

SCHOOL EXEC CONNECT

New Superintendent Profile: Somonauk CUSD 432

Somonauk CUSD 432 seeks a Superintendent who is an authentic, student-focused leader, rooted in community values and driven by a vision for innovation, inclusion, and academic excellence. This leader must be deeply relational, operationally astute, and ready to embrace the many hats of a small-town Superintendent, while continuing to elevate the district's legacy.

Effective Communicator and Trust Builder

- Listens actively and speaks with clarity across all levels of the school community.
- Prioritizes transparency, timely updates, and honest two-way communication.
- Builds trust through visibility, consistency, and presence in school and community events.
- Facilitates collaboration across diverse stakeholder groups, including students, staff, families, and civic partners.

Personable, Approachable, and Emotionally Intelligent

- Leads with empathy, humility, and a deep respect for all voices—students, staff, and community alike.
- Builds genuine relationships by knowing people by name, attending events, and being consistently accessible.
- Demonstrates emotional intelligence and self-awareness; reflects before acting and genuinely seeks to understand.
- Seen as a “human leader” who connects through kindness, humor, and compassion.

Well-Rounded Educator & Instructional Leader

- Brings broad knowledge of curriculum, literacy (including the science of reading), and instructional best practices.
- Holds deep expertise in special education, early childhood, and MTSS—advocating for equity and access for all learners.
- Supports professional development, teacher creativity, and innovative learning aligned to student needs.
- Believes in the whole child, emphasizing both academic and social-emotional growth.

Legacy-Minded, Future-Ready Visionary

- Honors the rich traditions and history of District 432, including long-standing community events and values.
- Leads with vision—carefully evaluating existing programs before implementing change.
- Champions growth through thoughtful innovation, collaboration, and the district's existing strategic plan.
- Encourages student voice, recognizes achievement, and supports programs that reflect community priorities.
- Ensures all students feel seen and supported, cultivating an appreciation of diversity to equip students with cross-cultural understanding.

Strategic, Intentional, and Solutions-Oriented

- Aligns decisions to district goals with a strong focus on student success.
- Uses data and listening to guide change, not ego or assumptions.
- Maintains a calm, focused, and resilient approach to leadership, even in high-pressure or complex situations.
- Understands the importance of team-building, shared leadership, and collaborative problem solving.

Operationally Skilled and Financially Responsible

- Possesses a strong understanding of school finance, operations, capital planning, and compliance.
- Demonstrates fiscal responsibility and long-term vision to sustain programs and facilities.
- Prioritizes equitable resource allocation, academic programming, and facility improvements.
- Comfortable managing multiple roles, tasks, and functions in a small district setting.

Champion of the Small District Experience

- Values Somonauk's close-knit, family-like culture and its legacy of loyalty and pride.
- Respects the district's agricultural roots, vocational programs, and connections to local civic life.
- Advocates for meaningful extracurricular and academic opportunities that reflect the community's identity.
- Believes in long-term commitment—not using the role as a stepping stone—but rather as a chance to become an integral part of the community.