



# news

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Pittsburgh Board of Public Education Seeking to Maximize Community Input in Search for Permanent Superintendent**

*Community engagement critical component to create 'Leadership Profile' used to identify ideal slate of candidates to lead Pittsburgh Public Schools*

PITTSBURGH, May 4, 2022 – The Pittsburgh Board of Public Education is seeking maximum community input as part of its process to select a permanent Superintendent to lead Pittsburgh Public Schools. During the community engagement phase of this important process, the public is encouraged to participate through multiple opportunities to help determine the leadership traits and qualities needed to identify the next permanent Superintendent.

“There is no more important decision we will make as a Board than selecting the right Superintendent for our District. Community engagement is an essential part of this process,” said Board President Sala Udin. “We are inviting members of both the Pittsburgh Public Schools family and broader City of Pittsburgh community to participate in Community Forums and complete surveys so that your voices can be heard.”

In March, the Board hired the consulting firm BWP & Associates (BWP) to lead a national search to identify qualified candidates to fill the post of permanent Superintendent for the District. BWP will use information gathered during a series of one-on-one interviews, small focus groups, Community Forums (see below for schedule dates) and through an online Community Input Survey to learn the strengths, needs, and relevant issues of the Pittsburgh School District as part of BWP’s effort to recruit the best slate of candidates. The nine-member Board will make the ultimate hiring decision for the next permanent Superintendent.

Feedback pertaining to the following questions will be discussed during the Community Engagement Activities and aggregated through the online Community Input Survey, specifically:

- What do you see as the greatest strengths of the Pittsburgh Public Schools?
- What do you see as the greatest challenges faced by the Pittsburgh Public Schools?
- What skill sets, qualities, and characteristics does the next Superintendent of Pittsburgh Public Schools need to possess and demonstrate?
- Is there anything else you would like to share regarding the hiring of the next Superintendent?

**-more-**

### 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.

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A short Community Input Survey is ready for input at [pghschools.org/superintendentsearch](https://pghschools.org/superintendentsearch). The deadline to complete the short survey is May 18, 2022, by midnight. Note that the Community Input Survey will also be available in six languages (Spanish, Arabic, Nepali, Pashto, Swahili, and Russian) beginning May 11, 2022.

In addition to the Community Input Survey and Community Forums, BWP will be conducting Focus Group sessions with participants representing District administrators, educators, parents and guardians, students, faith-based organizations, foundations, corporate leaders, in addition to Board members and other constituencies. By “**Maximizing Community Input in the Search for a Permanent Superintendent for Pittsburgh Public Schools**,” the insights garnered from all of these outreach efforts will build the foundation on which the Leadership Profile is developed by BWP and utilized in the selection recruiting process. The Leadership Profile will be presented to the public at a Board meeting during a Special Session on May 26, 2022.

Note: Due to personnel and privacy issues, the candidate pool must remain confidential until the final selection is announced.

### **Community Forum Details**

Community meetings are being held in five geographic areas of the City of Pittsburgh to ensure maximum opportunity to participate in the process. Light refreshments will be served prior to the start of the meetings. To encourage participation, limited transportation will be offered from key locations within City neighborhoods by request. In addition, onsite childcare will be available to those requesting it by registering in advance. Though not required, participants are encouraged to wear face masks.

### **SCHEDULE FOR COMMUNITY FORUMS**

Participants are requested to register in advance at <https://www.pghschools.org/cms/module/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=356>.

#### **Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

##### **East**

Pittsburgh Westinghouse Academy 6-12

1101 N. Murtland Street, Pgh., 15208

*Meeting time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30)*

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### **North**

Pittsburgh Perry High School

3875 Perrysville Ave., Pgh., 15214

*Meeting time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30)*

### **West**

Pittsburgh Langley K-8

2940 Sheraden Blvd., Pgh., 15204

*Meeting time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30)*

### **Thursday, May 12, 2022**

#### **South**

Pittsburgh Carrick High School

125 Parkfield Street, Pgh., 15210

*Meeting time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30)*

#### **Central**

Pittsburgh Science & Technology Academy 6-12

107 Thackeray Street, Pgh., 15213

*Meeting time: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 5:30)*

#### **Virtual Session**

*Meeting time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.*

*An option of a Virtual Community Forum is also available for those who prefer to participate virtually. Participation links will be shared in advance of the Virtual Community Forum by registering at <https://www.pghschools.org//cms/module/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=356>.*

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