

The Kent City School District is seeking
qualified applicants for the position of

Superintendent



Application deadline: May 19, 2023

www.kentschools.net

The search

The Kent City School District is seeking a highly qualified educational leader for the position of superintendent. The selected leader will follow Superintendent George Joseph, who has announced his retirement following nine years of dedicated service as the district's superintendent. The Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) will facilitate the search process, with Cheryl W. Ryan and Kristi Robbins serving as the board's search facilitators.



The district

The district serves approximately 3,000 students preschool through grade 12. Located in Portage County, its enrollment area includes the city of Kent, Franklin Township, and the Village of Sugar Bush Knolls, as well as a small portion of southern Streetsboro. The district is committed to making a significant and positive difference in the lives of each of its students and to providing professional and meaningful careers to its teachers and staff members.

The district's board of education is working to select a superintendent who will continue its positive partnerships with five committed board members, district administrators including Debbie Krutz, the district's long-standing treasurer and CFO, teachers and other staff members throughout the district, and the greater community, including deep connections with Kent State University, to provide and maintain



OHIO SCHOOL BOARDS
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Division of Board and Management Services
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high quality programs in a safe and dynamic learning environment. Kent City Schools enjoys a long reputation of preparing students for college and career success and is proud of its 97% high school graduation rate.

The district serves students at Davey Preschool, four neighborhood elementary buildings (Davey, Holden, Longcoy and Walls), at Stanton Middle School and Theodore Roosevelt High School (TRHS). It also is proud of its learning-centered and extra-curricular facilities, including a new athletic turf field, field house and competition gymnasium at TRHS. Other recent facilities improvements have included new secure entryways at all six school buildings and upgrades in the performing arts auditorium at TRHS.

Kent City Schools provides a wide array of excellent student programming, encompassing instructional, support services, non-instructional services, extracurricular activities and athletics. It offers significant programming for students with special needs, and this is an area of strength and expertise in Kent. Many students take advantage of career technical programs offered through the district's membership in the Six District Educational Compact, with facilities at TRHS and five other regional high schools. Eleven of the compact's 28 CTE programs are offered at TRHS.

The community

Located in northeast Ohio's Portage County, Kent is an ideally sized community of approximately 28,000 residents. Known throughout the state as one of its great college towns, the city and district are proud of their partnerships and programs with Kent State University (KSU), Team Kent and the Six District Educational Compact. The board seeks a superintendent who has an understanding and ability to work with, develop and maintain these higher educational and community partnerships.

Portage County, named for the confluence of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers, is home to significant employers, including KSU, the Davey Tree Expert Co., University Hospitals-Portage County, Northeast Ohio Medical University and leading manufacturers. The district, university and city are known for their rich and varied cultural and arts programs. Kent, the original Tree City, is blessed with an extensive park system, a dynamic downtown and many festivals and events throughout the year. The city of Kent is located 25 miles north of Akron and less than an hour south of Cleveland.



Students and staff at a glance

Enrollment	3,154
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Number of employees	
Certificated	310
Non-certificated	108
Administrators	20

Bond rating: Moody's	Aa2
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State share percentage	50.89%
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Average teacher salary	\$77,173
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Qualifications

The Kent City Board of Education invites applicants who can demonstrate a track record of strong educational and professional leadership. The board prefers a candidate with significant central office or broader district experience and the willingness to live within the district. The new superintendent should be able to provide evidence of knowledge or accomplishment in:

A candidate must be able to demonstrate:

- Enthusiasm to be the face of the Kent City Schools, visible in school buildings, at community events and as the district's council or board representative in various educational and civic organizations.
- Consistent communication across all district groups, including excellent speaking and listening skills and a willingness to engage board, staff and others in discussions to improve the district.
- Visionary skills to produce short- and long-range plans for district improvement and the ability to build school and community investment for them.
- An understanding of the legal and financial foundations and complexities of public education, and the ability to form a strong partnership with the district's treasurer.
- The ability to be a mentor to and talent developer of other district administrators; able to guide in teaching, learning and operational areas of school district administration.
- Having and holding high expectations for self and others in areas including honesty, accountability, transparency and collaborative leadership.
- Being articulate, persuasive and highly visible throughout the district and community and a relentless and positive champion for the district and its students.

District financial information

Total valuation	\$674,971,020
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Mills

Inside	3.80
Class 1 effective millage	38.10
Bond	3.21

Appropriations

General fund	\$54,480,136
Total – all funds	\$86,923,011

Expenditures per pupil	\$16,438
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General fund revenue

General property taxes	50.2%
Public utility taxes	4.4%
State funding	33%
Other	12.4%

Board of education

Member	Years on the board
Brian Boykin, president	30
Colin Boyle, vice president	2
Pamela Ferguson	10
Tiera Moore	2
Rebekah Wright Kulis	16

Terms of employment and compensation

The successful candidate will be offered a multi-year contract. The salary will be regionally competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. A comprehensive benefits package is included.

Application process

Visit OSBA's secure, online application system at <https://osba.myrevelus.com> to apply. Application materials are subject to Ohio's public records laws.

Note: Applicants should not make personal contact with board of education members. For information about the search, contact the OSBA search consultant.

Tentative search timetable	
Application deadline	May 19, 2023
First round interviews	May 29, 2023
Second round interviews	June 5, 2023
Employment begins	Aug. 1, 2023

Questions
For questions about the search, contact:
Cheryl W. Ryan Ohio School Boards Association (614) 540-4000 cryan@ohioschoolboards.org
For questions about the application process, contact:
Kristi Robbins Ohio School Boards Association (614) 540-4000 krobbins@ohioschoolboards.org



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