

Press Release – October 2025

Fairbury Public Schools Begins Superintendent Search Process with McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C.

Fairbury School District's Board of Education has selected McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., Executive Recruitment and Development to assist them in the important task of selecting superintendent candidates for the board to interview. McPherson & Jacobson (www.macnjake.com) is one of the nation's leading search firms and is based out of Omaha Nebraska. McPherson & Jacobson has over 100 consultants located in 30+ states and has conducted over 870 searches since it began in 1991.

The Fairbury's School's Board of Education has identified the following as main focal points for the upcoming search:

- Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills, is an active listener, and fosters a collaborative, team-oriented environment that supports the success of all students, staff, and community members.
- Understands and addresses the diverse educational needs of the district while serving as an instructional leader with a strong background in school improvement, building leadership capacity at all levels to promote continuous growth and academic excellence.
- Community minded leader, demonstrating openness, integrity, and the ability to collaboratively work with all stakeholders to establish high expectations for students, staff, and families.
- Strong fiscal management and budgeting skills, with the ability to plan proactively for future district needs and work collaboratively with the Business Manager to ensure responsible and strategic financial stewardship.

The above points are not the only traits the Board is looking for but they will be focused on as we move forward with this important process.

Feedback from all patrons is encouraged. Fairbury Schools will be sending out a SurveyMonkey link on Monday, December 8th, along with posting it on social media, the district's website, and district email communication. The survey allows any user to provide their anonymous input on the skills and traits the next superintendent needs to possess as well as highlight the positives of the Fairbury School's community and the school district.

Questions that will be asked through the survey will be:

- 1) Tell us the good things about the Fairbury School community.
- 2) Tell us the good things about the Fairbury School District.
- 3) What are the skills, characteristics, and traits you're looking for in the next superintendent?
- 4) What are the hot topics the new superintendent should be aware of so they can get off to a great start?

Key dates for the superintendent search include:

- The survey opens Wednesday December 8th and closes Monday December 15.
- The application window opens Monday November 24th, 2025.
- Application deadline of Saturday December 27th with finalists selected/announced Wednesday January 7th.
- Interviews to be conducted January 14th/15th, 2026.
- New hire to begin work on/about July 1st