



Position Announcement

Superintendent

Branch Intermediate School District Coldwater, Michigan

The Position

The Board of Education of the Branch Intermediate School District is seeking candidates for the position of superintendent. Joseph Lopez has announced his retirement after an exemplary career. The Board of Education seeks a dynamic, visionary and resourceful educational leader who is committed to lead a highly respected service agency and to respond to the needs of the three school districts and charter school in Branch County.

About Branch Intermediate School District

The Branch County Intermediate School District is one of 57 intermediate school districts in the State of Michigan. Branch ISD employs approximately 255 staff and provides services and support to educators, administrators, students, and school personnel who serve the three local school districts (Bronson, Coldwater and Quincy) and a Central Michigan University chartered school (Pansophia Academy). The local school districts serve approximately 5,600 K-12 students.

Kellogg Community College has a rich tradition of providing successful post-secondary partnerships with the Branch ISD. Branch ISD also works closely with regional health and human service agencies, county government, chambers of commerce and various business and industrial groups, as well as cultural arts groups, to further enhance educational opportunities in the area.

Branch ISD provides a broad spectrum of services and support to the area's K-12 schools. The ISD has facilitated the coordination and collaborative efforts of the local school district administrative and operation services within the service area as well as having developed strong partnerships with highly respected entities outside the service area. The collaboration with Barry and Calhoun Intermediate School Districts, along with a long-standing relationship with Kellogg Community College, provides all residents of the county with outstanding educational and training opportunities.

The mission "to ensure life-long opportunities to students and citizens" is truly the focus of the Branch ISD. It begins with early-childhood education. Head Start, inclusive of Early Head Start, Great Start School Readiness, Early On and the Family Success Program offers family an initial gateway to the local school district programming. The program serves over 500 families and children annually.

The Branch Area Career Center is a highly recognized and decorated vocational education center. Historically BACC educates 50% of Branch County juniors and seniors. Dual enrollment and articulation agreements are in place to help students move beyond high school education. Strong partnerships have been developed with local businesses, which are critical to the economic development in the area. Extensive programming includes the areas of business, engineering, manufacturing, health services, human service, natural resources and agriscience.

Branch ISD supports the local schools by administering and supplying all services and personnel needed to meet the varied needs of special education from birth to age 26. The special education department is responsible for the hiring of all professional and support staff within the county, approximately 115 employees. There is a unique, student-centered working relationship with BACC to help insure the success of all students.

Selection Criteria

The Branch Intermediate School District is seeking a leader with a proven track record that reflects the following qualities, characteristics and skills:

- ✓ Progressive, visionary and creative leadership, with a proven track record of engaging others, working collaboratively and building coalitions to achieve the vision of an educational institution.
- ✓ Understanding of the mission and purpose of the Branch ISD, with a strong sense of accountability for providing value to the local districts in the region.
- ✓ Strong, proactive communication skills, including listening and the ability to forge consensus.
- ✓ Able to demonstrate forward thinking in his/her knowledge of and support for the entire range of Branch ISD programs and services, including general education, special education, career technical education and early childhood education. The individual must fully embrace career and college readiness.
- ✓ Skilled in creative problem-solving and collaborative decision-making processes; understands the power of the region working together for increased student achievement and career readiness.
- ✓ Strong political and public relations skills with high visibility in local districts and the community at large; ability to articulate issues and advocate for public education on public policy issues.
- ✓ Successful experience in the effective management of resources and ability to generate new sources of revenue outside of traditional sources; understanding of school finance; and the use of data to drive decisions.
- ✓ Demonstrates working knowledge of established educational best practices, Core Curriculum, MI Excel Blueprint and 21st Century skills for teaching and learning as they relate to curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development, early childhood education, special education and vocational education at both the Branch ISD and local district level.
- ✓ Advocates for the effective use of technology and embraces its potential learning.
- ✓ High moral and ethical character; impeccable integrity and trustworthiness.

The Board of Education welcomes all applicants for this position. Due consideration will be given to all applicants who can demonstrate a high degree of congruency with the above identified profile. While no preference for a specific applicant has been pre-determined by the Board of Education, Superintendent and/or ESD/ISD experience is preferred, but not required.

Salary and Contract

The Branch ISD Board of Education will provide a competitive, regional compensation package. The actual salary and benefits will be commensurate with the demonstrated education and experience of the successful candidate. A multi-year contract with provisions for annual review and extension will be offered.

Search Timeline

Application deadline	Friday, February 16, 2018 at 4:00 pm
Candidate selection for interviews	February 21, 2018
Initial interviews	February 26 and 27, 2018
Second interviews	March 5 and 6, 2018
Site visits	To be determined
Start date	July 1, 2018

Branch Intermediate School District Board of Education

Ken Norton, President

Mike Beckwith, Vice President

John Bolton, Secretary

Chantal Paxton, Treasurer

Bart Marshall, Trustee

Applicants should not contact Board Members.

All inquiries should be through:

Dave Killips, MLI Regional President

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or

Gary Rider, MLI Regional President

gridermli@gmail.com or 616-901-3738