, hiking, camping, skiing or snowmobiling in the Cascade Range to world-class fishing and water sports on the waters of the Columbia, Yakima and Teanaway Rivers.

Farmland, cattle and horse ranches are bordered by the forests, the LT Murray Wildlife Refuge, and the beautiful Columbia River.



Antique shops, art galleries, and museums, can be found in the nearby towns of Ellensburg, Cle Elum and historic Roslyn, as well as the Thorp Mill, a Washington State historic grist mill, just down the road from the school.

With over 200 average days of sunshine, the Kittitas Valley has a mild climate and enjoys all four seasons. I-90 cuts through the Kittitas Valley, two miles from the school, leading to Seattle 100 miles to the west. Within a half-hour drive are Yakima, Suncadia Resort at Roslyn,

Ellensburg and Central Washington University, and Snoqualmie Pass.

The Kittitas Valley brings a variety of people and cultures to the area as it hosts many events such as the Western Art Show, Jazz in the Valley, Ellensburg PRCA Rodeo and the Kittitas County Fair, the First Friday Art Walk each month, car shows, horse clinics and brewery tours.



The District

Thorp School, recently awarded the 2017 School of Distinction honor for 5 years of improvement in both reading and mathematics at the elementary level, currently has 168 K-12 students and a preschool. The district has two certificated administrators, the Superintendent/Principal and a part-time Assistant Principal. In addition, the district has the support of a Business and HR Manager, an administrative assistant, a maintenance supervisor and a transportation supervisor. There are 20 certificated teachers including part-time teachers and 3 fellows in ELA and math, and 13 classified staff members.



With innovative programs, including two project-based learning classrooms, and an emphasis on integrated technology and robotics, each student has an iPad or Chromebook. Thorp offers the "IGNITE" program for high-achieving elementary students, and juniors and seniors have the opportunity to participate in Running Start classes at CWU in nearby Ellensburg. Students can choose from sports, music, FBLA, Robotics, Chess Club and the History Club as well as other activities through the middle and high school ASB and a very active and involved elementary student council. Student leadership is encouraged.

With small class sizes allowing for individualized attention, Thorp students and staff appreciate the family feel of the small district, and enjoy K-12 combined activities throughout the year in which the staff is also involved -- a walk-a-thon, turkey trot and pie-eating contest, Harvest Festival, Thorp Community Days parade, and assemblies. Thorp High School athletes this year join the Kittitas High School teams for sports. Middle school sports are offered at Thorp and Kittitas.

The facilities are in good condition and are also used for community sports and events. The campus is comprised of two school buildings situated on almost 22 acres, including a football field, track, baseball and softball fields, and a large playground. Thorp's historic building, built in 1936, is a source of community pride. The building is well-maintained, boasting a new roof and heating system.

The district enjoys a healthy operating budget of \$3,021,409, and the Board of Directors has maintained a 12% reserve fund.



Board of Directors

The Board of Directors consists of five members who are elected to serve four-year terms with four districts and one at-large position.

Name

Mrs. Loretta Bushbaum

Ms. Rachel Carlson

Mrs. Carol Johnson

Ms. Spring Liles

Mrs. Nicki Morelli-Mayer

MISSION STATEMENT

Students, parents, staff and community work as a team to provide a safe, equitable, and creative learning environment devoted to excellence, in which students become accountable, self-directed, life-long learners prepared to be productive members of society.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to become a recognized educational leader preparing all students to achieve their greatest potential.

Find out more about Thorp School District #400:

<http://www.thorpschools.org>

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURE

Available at www.macnjake.com



MCPHERSON & JACOBSON, L.L.C.

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Omaha, Nebraska 68127

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Fax (402) 991-7168

Email: mail@macnjake.com

Selection Timeline

1. Application deadline:
February 6, 2018
2. Finalists selected by
Board of Directors:
February 20, 2018
3. Interviews with Board of
Directors:
March 6-8, 2018
4. Selection of new
superintendent/principal:
March 13, 2018
5. Starting date:
on or before 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 resumé
- 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.

Thorp School District #400 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.