
Announcement of Vacancy Superintendent of Schools Joliet THSD 204



Mission:

*The mission of Joliet Township High School
a historically rich, unified and innovative
learning community is to empower every
student to compete and contribute positively
to our community and global society by
providing a rigorous and personalized education
through an academy environment.*

August 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY

THE DISTRICT

The Board of Education of Joliet THSD 204, Joliet, Illinois is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent of Schools. The Board wishes to select a superintendent who will begin work on July 1, 2019.

It is anticipated that the total compensation package will be regionally competitive based on successful experience and education. It is expected that the initial contract will be for a multi-year period, as authorized by Illinois statutes.

LOCATION – Joliet THSD boundaries include Joliet, Rockdale, Elwood, and areas of Shorewood, Plainfield, Minooka, Crest Hill, and Channahon. There are eight sender school districts within these boundaries.

TYPE – Grades 9-12; Over 6,400 students.

OFFICE – 300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet, IL 60436.

DISTRICT STAFF – 37 Administrators, 404 Instructional, 67 Clerical, 65 Buildings and Grounds, 13 Technology, 82 Paraprofessionals, 147 Transportation, 44 Food Services, 31 Security.

FACILITIES –

Joliet Central High School..... Grades 9-12
201 E. Jefferson Street, Joliet

Joliet West High School Grades 9-12
401 N. Larkin Avenue, Joliet

Joliet Township High School Alternate School Grades 9-12
110 N. Collins Street, Joliet

Joliet Township High School Transition Center Ages 18-22
131 N. Collins Street, Joliet

Joliet Township High School Child Care Center Ages 6 weeks-35 months
104 N. Collins Street, Joliet

Joliet Township High School Administrative Center.... Administrative Staff
300 Caterpillar Drive, Joliet

Joliet Township High School Transportation Center.... Transportation Admin. and Staff
3901 Olympic Boulevard, Joliet

SPECIAL PROGRAMS –

Alternate School: www.jths.org/district-programs/alternate-school

Bilingual/ESL: www.jths.org/district-programs/bilingualesl

Childcare Center: www.jths.org/district-programs/childcare-center

Preschool: www.jths.org/district-programs/preschool

Transition Center: www.jths.org/district-programs/transition-center

CURRICULUM – District 204 curriculum has been developed through the collaborative efforts of our certified staff and aligned with the Illinois Learning Standards. As students successfully complete our recommended course sequence in the core academic subjects, they are provided with the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in their post-secondary institutions and/or career fields.

JTHS curriculum is delivered through a two-tiered academic system that includes college prep and honors. We understand that every career does not require a college education, but we also know that the world of work requires college-level knowledge and skills.

Programs of study have been developed which help students and parents select the most appropriate classes in their career interest pathway. In addition, we are increasing the number of dual credit and advanced placement courses so that our students will have an opportunity to earn college credit as they complete their high school coursework.

Our goal is to provide students with a rigorous and relevant academic foundation to ensure a successful transition from high school to post-secondary education or the workforce. Visit the following link for additional information, including our Course Offerings Guide: www.jths.org/academics/academics-overview.

SPECIAL SERVICES – In keeping with the vision and mission of the district, we are committed to providing services to students in the district who have individual and unique needs in a positive learning environment that partners with families and community.

Special Service programs include special education, home/hospital instruction, homeless education, and educational services at River Valley Detention Center. These programs provide students with instruction, social emotional supports, as well as other resources that enable students to acquire skills and knowledge that will prepare them to become life-long learners and empower them to be successful responsible citizens of Joliet as well as in a global information driven society.

Joliet Township High School District 204 provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and the necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District, as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

For students eligible for services under IDEA, Joliet Township High School District 204 shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided within the Illinois State Board of Education school code and regulations.

An Individual Education Plan (IEP) which includes transitional services and determines the least restrictive environment to meet the individual needs of the student, will be developed and implemented by the IEP team which includes, parents/guardians, students, and staff. In addition to providing academic supports, the district provides related services at the Central, West, and Alternate school campuses to further assist students' educational needs. Joliet Township District 204 provides a continuum of services based on the needs of the individual student with an IEP, which are determined by the IEP team.

