MISSION

The Educational Mission of the Livingston School District, in partnership with the community, is to provide the opportunity for all students to learn, in a safe environment, the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed in order to become life-long learners and contributing citizens in a diverse society.

INVITATION TO APPLY

This search is being conducted by:

MTSBA
Montana School Boards Association

Develop the full potential of each child through school board leadership.

Application package must be complete and accurate. Failure to do so may constitute denial of employment consideration. In order to be fully considered, application materials must be packaged in a single PDF and electronically submitted by the application deadline.
About the District:

The Livingston School District has a strong Administrative team, staff, proven community support and a School Board of community leaders who are long serving members.

The Livingston District consists of two separate legal entities.

School District #4 is an elementary district for grades K-8 and consists of two elementary schools and one middle school.

Park High School is designated District #1 and serves grades 9-12. The elementary district is governed by a seven-member board of trustees. These trustees also serve as trustees for the high school district. The high school district has an additional two trustees to represent the surrounding elementary districts of Arrowhead, Pinecreek, and Springdale.

Class Size: Class size for grades K-2 averages 19 students per class. Classes in grades 3-12 average 20-25 students (with the exception of instrumental and vocal music classes and study halls).

68.9% Park High students participate in athletics.

- 17 Clubs/Activities - Academic Team, Band, BPA, Cheer, Choir, Climbing Economics Challenge, FCCLA, FFA, Green Initiative, NHS, Principal Advisory, Science Olympiad, Speech, Drama & Debate, Student Council, TSA, Youth Legislature

- 10 Sports and 17 teams - Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Softball, Soccer, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, Wrestling
The School District

Schools

Washington School - Anne Penn Cox, Principal
Washington School serves our district’s youngest learners. There are four kindergarten classrooms, and there are two 2-year kindergarten classrooms which serve students who are four years old on or by September 10th. The total student population is approximately 115. Staff at Washington School are deeply committed to implementing Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports across all areas in order to support the whole child. Using The Science of Reading approach, staff provide high quality instruction and interventions daily in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and language. Additionally, foundational math skills are taught, and critical thinking skills are fostered in our young mathematicians. Washington School also supports the whole child by integrating Positive Behavior Supports and social skill instruction into our daily lessons. At Washington, we strive to develop mindful, metacognitive learners who have growth mindsets. In addition to supporting our children academically and social/emotionally, our school partners with various community organizations which affords our students many opportunities to tap into their creative passions. Washington School is committed to assessing and responding early to students’ needs to that they have a positive start to their educational journey.

Winans School - Patti Durgan, Principal
Winans School serves our first and second grade students. Currently, there are 170 students enrolled in these two grades. Our school has led the way in implementing the Science of Reading practices in literacy in our school district and in the region. We are committed to meeting learners where they are at and designed a Walk to Reading program to help all our students become readers before leaving Winans. Our educators have embraced the power of Professional Learning Communities and supporting our students through our Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports. We are continuing our efforts in Positive Behavior Supports that brought our school recognition as a Gold Status School in 2020 at the Montana Behavior Institute. Like Washington and East Side Schools, we are working on solidifying our math instruction and continuing to focus on PK-5 in alignment to support our students and families as they transition in our elementary schools.
The School District

East Side School – Grades 3-5
- Leah Shannon, Principal
East Side School serves our district’s 250 intermediate learners. The education team at East Side is committed to academic excellence and building a positive learning community. The Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework is utilized at East Side providing academic and behavioral strategies for students with various needs including universal screening of all students early in the school year, tiers of interventions that can be amplified in response to levels of need, ongoing data collection and continual assessment, schoolwide approach to expectations and supports and parent involvement. Using The Science of Reading approach, staff provide high quality instruction and interventions daily during the grade-level Literacy Focus Groups. We continue to refine our knowledge regarding Mathematical Literacy and Practice - the routines, norms, and processes needed to do the work of mathematics during our 60 minute common mathematics block. We collaborate with various community partners including Farm to School of Park County, Community Health Partners’ Parent Liaison Program and L’esprit Mental Health Center. “We are Huskies…and we pull together”

