

FINANCIAL DATA

EAV	\$ 209,493,978
Bonds Outstanding	\$ 13,492,034
Total Budget Revenue	\$ 23,669,338
TAX RATE —	
Education	2.7000
Operations & Maintenance.....	0.7000
Transportation.....	0.2000
Working Cash.....	0.0500
I.M.R.F.....	0.0716
Tort Liability	0.4773
Social Security	0.1313
Special Education.....	0.0400
Fire Prevention.....	0.0500
Other.....	0.0508
TOTAL	4.8407

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Mercer County SD 404 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
Bill Smock, President	13
Don Yates, Vice President	16
Jason Monson, Secretary	3
Talbert Balmer, Jr.	11
Julie Wagner	11
Jacob Lower	1
Lori Nelson	1

**Years served on the Mercer County SD 404 Board of Education.*

APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO CONTACT BOARD MEMBERS.

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 with honesty and integrity who:

- Has finance and budget expertise
- Fosters a professional culture for educators focused on engagement, accountability, and empowerment.
- Develops and works cooperatively/effectively with Board of Education
- Is genuinely collaborative, with excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Develops, with stakeholders, District Goals and Strategic Plan
- Facilitates meaningful and ongoing family and community engagement
- Has facilities and grounds experience and expertise
- Facilitates continuous improvement through data and program analysis

Previous teaching and successful administrative experience is required.

Previous superintendent experience is preferred.

Mercer County SD 404 is an equal opportunity employer and the Illinois Association of School Boards is an equal opportunity employment search agency.

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://www.applitrack.com/IASB/onlineapp>

You will need to establish a user name 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 Noon (CST) May 6, 2024 and upload the following documents to receive consideration:

1. A **formal letter of application** indicating desire to be a candidate for this position.
2. A **formal resume** that includes a summary of achievements in administrative 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 3 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).**

*Information on certification can be obtained by contacting the Illinois State Board of Education, Division of Professional Preparation, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777 or by visiting the ISBE website at www.isbe.net.

Announcement of Vacancy

**Superintendent of Schools
Mercer County SD 404**



MISSION STATEMENT

Mercer County School District, in an active partnership with family and community, shall provide a positive environment in order to promote excellence in education, enabling students to become respectful, productive, and responsible citizens.

April 2024

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANCY

The Board of Education of Mercer County SD 404, Aledo, Illinois is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent of Schools. The Board wishes to select a superintendent who will begin on July 1, 2024.

It is anticipated the total compensation package will be regionally competitive and based on successful experience and education. It is expected the initial contract will be for a multi-year period, as authorized by Illinois statutes.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT AND THE AREA

LOCATION — The district spans a large geographic area, with schools located in New Boston, Joy, and Aledo, Illinois. The district office is located in Joy. The Quad Cities and Galesburg are conveniently nearby.

TYPE — PreK-12; 1,294 students.

OFFICE — 203 N. Washington Street, Joy, IL 61260.

STAFF — 4 Principals, 2 Assistant Principal, 113 Teachers, 103 Support Personnel.

CENTRAL OFFICE PERSONNEL — Superintendent, District Secretary, District Bookkeeper/Payroll, Accounts Payable Clerk.

DISTRICT PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSES - The School District, in an active partnership with parents and community, will promote excellence in a caring environment in which all students learn and grow. The partnership shall empower all students to develop a strong self-esteem and to become responsible learners and decision-makers. The district is committed to developing and using a visionary and innovative curriculum, a knowledgeable and dedicated staff, and sound fiscal and management practices.

CURRICULUM — Mercer County School District offers a comprehensive curriculum to meet the needs of all students. Students have many elective choices, including foreign language, business ed, music, art, agriculture, and technology. Accelerated students are challenged with advanced coursework in several curricular areas. Students may also enroll in dual credit classes through Black Hawk College. The district provides up-to-date technology available to all students. The Title I Program provides services designed to help at-risk students achieve the high standards expected of all students.

FACILITIES — The District is comprised of 5 buildings:

Mercer County High School (Grades 9-12) – Aledo, IL 61231

Mercer County Junior High School (Grades 6-8) – Aledo, IL 61231

New Boston Elementary School (Grades K-5) – New Boston, IL 61272

Apollo Elementary School (Grades K-5) – Aledo, IL 61231

Early Learning Center (PreK) – Joy, IL 61260

TRANSPORTATION — Mercer County has its own bus fleet that services the western portion of the district. Transportation in the eastern portion of the district is contracted with Johannes Bus Services.

CAFETERIA PROGRAM — The district has a closed campus meal program that provides breakfast and lunch according to the USDA Meal Pattern guidelines. Free and reduced meals are available to applicants who meet the income guidelines.

WEBSITE: www.mercerschools.org

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: www.aledomain-street.com

CITY OF ALEDO: www.aledoil.org

MEMBER OF — Illinois Association of School Boards, Illinois Association of School Administrators, Lincoln Trail Athletic Conference, and Prairieland Athletic Conference.

MEDICAL — Genesis Health Group, Aledo

CULTURAL — Cultural opportunities include Essley-Noble Museum & Mercer County Historical Society House of Burgess.

RECREATION — Local recreation opportunities include Haven Hills Campground and Resort, Merco Trails, Mercer County Motorsports, Mercer County Oakview Country Club, Aledo Public Pool, and the Mercer County YMCA.

PLACES OF WORSHIP — In addition to other area options, places of worship include College Avenue Presbyterian, Community Bible Fellowship, First Baptist Church, Messiah Lutheran, St. Catherine's Catholic Church, Grace Evangelical Free Church.

RETAIL — The City of Aledo is home to Wal-Mart, Dollar General, Mercer Market, and Huffman's Farm Store.

FRATERNAL AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS — Mercer County enjoys the services of many officially-recognized civic organizations that provide invaluable services.

COLLEGES — Black Hawk College is 34 miles north of Aledo, Muscatine Community College is 34 miles northwest of Aledo, and Monmouth College is 30 miles south of Aledo.

INDUSTRY — Local industries include General Grind & Machine, Memminger's Metal Finishing, and Martin Tractor Inc.

A PROJECTED TIMELINE

Application Deadline:

May 6, 2024 by Noon (CST)

Candidates Presented to Board:

May 15, 2024

Board Interviews Candidates:

May, 2024

New Superintendent Appointed:

June, 2024

New Superintendent Begins:

July 1, 2024

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?

This Professional Superintendent Search is being conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Patricia Sullivan-Viniard, Ed.D., Director, Executive Searches, (630) 629-3776, ext. 1240

