



For Immediate Release

Springfield Public Schools to Host Community Meetings to Gather Input about District's Next Superintendent

Executive search firm will use feedback as part of nationwide recruitment effort

Springfield, Mo., Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 - With the pending retirement of Dr. John Jungmann at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year, Springfield Public Schools has begun a **nationwide search for a new superintendent**. The recruitment effort is led by executive search firm GR Recruiting and input from community stakeholders is key to this important work.

A series of **community input sessions** will be held on Nov. 17 and 18 and all community members are invited to participate in the meetings, choosing the option and format that are most convenient. SPS seeks to engage teachers, support staff, students, parents, community partners and others in the engagement process.

The schedule for the **nine feedback opportunities** is outlined below. The sessions will be facilitated by representatives from GR Recruiting.

Tuesday, November 17

- **2:00 p.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.
- **4:00 p.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.
- **5:30 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom**, Email communications@spsmail.org for Link
- **7:00 p.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.

Wednesday November 18

- **7:00 a.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom**, Email communications@spsmail.org for Link
- **8:30 a.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.
- **10:00 a.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.

- **12 p.m. - In-Person Meeting**, Conference Rooms A & B, Kraft Administrative Center, 1359 E. St. Louis St.
- **2:00 p.m. - Virtual Meeting via Zoom**, Email communications@spsmail.org for Link

In addition to participating in one of the feedback sessions, the public is invited to **complete a brief survey**. A link to the survey will be sent to staff, students and parents on Nov. 11 and must be completed by Nov. 19.

“We deeply value the feedback from those we serve and listening to our district and community is incredibly important,” said **Dr. Alina Lehnert**, president of the SPS Board of Education. “These public meetings will help shape the search for our district’s next leader and we look forward to engaging with our district’s stakeholders in a meaningful way.”

Dr. John Jungmann’s retirement from SPS at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year completes 23 years of service to Missouri public schools, including seven years as the leader of Missouri’s largest school district. During his tenure, SPS achieved the highest graduation rate in the district’s history during the 2019-2020 school year.

For More Information

To learn more about the upcoming public meetings and nationwide search, visit www.sps.org.

About Springfield Public Schools

Springfield Public Schools (SPS) is Missouri’s largest school district, representing 23,500 students and nearly 4,000 employees. SPS has built a reputation of academic excellence rooted in a belief that the learning experience should be engaging, relevant and personal - for every learner, every day. In addition to traditional learning environments across 36 elementary schools, an intermediate school, nine middle schools, five high schools, a center for gifted education and three early childhood centers, SPS collaborates with community partners to offer more than a dozen choice programs that meet the diverse needs of each student and their community. For more information, visit www.sps.org.

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