

An Invitation to Apply for the Position of
Superintendent

***South Central
Nebraska USD #5***



***Lawrence-Nelson &
Sandy Creek, Nebraska***

The Position

The **South Central Nebraska USD #5, Fairfield, Nebraska**, 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:

- Strong budget and school finance skills that is able to efficiently manage, communicate, and improve our tax request and staffing plan
- Forward thinking, creative instructional leader that can maximize our emphasis on career pathways while also emphasizing teaching and learning throughout all PreK-12th grade areas
- A strong, confident leader with integrity and a great work ethic that has high expectations for themselves, staff, and students
- A community-minded leader that is a strong communicator and accessible/approachable in all of our communities who is able to positively promote our school district
- A collaborative leader that is able to energize and unite staff members, students, and stakeholders throughout all communities

The District

District website <http://www.southcentralunified.org/>

The South Central Nebraska USD #5 was formed by the unification of Sandy Creek & Lawrence-Nelson in 2000. Today, the district educates 700 students and covers 750 square miles. There is a PreK-12 grade facility at Sandy Creek. 6-12 at Nelson and PreK-5 at Lawrence.

The district is proud to have a 1-to-1 MacBook laptop initiative in place for all students in the 2-12th grades and iPads for every K-2. South Central Unified also uses a learning management system called Schoology and a work-based management system called Basecamp for students to reflect and work on projects with real-world customers. The district also has the SCALE program, an alternative education setting that serves students within the district and contracted in from outside districts.

Extracurricular activities include: cross country (girls and boys); basketball (girls and boys); football; volleyball; track (girls and boys); wrestling; golf (girls and boys); speech; drama; National Art Honor Society; Plays/One Act; music; Pep Band; cheerleading; flag team, HOSA; Skills USA, FCA, GUESS, archery, student council; National Honor Society; FFA; FBLA; Close Up and Quiz Bowl.

The school district is a part of the national Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) network and has eight Career Pathways. They are Advanced Manufacturing, Agriculture, Architecture/Drafting, Business, Education, Graphic Arts, Health Care, and Welding and offers over 150 college credits. Students also benefit from the Nebraska Center for Advanced Professional Studies (NCAPS) program, which provides real-world profession-based learning opportunities for students.

The District has excellent facilities and has completed the following projects in recent years:

- Student Graduation Ratio of 100%
- 41,000 Square Foot Nebraska Center for Advanced Professional Studies including an animal lab, graphic arts lab, culinary arts lab, health care lab, chemistry lab, advanced manufacturing lab, business incubator, construction and welding labs, new kitchen, band room, forum area, small group space, large group space, and four conference rooms, which includes a 'Shark Tank' designed for student public presentations. (Will be completed in October 2018)
- Track (2011), Outside football lights, Stadium Bleachers and press box at LN & SC, Pavilion & Concession, Storage building (2014)
- Greenhouse (2014)
- Inside gymnasium bleachers, Scoreboards & Video Board (2013), weight room (2014)
- New gymnasium lights at Lawrence, Nelson, and Sandy Creek (2014-2015)
- All new outside windows at Sandy Creek and upstairs windows at Lawrence (2011, & 2016-2017)
- All new roofs at Sandy Creek (2014)

The assessed valuation for the district is \$1,628,445,715 with land in Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster counties. The general fund budget is \$13,891,108 and the general fund levy is 52.7 cents. There is also 16 cents levied in the Special Building Fund to pay for the NCAPS project. The remainder of the \$10,000,000 project will be paid in full during the 2018-19 budget year. The district also carries a cash reserve of \$5,646,109.

The Community

Seven communities make up the South Central NE USD #5 School District situated southeast of Hastings and all within two hours of Lincoln. They are Clay Center, Deweese, Edgar, Fairfield, Glenvil, Lawrence and Nelson.

Clay Center (population 683) Website: <https://claycenterne.com/> **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Sons of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Community Theater, Senior Center, Library, Clay County Museum, Fairgrounds with 4-H building, country club and golf course, swimming pool, baseball fields, volleyball and basketball courts, fitness center. **Community Festivals:** 4th of July Festival, Old Trusty Days, Clay County Fair. **Businesses:** Clay County Courthouse, Clay County Sheriff's office, medical office, dentist office, U.S.D.A. Meat Animal Research Center/South Central Ag Lab, legal offices, gas station/convenience store, floral shop, 2 banks, insurance office, Dahlsten Trucking, Aurora Co-op, Clay County Health Dept., Drive-Inn, Bountiful Baskets, beauty shop, Dollar General **Churches:** 1 Lutheran, 1 Christian, 1 Community Church

Deweese (population 72) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue unit (incorporated with Fairfield), Community Club, Community Center, park & basketball court **Community Festivals:** Deweese summer festival & Demolition Derby **Businesses:** Wits End Bar & Grill, Dewey's Bar, Nebraska Boulders, C&M Supply elevator, Post Office **Churches:** 1 Catholic Church

