



CANON-McMILLAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

— EST. 1954 —

It is with tremendous gratitude and an immense sense of responsibility to be named the next Superintendent of the Canon-McMillan School District. Many of you may already know me, as I have been a part of this district for quite some time. From my early days as a student teacher, to my role as principal for nearly 20 years, and most recently as the assistant to the superintendent. I have had the privilege of witnessing the growth and success of our students and staff over many years.

As I embark on this new chapter as Superintendent, I am filled with excitement and a strong determination to lead our district toward excellence. One of my primary goals is to establish Canon-McMillan as a premier 6A school district in our area. This will require a collective effort from all stakeholders - school board, parents, students, teachers, staff, administration and the wider community.

We have some exciting yet challenging initiatives ahead of us. The new Wylandville Elementary construction project is underway, which will necessitate redistricting to ensure a smooth transition for our students. Additionally, we will be advocating for the implementation of full-day kindergarten, recognizing the significant benefits it offers to our young learners. Furthermore, we must prepare our secondary students for the rapidly changing work environment they will encounter in the future.

A major concern is the growing [teacher attrition](#) and shortage which has resulted in a loss of quality Canon-McMillan teachers to other school districts and fields. The number of new teachers entering the field has declined by 67% with only a little over 5,000 new teachers in the entire state compared to 12 years ago with numbers over 15,000. Pennsylvania had over 5,000 unfilled positions last year alone (Penn State College of Education, 2024). This problem will require a multi-faceted approach from everyone to

reverse it - starting with how teachers are respected and treated. The goal has to be maintaining our talent and recruiting the best teachers as our students deserve nothing less.

In my first year as Superintendent, my primary focus will be on gathering input from all stakeholders. I plan to immerse myself in our school buildings, spending time with students, faculty, staff, and administration. By establishing strong relationships and creating a solid leadership foundation, we can set the stage for success throughout the district.

I am committed to transparency, open communication, accountability and collaboration. By working together, we can provide the best possible education for our students and create an environment where they can thrive academically and socially.

This will be an exciting journey ahead. Together, we can make Canon-McMillan School District a place where our students can reach their full potential. Let's get to work!

Sincerely,
Greg Taranto, Ph.D.
Superintendent