An Invitation to Apply for the Position of Superintendent

DeWitt School District

DeWitt, Arkansas
The Position

The DeWitt School District, DeWitt, Arkansas, Board of Education, is seeking a highly qualified superintendent of schools. 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 developed the following desired characteristics:

- Who is a visionary leader, has proven administrative/leadership experience in areas of finance, business management, very organized and detail oriented.
- Who knowledgeable in curriculum/instruction, has an understanding of teaching and learning, and capable of leading in the areas of academics.
- Who is approachable and has good oral and written communication skills, exhibits positive people skills, and is a collaborative leader.
- Who is consistent in relationships with staff, capable of establishing an environment of high expectations/individual accountability. Who is transparent, and a thoughtful/decisive decision maker (has capability of making practical decisions and utilizes “common sense”).
- Who will become vested in the community, will commit and assume ownership of the district, understands the strong attributes of the District, and will market the Dewitt District.
- Who is a person of good morals, strong character, and integrity, and displays a caring disposition for kids.

The Community

DeWitt is located approximately 90 miles southeast of Little Rock.

Major employers in the city of 3,292 residents are Industrial Ironworks and Belleville Shoe South. There is a hospital and several doctor offices in the DeWitt offering medical care to the residents.

Hunting is the major outdoor activity in the area. The city hosts a fair and an annual parade.

Higher educational facilities include the Phillips Community College branch of the University of Arkansas, and also, the University of Arkansas at Monticello is located about an hour away.
The DeWitt School District has an enrollment of 1,261 students and covers 922 square miles. There are 175 staff members, 12 administrators, 104 certificated teachers, and 59 classified staff.

Special programs available to the students include GT, Quiz Bowl team, Robotics team, and East Lab.

Extracurricular activities available to the students include band, choir, and sports.

The assessed valuation of the district is $156,217,604. The operating budget is $11,528,879.43.

District website http://dewittschooldistrict.net

The Board of Education

The Board of Education consists of seven members who are elected to serve a five-year term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Bran Koen, President</td>
<td>Owner-Southern AG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Drew Whiting, Vice President</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Shawanna Wansley, Secretary</td>
<td>PCCUA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. April Herring</td>
<td>PCCUA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Bruce Morgan</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Johnny Lockley</td>
<td>Area Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Kenneth Graves</td>
<td>Farmer</td>
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</tbody>
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MISSION STATEMENT

To provide all students equal access to a safe and nurturing environment in which they can grow mentally, physically, socially, and technologically into capable and productive citizens. The district stands ready, willing and able to accept this responsibility for all students in our care.
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 not to 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 school board may visit the district where the candidate is employed, but will not proceed without the knowledge and consent of the candidate.

**Selection Timeline:**

- Closing date for applications: **March 20, 2018 (11:30 p.m. central time)**
- Board of Education selects finalists to interview: **April 12, 2018**
- Finalists interviews with the Board of Education: **April 16-19, 2018**
- Selection of new superintendent: **April 23, 2018**
- Start date: **July 1, 2018**

*DeWitt School District* is an Equal Opportunity Employer.