

CEDAR SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education for Cedar Springs Public Schools announces an outstanding opportunity for an educational leader to lead a first-class district. The Board is seeking to replace Superintendent Scott Smith who is retiring on December 31 following eight years of exemplary service to the organization. This is only the preliminary posting; a detailed profile of the ideal candidate will be added at a later date. We encourage interested persons to refrain from applying until the profile is posted.

Location - Cedar Springs Public Schools are located in northern Kent County, approximately 20 minutes north of Grand Rapids. Its proximity to the I-131 corridor makes access to area attractions easy including theater, concerts, museums, and other cultural attractions. In addition, the area boasts outstanding recreational activities including watersports, golf, hiking, parks, and the Northland Trail which runs through the heart of town. It is a safe, wonderful place to raise a family.

District – Cedar Springs Public Schools serves approximately 3,000 students from preschool through grade 12. The district includes one early childhood center, three elementary schools, one middle school, and one comprehensive high school. Guided by its FLIGHT Strategic Plan, Cedar Springs Public Schools is committed to preparing all learners to exceed their potential through high-quality instruction, meaningful relationships, and innovative opportunities. Students have access to comprehensive academic programming, early childhood education, career and technical education, Advanced Placement and dual enrollment courses, fine arts and athletics, and a wide range of extracurricular experiences. Supported by a highly engaged community and recently completed districtwide facility improvements, Cedar Springs Public Schools continues to invest in learning environments that help every student learn, grow, and thrive.

District Data:

- Enrollment - 2,963 (2025/26 State Aid Membership)
- Teachers - 165
- Administrators - 16
- Itinerants (Counselors, social workers, psychs, speech paths, OT) - 24
- Paraprofessionals - 62
- District Level Support Staff - 21
- Support Staff/Other Staff - 95
- School buildings - 6
- Foundation grant per pupil - \$10,300
- 2026/27 General Fund Budget
 - Revenue-\$47,443,293
 - Expense-\$47,812,014
- Projected fund balance-\$13,995,080 (29.27%)
- Tax Base (2026 TV) - \$1,003,3991,455
- TY 2026 Non-Homestead Levy-17.2685

Board of Education (Name, Role, first elected or appointed)

Heidi Reed, President	1/1/17
Mistie Bowser, Vice President	1/1/2019
April Patin, Secretary	1/9/2023
Trent Gilmore, Treasurer	1/1/2019
Matt Shoffner, Trustee	7/1/2010
Traci Slager, Trustee	1/1/2019
Brent R. Willett, Trustee	1/20/2026

Salary and Contract Information

The Board will offer a comprehensive, multi-year contract. Compensation will be commensurate with experience of the successful candidate and requirements of the position. **A preliminary salary range is yet to be determined.**

Application Procedure

Interested candidates should complete and submit an online application using the link provided.

HOWEVER, PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES ARE ASKED TO WAIT UNTIL THE FINAL POSTING, INCLUDING THE CANDIDATE PROFILE, IS AVAILABLE.

Completed online applications must be submitted no later than 4:00 pm on **TBD**. No “hard copy,” fax or emailed copies accepted. If requested by the candidate, materials will be treated confidentially through the screening process. Candidate names will become public at the time an interview is scheduled.

Candidates are asked to not contact board members directly. All questions regarding the search should be directed to Mark Dobias, Consultant, Michigan Association of School Boards, at 269.532.0543 or mrdobias@gmail.com.

TENTATIVE Search Timeline

Action	Date
Application deadline	September 29, 2026
Selection of candidates to interview	October 5, 2026
First round interviews	October 12, 13, 2026
Second round interviews/First Opportunity for Board Selection of Superintendent	October 19, 2026
Board visitation (if necessary)	TBD
Second Opportunity for Board Selection of Superintendent	October 20, 2026
Start date	January 1, 2027