

**SCHOOL EXEC CONNECT
WEST ST. PAUL-MENDOTA HEIGHTS-EAGAN AREA SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH ON-LINE SURVEY
JANUARY 12, 2017**

This report highlights the responses of 288 individuals who chose to participate in an on-line survey as a part of the search process for a new Superintendent of Schools. The survey collected the participants' perceptions regarding goals for the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area Schools, the strengths and challenges facing the District and the characteristics and skills desired in the next superintendent. Due to the sampling methodology, this report should not be considered a scientifically based research document. The on-line survey was completed once per email address. This report utilizes the input received from those who chose to complete the survey. Judgments regarding what is included in this report are those of the consultants, based upon the survey input received.

The consultants utilized the input received from the on-line survey in developing the ***New Superintendent Profile***, a report that outlines the attributes desired in the new superintendent. Input received in several individual and focus group interviews and a community meeting was also used in developing the ***New Superintendent Profile***.

This report may be used by the District in a variety of ways. The input received should be helpful to the Board as interview questions are developed and candidates are screened. It may also serve as valuable information in assessing community perceptions on a variety of issues and the effectiveness of the District's communications with the community. The consultants also recommend that this report be given to the newly appointed superintendent to expand his or her understanding of the issues and opportunities facing the District.

SURVEY RESULTS:

1. Please select the choice(s) that best describe your relationship to the school district. Please select all that apply.

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| • Parent of Current/Past Student (past 5 years) | 70% (203) |
| • Teacher/Licensed Staff | 28% (80) |
| • Community/Business Member | 7% (19) |
| • Administrator | 3% (8) |
| • Support Staff | 2% (6) |
| • Other | 2% (6) |
| • Student | 2% (5) |

2. Please select the three (3) items below that represent the greatest strengths of the school district.

- Dedicated and highly competent staff 47% (134)
- Teacher quality 39% (112)
- Effective use of technology 23% (64)
- Strong community pride in the schools 19% (54)
- Supportive community 16% (45)

3. Please select the three (3) items below that represent the greatest challenges for the school district.

- Closing achievement gaps among student groups 35% (97)
- Class size 22% (62)
- Understanding and supporting diversity in the district 22% (62)
- High quality facilities 18% (50)
- Students who are committed to education 16% (45)

4. Please select the top three (3) goals for the district to accomplish in the next three years.

- Maintain programs for all student achievement levels and needs 41% (113)
- Focus on 21st century curriculum (communication, collaboration, creativity, innovation, critical thinking, problem solving, and media and technology literacy) 32% (90)
- Strengthen our academic program and curriculum 27% (75)
- Assuring student well being (emotionally safe and confident) 27% (74)
- Improving staff morale 24% (67)
- Engaging students through best instructional practices 22% (61)
- Improving facilities 19% (53)
- Maintain high levels of student achievement 18% (49)
- Ensuring that all students are ready for post secondary education 17% (47)
- Build stronger connections within the district and in the community 16% (46)

5. Please select the top three (3) attributes that you believe are most important for a person to be successful as the superintendent of the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan Area 197 School District. The new superintendent should be a person who:

- Has a deep understanding of curriculum, instruction and how students learn 38% (107)
- Builds a great team and brings the best out of others 38% (106)
- Is a collaborative consensus builder and able to work with all constituencies 31% (88)
- Has warm people skills, is approachable and easy to talk to 24% (66)
- Can recruit and support outstanding staff members 22% (63)
- Is child centered 19% (52)
- Has excellent communication skills 17% (47)