

**Newaygo Public Schools
Superintendent Search
Press Release
February 8, 2023**

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education continues to move forward with the process of selecting a new Superintendent of Schools. Nineteen educators responded to the posting with preliminary applications for the position. Five candidates eventually withdrew or did not complete the application fully. Applicants consisted of current superintendents, central office administrators, principals, and intermediate school district employees. The position attracted interest from Michigan, Washington and South Carolina. The Board completed a thorough review of the applications and has invited **five** educators to be interviewed.

The interviews will be held on February 27th and 28th. The interviews are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend. Interviews will be held at the Newaygo High School cafeteria.

The interview schedule is as follows:

Monday, February 27th at 5:30 pm: Mr. Jaym Abraham, current Principal in the Caledonia Community Schools
Monday, February 27th at 6:45 pm: Mr. Martin Prout, current Superintendent in the North Huron Public Schools
Monday, February 27th at 8:00 pm: Mr. Mark Brenton, current Superintendent at the Bellaire Public Schools
and
Tuesday, February 28th at 5:30 pm: Mr. Aaron West, current Principal in the Spring Lake Public Schools
Tuesday, February 28th at 6:45 pm: Mr. Ben Gilpin, current Principal in the Western School District (Parma)

Board President, Vince Grodus stated, “We were pleased with the talented applicant pool and interest demonstrated in the Newaygo Public Schools, which reflects an appreciation of our schools and community. We believe these quality candidates may meet our needs and expectations. We look forward to finding out more about the candidates’ leadership abilities and what each candidate has to offer our students, staff, and community. The Board continues to appreciate the input from the public and encourages people to attend the interviews. It is our hope to have a new superintendent in place by July 1, 2023, realizing we may have to be somewhat flexible regarding that date.”

The superintendent search became necessary as Superintendent Jeff Wright announced plans to retire as early as June 30, after serving the district admirably for two years. The process has been facilitated by the Michigan Leadership Institute.