



Dear Southwestern Central School District Community:

In June, following Maureen Donahue's announced retirement, the Southwestern Board of Education spent time carefully reviewing options available to fill the vacancy in the Office of the Superintendent. Our Board has appointed Dr. David O'Rourke to serve as our search consultant as we seek to hire an outstanding candidate as our next Superintendent of Schools. As we prepare for our students' return to school, we are seeking input from our school community in a number of ways.

The Board will be organizing stakeholder interview teams to assist with interviews of finalist candidates. These teams will conduct final interviews, and team members will be required to attend pre-interview training and all final interview dates. Information about these stakeholder interview teams will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

The search has been planned according to the tentative timeline below.

Vacancy Brochure published	By Friday, September 27, 2024
Application deadline	Friday, November 8, 2024
Dr. O'Rourke and his staff to meet with Southwestern CSD interview team members	Monday, December 10, 2024
The Board of Education conducts confidential preliminary interviews	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday January 21, 22, & 23, 2025
Final interviews conducted by the Board and Interview teams	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, February 10, 11, & 12, 2025
Board meeting to appoint Superintendent of Schools	Prior to March 15, 2025
New Superintendent to assume duties	On or about July 1, 2025

A Thought Exchange survey link is on the Southwestern CSD website for all community members (faculty, staff, parents, residents, students, and business owners) to provide input on the search for a new Superintendent.

You may also access the link here: [Thought Exchange link](#)



If for any reason you are unable to access the link, you may visit the Southwestern District Office for assistance.



The Thought Exchange survey link will be available until **September 15, 2024**. The Board will review all the responses to the Thought Exchange and we appreciate your input about the District's needs for the next Superintendent of Schools.

The Board of Education will provide updated information about the search process as it moves forward. Any questions from interested candidates or questions about the search process itself may be directed to Dr. David O'Rourke at [dorourke@e2ccb.org](mailto:dorourke@e2ccb.org) or (716) 549-4454 x4029.

Respectfully,  
*Southwestern Central School District Board of Education*