TRANSPORTATION – In August 2011, The Joliet Township High School District 204 Transportation Department relocated to a new 148,000-square-foot facility located at 3901 Olympic Boulevard in Joliet. The centrally located facility provides improved training, office, and employee space; indoor and outdoor bus parking; and a new maintenance facility. Moving the Transportation Center to the new facility provided space for the Child Care Center and Alternate School students.

CAFETERIA PROGRAM – The cafeteria provides quality breakfast and lunch selections each day. Students pay \$2.90 for a full lunch meal and \$1.90 for a full breakfast. The district participates in the National School Lunch Program and is monitored by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Will County Health Department.

MEMBER OF – Joliet Township High School District 204 is a member of numerous professional and community organizations, such as: Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Business Officials, Illinois National School Public Relations Association, National School Public Relations Association, Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Leadership Alignment for Educational Planning (LEAP), Joliet Region Interfaith Education Council, Three Rivers Manufacturers' Association, Rotary Club of Joliet, Kiwanis Club of Joliet, Zonta Club of Joliet .

DISTRICT WEB SITE – www.jths.org

FINANCIAL DATA

EAV	\$ 2,860,767,558
Bonds Outstanding	\$ 95,420,000
Total Budget Revenue.....	\$ 115,021,824

TAX RATE:

Education.....	1.6374
Operations & Maintenance.....	0.3122
Transportation.	0.1163
Working Cash	0.0349
I.M.R.F.....	0.0635
Tort Immunity.....	0.1489
Bond & Interest	0.2618
Fire Prevention, Safety.....	0.0000
Social Security.....	0.0728
Special Education	0.0035
TOTAL	2.6513

BOARD OF
EDUCATION

The Joliet THSD 204 Board of Education is comprised of citizens dedicated to providing the best education possible for every student it serves. Board members establish sound written policies and expect the superintendent to function as the chief executive officer in implementing those policies.

Name.....	*Years
Jeff Pierson, President.....	17
David Skorupa, Vice President	3
Tracy Spesia, Secretary	7
Arlene Albert.....	37
Meg Cappel.....	1
Angel Contreras.....	1
Frank Edmon	1

*Years served on the Joliet THSD 204 Board of Education.

APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS.

THE COMMUNITY

COLLEGES – The University of St. Francis has two campus locations within the City serving 3,700 students. Joliet Junior College operates two sites within the community. The Main Campus and the new Joliet City Center Campus both provide quality degree and vocational education to the area. Lewis University is also located within the Joliet Area at One University Parkway in Romeoville.

INDUSTRY – The business community is active and well represented. The Joliet Area Chamber of Commerce, Joliet City Center Partnership and Heritage Corridor Convention & Visitors Bureau all provide support of local business and promote the interests of Joliet. The city also offers robust sectors such as industry, logistics, transportation, and distribution centers led by major employers like Caterpillar, ExxonMobil Corporation, Amazon, and CenterPoint. In addition, residents take pleasure in the community's outstanding schools and higher learning facilities, two award-winning hospitals, affordable real estate, and excellent public services, which all come together to provide a high quality of life that is truly second-to-none in the Chicagoland area.

RETAIL – Joliet is home to a strong and diverse retail base including a major regional mall. Retail opportunities exist within numerous commercial corridors as infill sites and as vacant pads. Manufacturing and logistics continue to expand with Amazon, IKEA, Mars, Whirlpool, Saddle Creek Logistics, and others selecting Joliet as home.

MEDICAL – State-of-the-art, award-winning healthcare facilities located within Joliet and the surrounding area include Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center and Silver Cross Hospital.

CULTURAL/RECREATION – The city of Joliet and its culture are represented in many ways, including historic murals, mosaics, and statues that have been created by the Friends of the Community Public Art (FCPA) to increase the awareness of a community's rich historical and cultural heritage. FCPA has set an example in the City of Joliet and can help other communities who also wish to distinguish themselves through visual art.

Major attractions in Joliet include historic downtown architecture, the Rialto Theater, Harrah's Casino, Hollywood Casino, Joliet Slammers baseball at Silver Cross Field, NASCAR at Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet Historical Museum, Route 66 Visitors Center, Ironworks Park, Bicentennial Park, Autobahn Country Club, and four regional bicycle trails.

