

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Concord community invited to participate in Superintendent search process

CONCORD, NH: The Concord School Board is excited to announce that the community engagement phase of the District's search process for a new Superintendent of Schools kicks off today with an online survey. More opportunities for public input on the search are planned over the next few months.

The survey, which will remain open until Monday, February 10, is designed to collect community feedback on the most important qualities and priorities for an incoming superintendent. Students, families, school staff, and other stakeholders are encouraged to complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CVWTSVR>. The survey was designed and is being administered by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC), which is assisting the District with the superintendent search process.

On January 16, the Concord School Board met with representatives from NESDEC. "The folks from NESDEC really impressed the Board with their commitment to reaching out to the Concord community," said Board President Jennifer Patterson. "Through this community engagement process, we will hear from stakeholders about the qualities we need to look for in our next superintendent." The Board expects to select a new superintendent in early April, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2020.

In addition to completing the survey, interested community members are encouraged to attend one of the focus group sessions that NESDEC will conduct in early February for parents, community members, students, teachers, staff, and administrators. The focus groups are designed to obtain more detailed participant input about the attributes, experience, and knowledge that the new superintendent should possess. The groups also provide an opportunity for participants to identify immediate tasks which the new superintendent should address.

The "parent/community" focus group sessions are scheduled for Monday, February 4 at 9-10:15 am and 7-8:15 pm at Broken Ground School, and Tuesday, February 5 from 9-10:15 am and 4:30-6 pm at Concord High School. Additional information about attending a focus group is available here: <https://www.sau8.org/School Board/Superintendent Search/>.

In mid-February, NESDEC will present a report to the Board summarizing the community input. The Board will use this information to develop a candidate profile emphasizing the qualities most important to the community. Using this profile, an applicant screening committee composed of a broad array of school/community members (including Board members Tom Croteau and Danielle Smith) will review applications on a confidential basis from early to mid March. The committee will identify finalists to be considered by the Board, which will make the final selection of a candidate after interviews and further opportunity for public input in late March and early April.

As more information on the Superintendent hiring process becomes available, it will be posted to the Concord School District website, <https://www.sau8.org>.

For further information on this release, please contact:

Jennifer Patterson

Concord School Board President

(603) 225-4610

jpatterson@sau8.org