Sleeping Giant Middle School – Grades 6-8
- Todd Wester, Principal & Deputy Superintendent and John Stromberg, Vice Principal
The namesake of Sleeping Giant Middle School slumbers in the crest of the Absaroka mountains south of Livingston, most recognizable when snow begins to fall. SGMS currently serves just over 300 students grades 6 through 8. Staff have worked hard in recent years on development of a systematized system of assessments, interventions, and progress monitoring, which we refer to as our Multi-Tiered System of Supports. In an 8-period day, students receive standard core instruction, a section of rotation courses, and a focused learning section where prescriptive interventions and whole-child skill development (e.g., work-based learning, social and emotional growth, cultural capacity building) can take place. SGMS competes with local schools in football, basketball, wrestling, track, volleyball, cross country, academic Olympiad, and Science Olympiad. We collaborate with numerous collective impact organizations in Park County, including Park County Farm to School, Community Health Partners’ Parent Liaison Program, L’esprit mental health center, the Community School Collaborative, and the Shane Center for the Performing Arts. The staff at SGMS aims to help adolescents establish the habits of productive learners and citizens in an evolving society, so that they may enter the high school with a sense of purpose and direction.
Park High School - Lori Dust, Principal and Becky Ayler, Vice Principal
Park High School’s present enrollment is 428 students. Our 2021 Graduates earned over 1.9 million dollars in scholarships and grants. Our PHS staff is dedicated to rigorous teaching strategies, multiple course offerings, and post-graduate preparedness. Our students choose from multiple offerings to enhance their academic interests, such as Survival Science, where we take students into the Absaroka mountain range, to AP courses, and dual enrollment. We have developed strong community relationships to provide more educational opportunities such as Farm To School and The Shane Center, partnering to give our Music and Theatre students additional experiences. The PHS vision is to be “GREAT AT EVERYTHING” and we feel we are well on our way.

Activities and Athletics:
• The past four years PHS has had 7 individual State Champs, 1 Team Champ, 1 Team State Runner up, and 3 Team Divisional Championships in Athletics.
• 47 PHS Varsity Athletes earned Academic All-State Honors.
• 28 PHS Sub-varsity Athletes earned a 3.5 GPA or higher as well.
• A total of 75 student-athletes earned a 3.5 GPA or higher, nearly 50% of our fall athletes.
• PHS offers 34 Activities and Athletics.
• Speech Drama and Debate is growing with the goal of competing consistently at the state level.
• Our FFA numbers have doubled in our lower grades.

Park Online Education - Becky Ayler, Principal
During COVID, one offshoot built in response to our community’s need was the development of Park Online Education, an online schooling option for families who preferred remote learning, whether for health and safety concerns for loved ones or for greater educational flexibility. This program was initially developed K-12 for academic year 21-22, then modified to continue with grades 6-12 this year. POE utilizes Park High Teachers, employing the Edmentum curricular platform to bring remote learning to Park County students. We have students participating both fully in the POE, as well as taking a hybrid approach to classes, taking both remotely, as well as others onsite at Park High School, which now houses the program.

Livingston School District in the Era of COVID
The Livingston School District pushed uphill through these past few years of adversity. Our district was among the first to institute health and safety measures to ensure the strongest continuation of schooling for our students. The district stayed nimble and responsive to our community’s needs. First and foremost, returning to onsite instruction as soon as possible and avoiding ever having a single building, let alone district, shut down due to localized COVID outbreaks. Our district, like most others, saw academic assessment scores adversely impacted during and following the peak of COVID. As a result, we actively pursued solutions, such as supplying our MTSS structure with additional staffing that will allow our buildings to recover academic losses. Providing our students with the strongest academic services continues to be our district’s top priority. Our next post-COVID challenge is to maintain a strong, fiscally sound Livingston Public Schools. We want a balanced budget focused on alignment of resources on district priorities as we emerge from COVID and a budget buoyed by ESSER funding.
The School District

Essential Values

We strive for every child to reach their potential, and be launched well into their futures.

We want every child to experience school as a safe haven, a place where they feel known and valued, and can grow academically while growing in self-confidence.

We educate with the understanding that to be a life-long learner and a contributing citizen in a democracy, one must be curious, critical, self-disciplined, and driven to learn. These traits walk hand-in-hand with any content taught.

We value a culture of staff learning and staff growth.

To educate a child well is to be in partnership with those who surround the child and teacher. Partnerships and collaboration with parents, support staff, and the larger community mean that dialogue is rich as we constantly recognize, reflect upon, and respond to the individual and collective needs of our students.

We have

RANGER

P ersistence
R  espect
I  ntegrity
D  iversity
E  xcellence

mtsba.org/currentsuptopenings  jwalker@mtsba.org  (406) 971-5666
Lifestyle

Livingston was the “Original Gateway City to Yellowstone National Park,” now it’s where adventure, beautiful scenery and authentic friendly folk await you at the edge of the Yellowstone River.

Nestled between the rugged Crazy and Absaroka mountain ranges on the banks of the Yellowstone River in southwestern Montana, the former railroad town of Livingston, founded in 1882, has lost none of its quintessential Old West ambiance. But today its population of 7,000 includes a large number of artists and writers in addition to ranchers.