Joliet and the Will County Region are experiencing a continuation of the residential, commercial, and industrial growth that was interrupted during the great recession. Permit activity continues to accelerate bringing millions of dollars of private investment to Joliet. So much has been happening here over recent years, especially in the downtown city center, which has been transformed into an urban hub for entertainment, shopping, dining, working, and living. With such community-wide attractions including two casinos, three racetracks, a professional independent baseball team, and much more, Joliet has developed into a flourishing tourist destination.

PLACES OF WORSHIP – The Joliet area has a broad range of religious representation and places of worship.

FRATERNAL AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS – Joliet Township High School has over 600 community partnerships and/or volunteers that include members of fraternal and professional organizations. Annually in May, JTHS honors community partners at the Salute to Service Partnership Recognition Event.

TIMELINE

Application Deadline: October 12, 2018 by Noon

Candidates Presented to Board: November 2018

Board Interviews Candidates: November/December 2018

New Superintendent Appointed: January 2019

New Superintendent Begins: July 1, 2019

THE SCREENING TEAM

A Screening Team from the Illinois Association of School Boards has been selected to assist the Board of Education in securing and screening applicants. The team will be facilitated by:

Alan Molby, Consultant, Executive Searches
Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard, Illinois.
217/528-9688 ext. 1153

Dr. Catherine M. Finger, Consultant, Executive Searches
Illinois Association of School Boards, Lombard, Illinois.
847/204-0998

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

Candidates will be evaluated on their professional merits and successful experience that demonstrates a good match for the district, with emphasis on the following, specified by the Board of Education. The Superintendent of our district should be an educational leader who:

- Acts with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner.
- Has the ability to prioritize a culturally-responsive mindset throughout an educational environment and community.
- Advocates, nurtures, and sustains a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning, staff professional growth, and academic success.
- Has the ability to select, assign, and evaluate staff, and cultivate a strong leadership team.
- Collaborates with faculty and community members, responds to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizes community resources.
- Has experience in the development and implementation of a successful and evolving strategic planning process.
- Has experience in maximizing the strengths of cultural and socioeconomic diversity toward student achievement

High school district-level experience in a bilingual, multicultural setting required.

Previous experience as a superintendent preferred.

Residency in district is strongly preferred.

THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants will be required to provide responses to the following online application statements:

1. Describe your experience in curriculum development and instructional implementation.
2. Describe your experience in school finance and budgeting.
3. Describe your experience in developing and monitoring goals for school improvement.
4. Describe your experience in building and sustaining productive relationships with stakeholders (board, staff, students, parents, and community members).
5. Describe your experience in working with a diverse population (socio-economic, cultural, ethnic, etc.).
6. Having read the ideal candidate section of the announcement of vacancy, why do you feel you are a match for this district?

IASB has an online application process and does not accept mailed, emailed, hand-delivered or faxed application packets.

Please begin your application process at:

<https://www.applitrack.com/IASB/onlineapp>

Applicants will need to establish a user name and password. Applicants will be asked to give consent to a limited background inquiry. Completed responses to statements identified in this announcement will be required.

All applicants must apply online by Noon (CST) October 12, 2018 and upload the following documents to receive consideration:

1. **A formal letter of application** indicating your desire to be a candidate for this position.
2. **A formal resume** that includes a summary of achievements in administrative positions, educational vision and goals, personal leadership philosophy, and reasons for your interest in this position.
3. **At least three recent letters of reference dated within the last three years.**
4. **Copies of transcripts** from each college/university attended. (Please redact/remove your social security number and birthdate before uploading any of these items).
5. **Proof of qualification and licensure to be a superintendent in the state of Illinois** (copy of the administrative licensure with all related endorsements*) or other evidence showing qualification to be a superintendent in another state. (Please redact/remove your birthdate before you upload this document).

*Information on certification and licensure can be obtained by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education, Division of Professional Preparation, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777 or by visiting the ISBE website at www.isbe.net.

Joliet THSD 204 is an equal opportunity employer and the Illinois Association of School Boards is an equal opportunity employment search agency.

**This Professional
Superintendent Search
is conducted by the**

