

Superintendent Search Service

Saint Mary's City School District

Saint Mary's, Alaska

Application

Deadline:

May 8, 2024

Employment Begins:

July 1, 2024

School Board

Wilfred Stevens Jr.,
President

Ursula C. Prince,
Vice-President

Jason Nerby,
Treasurer

Sebastian Cowboy

Sylvia Nerby

The five-member Board of Education of the Saint Mary's City School District is conducting a search for its next Superintendent. The board is looking for a dynamic instructional leader with excellent interpersonal and communication skills, strong fiscal management skills, and an understanding of culturally responsive and culturally affirming education practices. The new Superintendent is expected to begin work on July 1, 2024.

A salary range of \$130,000 to \$150,000 with a multi-year contract is being offered to the successful candidate. An attractive benefits package is also offered including life insurance, medical/health coverage, use of district vehicle, and a well-maintained two-bedroom home provided for the Superintendent.

The Board of Education recognizes that selecting the Superintendent is one of the most important decisions it will make and is seeking a candidate that can help the Board meet its established mission and achieve a quality education for all students in attendance.

The district's mission is ***to ensure that all students are able to realize their dreams through their educational experiences.***

The district further affirms that ***with guidance and support from our elders we teach children Yup'ik values.***

The Board is committed to a selection process that is fair and open to all qualified candidates. Priority will be given to candidates whose experience and background closely matches the desired characteristics.

Candidates who do not possess an Alaska Type B certificate with a Superintendent endorsement should begin the process in order to be considered for this position.

Application Process

The Association of Alaska School Boards uses an online application system. Please visit the Association's website at aasb.org/superintendent/ for more information about this search and guidance on applying through the Revelus online application system (aasb.myrevelus.com).

Visit the Saint Mary's School District website at www.smcsd.us for more information about this unique Alaska school district.

Superintendent Search Service

Saint Mary's City School District Profile

Saint Mary's, Alaska



The Saint Mary's City School District is located on the north bank of the Andreafski River in the Bethel Recording District, five miles from its confluence with the Yukon River. It lies 450 air miles west-northwest of Anchorage. The District includes two federally recognized tribes – the Algaaciq Tribal Government and the Yupiit of Andreafski.

Saint Mary's City School District has 203 students in grades PK-12 with a student-teacher ratio of 15 to 1. The District has excellent facilities, modern instructional technology, and a wide variety of academic and co-curricular programs. The student enrollment is 95% Alaska Native, a majority of whom are Yup'ik, and the district values and supports Yup'ik language instruction, the integration of cultural knowledge, and subsistence activities in the school and curriculum. The district's highly successful relevant instruction trips combine the Yup'ik subsistence lifestyle and the Alaska state academic standards to create essential and meaningful learning experiences.

Getting Here

Regional airlines fly daily to Saint Mary's from Bethel, and four times per week to Saint Mary's from Anchorage. A 22-mile road links Saint Mary's to Pitka's Point and Mountain Village. It is not maintained during the winter months but is used by snow machines. The Andreafski River provides the only deep-water dock in the area.

Climate

Saint Mary's experiences a subarctic climate with a noticeable maritime influence. The proximity to the Bering Sea moderates temperatures, resulting in milder winters compared to more inland regions of the state. Winters can still be long and cold, however, with temperatures dipping well below zero. Annual precipitation is 16 inches, with 60 inches of snowfall. The Yukon River is ice-free from June through October.



District Data

School Facilities: 3
Students: 203
Administration: 2
Certified Staff: 15
Instructional and Support Staff: 32

Pupil/Teacher Ratio:
15:1

Attendance Rate:
85.83%

Budget

Current Budget: \$5.6m

Revenue

Local: \$292,000
State: \$3.9m
Federal: \$1.3m

Expenditure Per Pupil:
\$31,976

Average Teacher Salary:
\$63,276

Leadership Profile



Professional Experience Minimum Qualifications

- Hold, or be able to obtain, a Type B administrative certificate in the State of Alaska with a Superintendent endorsement.
- Prefer an individual with Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent experience, and a minimum of 3 years of principal or district-wide administrative experience.
- Experience in rural Alaska is preferred.

Desired Professional Background and Experiences of Candidate

- Demonstrated experience of collaborative leadership, leading to improved student achievement.
- Knowledge of school finance and budgeting processes, and experience in developing and managing budgets.
- Committed to the development of positive school, family, and community partnerships in support of students.
- An approachable and effective communicator, both publicly and privately.
- Experience in human resource management, including staff recruitment and retention strategies, contract negotiations, and the implementation of staff professional development initiatives.

Desired Personal Characteristics of Candidate

- Approachable in demeanor and has an “open door” philosophy.
- Supportive and respectful of traditional languages and Alaska Native culture and values.
- Strong communication skills with a wide variety of audiences.
- Uphold the highest integrity and principles.
- Ability to engage parents and families in the educational process of their children.
- Ability to listen to understand, think critically and creatively, and problem-solve.