The surrounding mountain ranges offer an abundance of outdoor activities year round. Whether it’s fly fishing, dog sledding or cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, horseback riding, river rafting or just taking it easy at the many museums, art galleries and restaurants that call Livingston home.

With Yellowstone National Park just an hour’s drive away, Livingston is a perfect base camp for hikers, and the town’s fishing guides make it their business to know every curve of the Yellowstone River. But the park’s mountains, streams and forests also play an integral role in the wild, eclectic art found in the community’s myriad galleries and boutiques.

Known for strong winds and robust winters, Livingston’s natural setting can’t be beat: The low-slung 19th-century brick buildings that line the town’s Main Street give way to a breathtaking view of Livingston Peak, which towers above the horizon to the south.

Livingston and Park County average home costs at $525,000 and the population approximately is 7,300 with our elevation of 4,500, this makes Livingston a terrific place to live and work. The town boasts a new hospital run by Livingston Healthcare and many other top notch services in town.

[Click here](#) and [here](#) for videos about Livingston!
General Responsibilities

The Superintendent serves as the senior leader of a school district and is responsible for overseeing operations and developing a long-range strategic plan for growth and sustainability. As the leader of Livingston Public Schools, this position is responsible for the development, supervision, and oversight of the school program, operations and facilities. The current superintendent is retiring after being in district leadership and the community for many years.

The Superintendent must be a strong advocate for the District and work closely with all constituents as it relates to continued funding to support academic success.

The Superintendent must be able to develop a clear vision for the District which supports excellence in education and instruction.

The Superintendent is expected to develop positive relationships with parents, school board members and the community. The Superintendent is expected to cultivate a strong team environment with staff by developing a clear purpose, a strong culture, and a collaborative environment that builds morale and promotes productivity and communication.
Application Requirements

Job Title: Superintendent of Livingston Public Schools

Salary Range: $125,000 - $140,000 (based on experience and qualifications) & additional benefit package

Salary and term of contract will be dependent on experience, education and fit for the District.

Closing Date: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 4:00 pm, MST

Minimum Qualifications

- Master’s degree or better in school administration or information demonstrating ability to obtain such a certificate; AND
- Valid Montana Administrator’s certification with appropriate administrative endorsements upon hire; AND
- Minimum of five years’ experience in school administration.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience as a school district superintendent.
- Experience working with Montana special education laws, policies and regulations.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Ability to build and maintain effective professional relationships with staff, students, parents/guardians, and the public.
- Ability to establish a clear vision for the District and be recognized as an instructional leader.
- Ability to effectively lead with integrity and inspire a collaborative team oriented environment focused on the education and support of our children.
- Ability to maintain a high standard of excellence as it relates to your role as Superintendent.
- Ability to effectively communicate the state of the District to a variety of constituents.
- Ability to engage with and respond to questions from staff, students, parents/guardians and the public.
- Ability to further community engagement.
- Exceptional listening skills with the ability to facilitate and collaborate with others.
- Ability to direct staff to achieve standards of excellence, monitor progress and evaluate performance.
- Ability to manage politics, adapt to change and lead by example while keeping the vision of the District as priority.
- Ability to apply knowledge of current research and theory in specific field.
- Ability to maintain staff and student confidentiality.
- Ability to maintain regular and acceptable attendance levels.
- Ability to work effectively with people from a variety of culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Skill in organization to provide effective administration.
- Proficient with the use of computers and other technology.

The following application materials must be submitted to be considered:

1. Completed MTSBA application form (mtsba.org) and signed release. Click here to access forms
2. Letter of application.
3. Resume.
4. A minimum of three (3) letters of professional reference.
5. Copy of Montana Class III Administrative Certificate showing Superintendent endorsement or information demonstrating ability to obtain such a certificate. Go to www opi mt gov and click on Educator Licensure tab for information on in-state certification.
6. Copy of college transcripts.
7. Supplemental Questions: The Board of Trustees will consider the form, content, and style of your responses. Please limit response to each question to two hundred and fifty (250) words or less.
   - Identify one challenge and one opportunity facing public education. As the Superintendent, what role(s) should the School Board and the Administrative team have in addressing the challenge and the opportunity you have identified?
   - Community partnership and engagement are important in the Livingston Public Schools. Give an example of how you have engaged community partners to establish a unique or innovative program that makes a difference for students and staff?
   - How has the COVID experience altered your leadership, your district, student achievement, and relations with the community? Based on the Covid experience, what leadership practices will you bring with you to your new position in Livingston?

Submit completed PDF application packet ELECTRONICALLY to: Jule Walker (see contact information below).