

# Why Work for South St. Paul Public Schools?

## Video Transcript

### ***Amber***

I first decided to come to SSP when my kid started preschool. I had been teaching preschool in St. Paul and commuting every day.  
I just really wanted to be a part of their school family.

### ***Juan***

I came for the students, for the kids to see if I could make some sort of change. Some sort of impact.

### ***Calvin***

I first decided to apply for South St. Paul because it was a better opportunity for my family and myself.

### ***Michelle***

My position with South St. Paul Schools is Head Engineer and in that position I do a variety of different jobs, which I love. Everyday is a new experience and it just keeps me thriving.

### ***Brian***

One of the things that's special about our district is its size and that you can develop close relationships with other staff, but also our families and our community. So it really feels like a family.

### ***Juan***

I get to interact with elementary kids, students, the middle school kids here too. You just see them growing and you start to build those relationships with parents. You just pretty much get to know the whole family.

### ***Amber***

Once you're getting to know people. You find out that they graduated from here, their mom works here, they're cousins with the bus driver. That's something that's unique to South St. Paul and it makes our relationships stronger.

### ***Michelle***

I love working with the staff and the kids. As I grow older the kids mean so much to me.

**Brian**

We have a really great benefits package so first we aim to have competitive salary and pay, hourly rates for our employees, anyone who's full-time, which is actually considered 30 hours or more qualifies for medical insurance.

One of the things that's unique about working in the public sector, that a lot of people don't understand when looking at total compensation, is that we actually earn a pension.

We also work really closely with people to provide flexible options around schedules. We have opportunities that are in the day, opportunities that are in the evening, of course if you're a parent or if you live in the community, it's great to have a schedule that might mirror what your children are.

**Amber**

I'm a single mom. It's awesome to be able to go with my kids to school, to be on the same schedule, to know all of their friends, to know some of their teachers. It makes it a lot easier for me to balance both.

**Calvin**

I love the schedule here because everyday I start in the morning fairly early, not too early and I'm done with my day by 2:00 and I'm ready to roll. I have so much time to spend the rest of the day with my family.

**Brian**

When people think of schools they always go right to their brain of thinking about teachers, but there are many different types of jobs in the district and they don't all require a teaching license.

**Calvin**

There's so many different moving parts and people that work together.

**Michelle**

As I was growing up, I always wanted to be a school teacher. I never knew I would be a head engineer of a building.

**Brian**

There are many opportunities whether it's working in our offices or being a support staff member in the classroom like a paraprofessional. We don't want people to think the jobs are limited because they don't have prior school-based experience or a teacher's license. We're also looking for opportunities to help people get trained when they're with us.

**Juan**

I have a psychology background so I want to do counseling at some point. Just seeing if working with kids is something that I like to do.

***Amber***

I think we do a good job as a district of making sure that every employee feels valued in their role.

***Calvin***

The leadership in South St. Paul, they listen to their employees and they do the best they can to give them what they need to succeed.

***Michelle***

I love the variety of work I do. Knowing there's so much out there in life and being able to go outside and see the sun and not sit behind a desk, it's so comforting to know that there's a job out there that works for me.

***Calvin***

I like to work with the kids and have a big impact on their life. I like seeing them smile and I like just knowing that I'm making their day better in a way.

***Juan***

This role, cultural liaison, I'm brand new to this role. It's such an impactful role to a kid's life and a kid's future. I'm pretty happy being a part of the community and supporting them too. It's an honor to be doing this kind of work.

***Amber***

I am a graduate of SSP and I live in the community, so for me it's really about reinvesting in this community and being able to build those connections with students and families in the place where I live, where my kids live.

***Brian***

I love working in South St. Paul, I've worked in multiple different school districts and this is a special place. It's a great feeling community, it's a great feeling district, and everybody really has a lot of fun while we do our jobs.

If you want to join us and be a part of the fun, and part of the work in making a difference for kids, this is a great place to be.