



Dear Fellow Educator,

Members of the Board of the School Administrative Unit 24, serving the towns of Henniker, Stoddard and Weare, New Hampshire, invite candidates to apply for the position of Superintendent of Schools.

Located in southwestern New Hampshire, with proximity to Interstate Routes 93 and 89, the three small, attractive communities are close to the Mount Sunapee region and are within easy driving distance to Concord and Manchester, New Hampshire. The picturesque White Mountains and the Lakes Region are nearby and Boston, Massachusetts is less than two hours away.

Henniker, Stoddard and Weare were established in the mid-eighteenth century and were essentially farming communities until the local rivers introduced water-powered manufacturing facilities. Today, Henniker is the home of New England College and Pat's Peak Ski Area. Weare proudly claims David Souter, recently retired Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, as a product of the school system and one who remains active in the community. Stoddard is pleased with its location on the Appalachian Trail, a noted national treasure. The area has seen recent growth as a result of its proximity to both Concord and Manchester and the general population increase of southern New Hampshire.

SAU 24 proudly describes itself as five schools, four districts and one community. There is a rich New Hampshire history in the towns causing residents to connect with the past while thoughtfully planning for the future.

The schools in the communities are organized in the following manner:

- Weare: Center Wood Elementary School - Grades K-4, 540 Students
Weare Middle School - Grades 5-8, 545 Students
- Henniker: Henniker Community School - Grades PreK-8, 419 Students
- Stoddard: James Faulkner Elementary School - Grades K-5, 51 Students
- John Stark Regional High School - Grades 9-12, 839 Students

The districts are very pleased with their schools and consistently support student efforts through parent volunteer groups, fund-raising activities and other exciting initiatives. As a result of these and all other efforts, the schools proudly identify several program successes:

- The Henniker Community School conducts a number of activities in the area of enrichment, including the widely recognized Artist in Residence series and the U.S.-Chinese teacher exchange program.
- Weare's curriculum is aligned K-8 for all core areas – state standards to essential knowledge. Teachers are collaborating on common assessments and developing instructional intervention strategies for all levels.
- In Stoddard, the elementary school has developed an exciting hands-on learning experience examining agriculture and its daily impact on our lives.
- John Stark Regional High School students enjoy rich and diverse academic offerings, a vibrant co-curricular program and a positive and welcoming school culture and climate.

At the SAU office, the Superintendent works with the Curriculum Administrator, the Director of Student Services, the Business Administrator, the Technology Coordinator and several support staff.

The next Superintendent of SAU 24 must be an academic leader who has student achievement and performance as the primary objectives, with a balance of academic, athletic, fine arts and community service opportunities. A focus and belief in the value of Professional Learning Communities must continue to drive curriculum and instruction at all levels. Qualified candidates must have experience in the classroom combined with central office responsibilities. An advanced graduate degree is required and a doctorate is preferred. New Hampshire superintendent certification or eligibility for certification is necessary.

SAU 24 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, SAU 24 Search, New England School Development Council, 28 Lord Road, Marlborough, MA 01752; 508-481-9444 (phone); search@nesdec.org (email); or go to the NESDEC website, www.nesdec.org to download the application. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed beginning **March 31, 2010** with interviews scheduled shortly thereafter. **The starting date is July 1, 2010. For additional information about the school district, please refer to: www.sau24.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.
Senior Search Consultant