Pittsburgh Board of Public Education Initiates Process to Launch a National Search for Permanent Superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools

Request for Proposals for Search Consultant Services Issued to Identify Candidates to Lead the Next Chapter in District’s History

PITTSBURGH, February 17, 2022 – The Pittsburgh Board of Public Education yesterday issued a Request for Proposals to a select group of professional consultants to initiate a national search process that will lead to identifying candidates to consider in selecting a permanent Superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS).

“The decision to conduct a national search provides the opportunity for us — as a school community — to determine the ideal type of leadership we need to guide our District into the future,” said Board President Sala Udin. The goal is to have the permanent Superintendent in place by the start of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Mr. Udin noted that community input will play a key role in identifying the traits needed in a leader that will best serve PPS students, educators, and the community. The Board is committed to implementing a public input aspect into the process. Specific details on the community input process will be made available once a search firm has been engaged.

The invitation-only RFP was sent to pre-selected firms; all proposals must be received by the Board on or before Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Search firms will be asked to submit substantially detailed proposals, which will then be evaluated by the Board based on responsiveness to criteria for selection, terms, and conditions contained in the RFP.

A Board vote is required to approve the contract with the yet-to-be identified search firm. It anticipates that the selected search firm will be authorized by the Board at its Legislative Meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. The Council of Great City Schools, a coalition of 75 of the nation’s largest urban public school systems, assisted by recommending to the Board a short list of search firms to invite their participation in the RFP process.
The Board remains steadfast in its position to be transparent throughout the process. However, due to personnel and privacy issues, certain information will not be made public; and, out of respect for the individuals applying for this post, the candidate pool must remain confidential until the final selection is announced.

The nine-member Board will serve as the Search Committee who will make the ultimate hiring decision for the next permanent Superintendent.

Dr. Wayne N. Walters will continue to serve in his capacity as Interim Superintendent, under contract through September 30, 2022, or until a permanent superintendent is selected.

About Pittsburgh Public Schools
The Pittsburgh Public School District is the largest of 43 school districts in Allegheny County and second largest in Pennsylvania. The District serves 20,350 students in pre-kindergarten through graduation. The Pittsburgh Public Schools offers students a variety of options and opportunities that will help them succeed in school and prepare them for whatever comes next in college, career and life. Visit https://www.pghschools.org/

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