



New England School Development Council

28 Lord Road, Marlborough, MA 01752 ➤ Tel: 508-481-9444 ➤ www.nesdec.org

Dear Fellow Educator,

The Derry Cooperative School District, SAU 10, invites qualified candidates to apply for the position of Superintendent of Schools to begin on July 1, 2012. The Town of Derry is located in southeastern New Hampshire with close proximity to Interstate Route 93. The attractive and well-managed community of about 33,000 residents is about 15 miles north of the Massachusetts border and within a short driving distance of the urban and cultural centers of Manchester and Concord. The picturesque White Mountains, sandy beaches of the New Hampshire Seacoast and the beautiful Lakes Region are nearby. Boston, Massachusetts is about one hour away.

Derry has a rich historical and cultural past after settlement in 1719. It was initially called Londonderry and included what are now the towns of Windham, Derry, Londonderry as well as portions of Salem, Manchester and Hudson. Derry gained early fame as the manufacturer of Londonderry Linen, the first trademarked product in America. Men from the community fought in the Revolutionary War. Matthew Thornton was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and General John Stark, a hero of that war who declared "Live Free or Die," was born here. Throughout the 18th Century, pieces of the original settlement broke away to create other communities and in 1827, the state government approved creation of the Town of Derry.

The town maintained its agricultural based economy until 1870 when the manufacturing of shoes was introduced. As the decades passed, the population increased and soon the streets were lined with shops, churches and homes. Derry's population doubled after the construction of Interstate 93 in 1963 and in 20 years it tripled. Today, it is an attractive and thriving community with the several malls providing for the needs and wants of its citizens and many find employment within the industrial parks of Derry.

The 3,900 Derry children in grades K-8 attend large, well-appointed schools with state-of-the-art technology in every classroom. There are five K-5 elementary schools, one of which houses the ages 3 and 4 early education program and two grades 6-8 middle schools. The 2,100 Derry high school students are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy, a public academy located in Derry.

Parents and residents are very pleased with their schools and consistently provide financial assistance by supporting the school district budgets. Additionally, parent volunteer groups, fund-raising activities and other resource initiatives make differences in the educational quality that children receive.

As a result of these and all other efforts, the schools proudly identify several program successes:

- The District provides a half-day as well as a paid full-day kindergarten program in all five elementary schools. In addition, an integrated preschool is available for parents who desire a high-quality early childhood program.

- The elementary schools provide a range of programs for all students including multiple after-school clubs and activities. Student programs are designed to reach all students including specialized programs for students with autism, medically fragile students, and students with emotional disturbances. Every elementary school has an enrichment program that also provides an accelerated math program for gifted students.
- Both middle schools are strong academically and in the arts. Students who excel are provided with specialized programs in math and language arts to meet their needs. All students are given multiple opportunities for success through "WIN" time (What I Need), which provides both enrichment and remediation to meet the needs of all learners in the schools.
- The Derry Cooperative School District continues to attract and retain high quality, motivated and creative teachers. The district also benefits from continued strong support from the seven PTAs and volunteer programs at each school.

At the SAU office, the Superintendent works with the: Assistant Superintendent, the Director of Student Services, the Business Administrator, the Director of Information Services and several support staff.

The next Superintendent of SAU 10 must be an academic leader who focuses on student achievement and performance as the primary goals, with a healthy balance of academic, athletic, fine arts and community service opportunities. Curriculum and instruction must continue to provide resources for all students to be successful learners. Professional development must be supported to facilitate that accomplishment. The importance of community outreach and involvement must be understood. Significant success with budget development and accountability are additional requirements. Qualified candidates must have experience in the classroom, building-based leadership and system-wide central office responsibilities. An advanced graduate degree is required. New Hampshire Superintendent Certification or eligibility for certification is necessary.

The Derry School District is prepared to provide a multi-year contract with a competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested candidates should contact Dr. Ken DeBenedictis, Derry School District Search, New England School Development Council, 28 Lord Road, Marlborough, MA 01752; 508-481-9444 (phone); search@nesdec.org (email); or visit www.nesdec.org to download an application. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed beginning February 17, 2012 with interviews scheduled shortly thereafter. The starting date is July 1, 2012. For additional information about the school district, please refer to: www.sau10.org.

I look forward to your application; your referral to someone whom you believe is a qualified candidate or a nomination of a qualified applicant. All inquiries and nominations should be made to the NESDEC office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
 Kenneth L. DeBenedictis, Ed.D.
 NESDEC Senior Search Consultant