

## **The Octorara Area School District Superintendent Search Update**

**January 25, 2023**

Dear OASD Parents, Students, Staff and Community:

We are pleased to announce that the search for the next superintendent of schools for Octorara Area School District is underway! During the January School Board meeting, the Board of School Directors approved a contract with the Chester County Intermediate Unit (CCIU) to conduct the confidential search for our next superintendent. Previously, the CCIU conducted a similar search for OASD's current superintendent, Dr. Michelle Orner.

We have begun to meet with the CCIU search team, and we are excited to report that advertising for the position has been posted regionally with a deadline for application submission indicated as February 24, 2023.

Integral to the process will be communicating with you, our district stakeholders. Updates regarding the search will be posted on the district's website bi-weekly or more often if new developments in the process warrant the need for more frequent communication.

The Board will be seeking your input by scheduling a series of focus groups facilitated by the CCIU. Dates and times of these focus groups will be determined soon and will be posted on the district's website. We want to know your views, and we welcome dialogue about the future direction of the Octorara Area School District. 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 guide the meetings and collect all information in aggregate form in order to remain anonymous. We will use the information gathered to develop a candidate profile and an array of interview questions that center on the needs and challenges facing our district as identified by the Board and by you, our stakeholders.

After the application deadline of February 24, the Board will conduct preliminary screenings of applicant resumes and credentials and will interview the most highly qualified candidates. After the first round of interviews, the strengths and weaknesses of each applicant will be determined, and the Board will select candidates for a second round of interviews to determine who best meets the needs of our district.

We hope to have the search process completed by mid-spring so that the new superintendent can assume his or her responsibilities at the Octorara Area School District on or as close to July 1, 2023.

Thank you for your support during this important process. We look forward to working with and having a dialogue with the entire OASD community to bring in an outstanding educational leader to serve as the district's next superintendent of schools.

Sincerely,

Board of School Directors  
Octorara Area School District