Edgar (population 498) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Sons of the Legion, Lions Club, Red Hats, 4 parks, swimming pool, tennis court, ball fields. **Community Festivals:** 4th of July Festival (Edgarfest), Santa coming to town, Easter bunny, and swimming lessons. **Businesses:** Grocery store-Corner Market, 1 licensed day care Megan's Kids Corner, Sugar Shack Candles & Gifts, Brodstone medical clinic, gas station Brian's Repair, Cornerstone Bank, Oregon Trail insurance office, Dean Hansen attorney's office, ERC Communications, Superior I Net, Overturf and Associates, U.S. Post office, Mad Batters Bakery, Balance and Body Massage Therapy, Nic's Styles, Hair Dimensions, Sharon's Beauty, Becks farm Equipment, Crop Production Services, and Shuck Drilling and Engineering company. **Churches:** 1 Presbyterian, 1 Christian

Fairfield (population 402) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Sons of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Library, Community Center, park, tennis & basketball courts, ball fields **Community Festivals:** Triple F Summer Festival **Businesses:** Ken & Al's Gas station, Opera House Restaurant, Pinnacle Bank, Butcher Shop meat processing, Insurance Plus, JB Corner Daycare, Ridgway Repair mechanics shop, Fairfield Coop, Carolyn's Hair Salon **Churches:** 1 Community Presbyterian Church

Glenvil (population 332) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Sons of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, park with sand volleyball, basketball & shuffle board court **Businesses:** Bank, gas station, Legion **Churches:** 2 Lutheran

Lawrence (population 297) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Legion Auxiliary, Country club & golf course, parks, swimming pool, ball fields, tennis & basketball courts **Community Festivals:** Summer Festival, Golf Tournaments, Road Rally, Liberty Cove Recreational Area, Rep Valley Trap Club **Businesses:** Grocery store, Dick's Place Bar & Grill, licensed daycares, gas stations, bank, electric & plumbing business, lawn care, repair service, two catering businesses, three chemical supply companies, construction companies, feed & grain services, insurance agencies, painting business, salon & boutique, trucking, and welding businesses. **Churches:** 1 Catholic Church, 1 Catholic - rural

Nelson (population 488) **Community Organizations & Activities:** Fire & Rescue, Community Club, Legion Club, Legion Auxiliary, Senior Center, Eastern Star, Masonic Lodge, VFW & Aux., Red Hats, library, Nuckolls Co. Fairgrounds, country club & golf course **Community Festivals:** Nuckolls Co. Fair and Rodeo, High School Rodeo, 4th of July Fun Day, Golf Tournaments **Businesses:** Nuckolls Co. Courthouse, Nuckolls Co. Sheriff's office, D & D's Lyons Den, CAPS Cafe & Grocery Store, licensed daycare, bank, law office, South Central Public Power, 2 gas stations, Drudik's Electric, South Central Public Power District, beauty shop, funeral home, bookkeeping service, insurance agencies, lawn care business, motel, newspaper, real estate office, thrift store, apartment style living, repair shops, USDA office, two chemical supply companies, construction companies, feed & grain services, electric & plumbing business. **Churches:** In town & surrounding area: 1 Catholic, 1 Community, 1 Lutheran, 2 Christian

COMMUNITY YOUTH PROGRAMS: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Learning for Life-Fire Cadet Program (Glenvil), 4-H groups, youth summer baseball/softball, volleyball, football, basketball, wrestling and soccer.



MISSION STATEMENT

Educate, Prepare, Support Citizens of the World.



The Board of Education

The Board of Education consists of twelve members who are elected to serve four-year terms.

Name	Occupation
Donita Furman, President	US Dept. of Agr.- Purchasing
Lance Williams, Vice President	Cornerstone Bank
Kim Story, Secretary	Educator- Hastings Public
Ethan Epley, Treasurer	C & M Supply
Dwayne Buescher	Farming
Phil Brockman	Farming
Cheryl Brockman	Banking-Pinnacle
Chad Dane	Farming
Susan Karmazin	Manager at Junction Motor Speedway
Laurie Kohmetscher	Farming
Becky Miller	Healthcare professional at Central Neb Orthopedic
Brian Shaw	Farming & Pioneer Seeds

Board of Education Vision Statement

'Continuously and passionately provide for and expect educational excellence through high levels of commitment, collaboration, and communication among students, parents, staff, and community'



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APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCEDURE

available at 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
- Reference letters, certificates and licenses, and academic transcripts from colleges/universities indicating degree(s)

Selection Timeline:

- Closing date for applications: **February 27, 2018**
- Board of Education selects finalists to interview: **March 13, 2018**
- Finalists interviews with the Board of Education: **March 15-16, 2018**
- Selection of new superintendent: **March 19, 2018**
- Start date: **July 1, 2018**

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.

South Central Nebraska USD #5 is an Equal Opportunity Employer.