

Woodbridge Board of Education



Community Profile / Community Engagement / Superintendent of Schools

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ENGAGEMENT AND COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

JE Consulting gathered information from multiple stakeholders commencing on September 14, 2020 through October 17, 2020. In total, there were nine separate meetings (virtual platform) held during this five-week window. In partnership with online meetings, a survey was available on the Woodbridge website.

In summary, approximately 150 faculty/staff/community members attended a session, completed a survey, or spoke directly to the issue via electronic mail or phone.

FINDINGS

The Woodbridge community has prioritized the following **skills** as essential requirements for the new superintendent:

1. A superintendent who is patient and willing to **listen, observe, and learn** before launching any new Beecher Road School initiative.
2. A superintendent who demonstrates best practice in all aspects of the work; thus, through her/his professional daily performance enhances **climate and culture** within the organization.
3. A superintendent who has experience and previous success in both the **fiscal and political** frame.
4. A superintendent who can **ascertain needed resources** through multiple lanes of opportunity.
5. A superintendent who makes herself/himself available to all stakeholders and fosters a **communication protocol** with staff, BOE, and parents that is embraced and understood by all in the Woodbridge community.

The Woodbridge community has prioritized the following **character traits** as essential needs for the new superintendent:

1. **Confidence in the Scope of the Work**
2. **Honest**
3. **Humble**
4. **Intelligent**
5. **Uncompromising Moral Compass**

Those who participated in the data collection are most proud of:

1. The **prepared student** who graduates from a PK-6 Beecher Road School experience.
2. The **staff** (defined as both certified and non-certified) within the district who comprise Woodbridge Public Schools.
3. The **Woodbridge Board of Education's fiscal support to educate the whole child**, which is deeply illustrated within the arts, multi-age and enrichment programming, and numerous other co-curricular activities.
4. The **legacy of exceptional teaching and learning** at the Beecher Road School.
5. The **safe and nurturing environment** that supports PK-6 teaching and learning.

Those who participated in the data collection suggest additional attention should be focused on how:

1. To **maintain and enhance** student opportunity during the present pandemic.
2. To ensure **equity in opportunity with those students who will be remote learners** for the immediate future.
3. To appropriately fund all needs for the Beecher Road School during a time of **fiscal turbulence** at both the state and federal level.
4. To **retain key staff members** (administration and educators).
5. To continue to enhance a consistent and sustainable PK-6 program around the **social and emotional** needs of the child.

In addition, those who participated in the focus groups and those who shared additional comments on the survey believe the following to be important for the board of education within the hiring process:

- The new superintendent recognizes the uniqueness of a one school, school-district and approaches the work as a **partner to all Beecher Road staff**.

- The new superintendent makes an **honest time commitment** to the Woodbridge Board of Education and plans to stay in the superintendent's role for many years.
- The new superintendent closely examines all aspects of teaching and learning at Beecher Road School **before implementing any change**.
- The new superintendent recognizes the **diversity** in the district and does all that he/she can do to create a platform of appropriate equity and inclusion for all learners and stakeholders.
- The new superintendent prioritizes establishing **high-functioning relationships** with all key elected and appointed officials (town government, public safety, etc.).
- The new superintendent leads with a strong **personal credo**.
- The new superintendent **embraces the exceptional learner** and works with both the school and parent community for student success.
- The new superintendent understands the **power of innovation and partnerships** to offer an even greater opportunity to the learner.
- The new superintendent respects and understands the need to **educate the whole child** (music/ art / physical education /etc.) in balance with federal and state mandates.
- The new superintendent is **visible** within the school community and the community-at-large.
- The new superintendent can **retain, lead, and inspire** the present Beecher Road staff.
- The new superintendent embraces **parents as partners**.
- The new superintendent **never loses sight of the learner**.