The Downingtown Area School District
Superintendent Search Update

November 17, 2026

Dear DASD Families, Students, Staff and Community:

We are pleased to announce that the search for the next superintendent of schools for Downingtown Area School District (DASD) is underway! During the November 11, 2026 School Board meeting, the Board of School Directors approved an agreement with the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU) to conduct a confidential search for our next superintendent.

We have begun to meet with the CCIU search team, and we are excited to begin what we expect to be a multi-month process to secure the best candidate for our school district community.

Below you will find several updates and key components of the search process.

Process and Confidentiality
Communicating with you, our district stakeholders, is integral to the search process. Updates regarding the search will be posted on the district's website as new developments in the process unfold.

We will engage our community in guiding and informing our search process using focus groups and survey tools as well as community updates from the Board. To attract a wide field of experienced candidates, it is necessary that the superintendent search process be confidential. This means that only the Board and the CCIU search team will be privy to the candidates' information and involved in the interview process.

Stakeholder Participation
The Board is seeking your input through a series of virtual focus groups facilitated by the CCIU. We want to know what qualities, experiences, and leadership characters the community believes the next superintendent needs, and we welcome dialogue about the future direction of the DASD. To encourage open and honest conversations, the Board and central administration will not be present during any of the focus group meetings.

CCIU representatives will facilitate the meetings and collect all information in aggregate to preserve anonymity. A candidate profile outlining desired experience, skills and characteristics, and interview questions will be created based on stakeholder priorities and feedback.

Information regarding how to participate in this process will be forthcoming in a future communication.

Next Steps
The deadline for applications is December 28, 2026, after which the comprehensive selection process to identify our next superintendent will start. We will conduct thorough preliminary

screenings of applicant credentials, carefully evaluating each candidate's qualifications, experience, and potential to lead our district.

The candidates who most closely align with the established qualifications and leadership profile will be invited to participate in a rigorous, multi-stage interview process to assess each candidate's educational vision, leadership capabilities, and alignment with our district's strategic goals.

Our timeline anticipates completing the search process by late February or early March 2027, enabling the selected superintendent to assume leadership of the district by July 1, 2027. This carefully planned approach ensures a smooth transition and minimal disruption to our educational community.

We are deeply committed to transparency and collaboration throughout this critical process while also protecting candidate confidentiality. We invite and welcome input from our entire DASD community as we seek an exceptional educational leader who will inspire our students, support our educators, and advance our district's mission of educational excellence.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement during this important journey.

Sincerely,

Board of School Directors
Downingtown Area School District