

Announcement of Vacancy Superintendent

PORTA CUSD 202

April 2026



ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY

The Board of Education of PORTA CUSD 202 Petersburg, Illinois is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent of Schools. The Board wishes to select a superintendent who will begin work on July 1, 2027.

The Board expects to offer a salary in the range of \$120,000 to \$150,000 and a competitive benefits package including sick days, vacation days personal days, health insurance, life insurance, TRS/THIS contributions, and professional membership dues. It is anticipated that the total compensation package will be based on successful experience and education. It is expected that the initial contract will be for a multi-year period, as authorized by Illinois statutes.

A PROJECTED TIMELINE

Application Deadline:
September 8, 2026 by Noon (CST)

Candidates Presented to Board
September 2026

Board Interviews Candidates:
October 2026

New Superintendent Appointed:
November 2026

New Superintendent Begins:
July 1, 2027

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

IASB has an online application process and does not accept mailed, emailed, hand-delivered or faxed application packets. Please begin your application process at: <https://iasb.myrevelus.com>

Applicants will need to establish a username and password. Applicants will be asked to give consent to a limited background inquiry. Completed responses to statements identified in this announcement will be required.

All applicants must apply online by 12:00 p.m. (CST) September 8, 2026, and upload the following **PDF documents** to receive consideration:

1. A **formal letter of application** indicating your desire to be a candidate for this position.
2. A **formal resume** that includes a summary of achievements in all education positions, educational vision, and goals, personal leadership philosophy and reasons for your interest in this position.
3. At least **three recent letters of reference dated within the last three years.**
4. **Copies of transcripts** from each college/university attended. **Please redact/remove your social security number and birthdate before uploading any of these items).**
5. **Proof of qualification and licensure to be a superintendent in the state of Illinois** (copy of the administrative licensure with all related endorsements*) or other evidence showing qualification to be a superintendent in another state. **(Please redact/remove your birthdate before you upload this document.)**

ALL UPLOADS MUST BE IN PDF FORMAT.

*Information on certification and licensure can be obtained by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education, Department of Educator Effectiveness, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777 or by visiting the ISBE website at www.isbe.net.

Applicants will be required to provide responses to the following online application statements:

1. Describe your experience in curriculum development and instructional implementation.
2. Describe your experience in school finance and budgeting.
3. Describe your experience in developing and monitoring goals for school improvement.
4. Describe your experience in building and sustaining productive relationships with stakeholders (board, staff, students, parents and community members).
5. Describe your experiences in working with a diverse population (socio-economic, cultural, ethnic, etc.).
6. Having read the ideal candidate section of the announcement of vacancy, why do you feel you are a match for this district?

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT AND AREA

www.porta202.org

LOCATION – PORTA is a consolidated district comprising Petersburg, Oakford, Rock Creek, Tallula and Atterberry as the signature communities. The educational center is Petersburg, which lies about 30 miles north and west of Springfield IL. The school district boundaries encompass the boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln, New Salem state park. Additionally, Jim Edgar State Park borders the school district on the West and offers many outdoor activities including biking, fishing, hunting, and camping.

TYPE — K-12; 1,052 Students

OFFICE — 17651 Bluejay Rd., Petersburg, IL

STAFF — 4 Principals, 1 Athletic Director/Asst. Principal, 86 Teachers, 76 Support Personnel

CENTRAL OFFICE PERSONNEL — Superintendent, Bookkeeper, Maintenance Director, Food Service Director, Transportation Director, Payroll Clerk.

CURRICULUM —Curriculum is aligned with the common core standards. District provides a comprehensive curriculum in grades PreK through twelfth grade. District has 120 seats in the ½ day PreK program. District has a K-2 Self-contained building, 3-6 Self-contained building and a 7-12 Building. All K-6 grade levels have 3-4 classrooms per grade level. K-2 and 3-6 buildings are Title I schools and students participate in Art, Music, technology curriculum, and physical education. Elementary school is highly proactive with students' social and emotional well being and provides ample opportunities for students to work with innovative technology. District students are essentially 1 to 1 using Google Chromebooks. Jr/Sr High follow a traditional schedule. Students have elective opportunities in STEM, Agriculture, Mechanics, Building Trades, Nursing, auto Family and Consumer Science, and Technology. High school students have dual credit opportunities and advanced placement classes.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS — Special Education programs are offered at school through SASED Special Education Cooperative, located in Springfield, Illinois. Athletic opportunities include Co-op sports with the A-C School District. Those athletic opportunities include: football, cheer, cross country, golf, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, softball, baseball, and track and field. PORTA High School also has a band, Marching Band, e-sports, fishing, and scholastic bowl.

FACILITIES — Petersburg Elementary was last renovated in 2020, last addition in 1998 and houses PreK-2. In the same year 1998, the PORTA school district built PORTA Central to house 3-6th grade students. The junior/Senior high school is for students in grades 7-12. PORTA Jr/SR High School is a building that has been renovated in 1998 and most recently in 2020 and 2022. At the conclusion of the 2022 school year all ten year life safety items will have been completed.

TRANSPORTATION — The district operates its own fleet of 22 buses and 6 additional vehicles.

FOOD SERVICES — The district operates its own food service program offering federal reimbursable lunches and breakfast.

MEMBER OF — Illinois Association of School Boards, Lincoln Technical School cooperative, SASED Special Education District, Illinois High School Association, Illinois Elementary School Association, and Central Illinois Educators Health Insurance Coop.

MEDICAL — SIU School of Medicine, Menard Medical is a Springfield Memorial affiliate, located in Petersburg and in nearby Springfield. HSHS, Memorial and Springfield Clinic are facilities that offer a full line of medical services.

CULTURAL — A variety of cultural activities are available in the Petersburg and Springfield area. Petersburg has become a destination for visitors who appreciate a variety of local businesses that provide recreation, entertainment and food and craft beverages. New Salem State Park is the gateway to the legacy of Abraham Lincoln, which can be coupled with many Lincoln and cultural activities in the Springfield area, which include theater, concerts, Illinois State Fair, and The Lincoln Library.

RECREATION — A wide range of recreational activities are in the district and surrounding communities. These activities include golfing, swimming, sports, fishing, and boating, hiking, biking, thespian activities and many community events.

PLACES OF WORSHIP — Most major denominations have churches located within the district.

RETAIL — Within the PORTA District, many opportunities are available for boutique shopping. Additional retail opportunities can be found in the surrounding communities and in Springfield IL.

FRATERNAL AND PROFESSIONAL

ORGANIZATIONS — Local organizations include: Lions Club, Kiwanis, Rotary, Petersburg Women's club, Menard County Jaycees.

COLLEGES — The PORTA School district is part of the Lincoln Land Community College system. UIS is located in Springfield IL, Western Illinois University, Illinois College, Illinois State. St. John's College of Nursing and Midwest Tech are located a short distance from the district.

INDUSTRY — The community is mainly agricultural but in recent years, the downtown area of Petersburg has grown to become a travel, shopping, and dining destination. The area includes shops, boutiques, breweries, fine dining restaurants as well as casual dining.

TUITION WAIVER — non-resident children of employees may attend district schools without paying tuition.



This Professional Superintendent Search is being conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Dr. Vic Zimmerman., Consultant Executive Searches, (217) 528-9688, ext. 1135. or vzimmerman@iasb.com.

FINANCIAL DATA

EAV	\$229,848,365
Bonds Outstanding	\$14,200,000
Annual Revenue from CSFST	\$430,000
Total Budget Revenue	\$17,500,000

TAX RATE

Education	2.4800
Operations & Maintenance	0.5000
Transportation	0.2000
Working Cash	0.0500
I.M.R.F	0.0961
Tort Immunity	0.4369
Bond & Interest	1.1100
Health Life Safety	0.0500
Social Security	0.1049
Special Education	0.0400
Lease	1.3004
Debt Service	1.3004
TOTAL	5.3083

IDEAL CANDIDATE

Candidates will be evaluated on their professional merits and successful experience that demonstrates a good match for the district, with emphasis on the following, specified by the Board of Education. The Superintendent of our district should be an educational leader who:

- Has Finance/Budget expertise
- Excellent written and verbal Communication Skills/Collaborative
- Develops and works cooperatively/effectively with BOE
- Fosters a Professional Culture for Educators
- Develops and supports Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- Facilitates meaningful and ongoing Family/Community Engagement
- Ensures an Inclusive, Safe School Environment

Previous successful teaching experience is required.

Previous successful administrative experience is required.

Residency in the district is preferred but not required.

APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS.

PORTA CUSD 202 is an equal opportunity employer and the Illinois Association of School Boards is an equal opportunity employment search agency.

MISSION STATEMENT

Soaring with Integrity, Learning with Purpose, Shaping the Future.

PORTA CUSD 202 will empower every Bluejay to soar by providing diverse learning opportunities that foster each student's unique journey toward future success.

At PORTA we value...

- **Creating a Safe, Respectful, and Supportive Environment:** We foster a community where personal accountability, well-being, integrity, and mutual respect are the cornerstones, ensuring a safe, nurturing space for all to thrive.
- **Fostering Student Potential through Excellence:** We inspire excellence, empower growth, and nurture future leaders through innovation and diverse opportunities.
- **Building a Thriving Community of Unity and Success:** We promote a vibrant culture of collaboration where inclusion is embraced; and strong relationships among students, staff, and the community fuel collective growth and success.
- **Empowering Students for Positive Impact:** We challenge students to rise to their potential and commit to making a meaningful difference in the world.
- **Equipping Minds for an Ever-Changing World:** We prepare our students to confidently navigate and shape a dynamic, evolving future through training in critical thinking and problem solving and the use of cutting-edge technology.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The PORTA CUSD 202 Board of Education is comprised of citizens dedicated to providing the best education possible for every student it serves. Board members establish sound written policies and expect the superintendent to function as the chief executive officer in implementing those policies.

Name	*Years
Jeff Smith, President	11
Alissa Bilyeu, Vice President	3
Tracy Thornton, Secretary	5
Bill Chick, Board Member	3
Joni Churchill, Board Member	14
Tim Davis, Board Member	3
Jeff Schoneweis, Board Member	8

**Years served on the PORTA CUSD 202 Board of Education.*



This Professional Superintendent Search is being conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Dr. Vic Zimmerman., Consultant Executive Searches, (217) 528-9688, ext. 1135. or vzimmerman@iasb.com.