Vendor Name:		Date:	
Agreement #:		Amendment #:	
Grant Name:		Grant # If Applicable:	
Funding Source Acct #:			
Original Amount of Agreement:			
Amount of Agreement <u>Prior</u> To	This Amendment:		
Amount of this Amendment:			
	Actual orEstimat		
Amount of Agreement Including	This Amendment:		
Funding Source & Acct # for Ar	nendment:		
Description and Need for Amen	dment		
All of The Terms and Condition		in in Full Force and Effect	
Contractor's Signature:	(Name)	(Date)	
	(Title)		
New Haven Board of Education:			
Presiden	t	(Date)	_



11725 Arbor Street, Suite 220 ◆ Omaha, Nebraska 68144 ◆ 402-991-7031/888-375-4814 Fax: 402-991-7168 ◆ Email: <a href="mail@macnjake.com">mail@macnjake.com</a> ◆ Website: <a href="www.macnjake.com">www.macnjake.com</a>

To: Mr. Matt Wilcox, Vice President

New Haven Board of Education

From: Dr. Judy Sclair-Stein

Lead Consultant

**Date:** March 2, 2023

**Re:** Facilitation of Interviews

You had requested that I outline the services the Board of Education would be receiving if I facilitate the interview process leading to the selection of the superintendent.

Assuming the Board selects three finalists, I will be present for the three interview days from approximately 7:30am until approximately 9:30pm. During that time I will be meeting with each stakeholder team, training them for interviewing the superintendent candidates, being present during the interviews to ensure professionalism and consistency and then facilitating the debrief discussion of the interviews. Additionally, I will be responsible for seeing that the candidates' days proceed smoothly and going through a similar process with the Board of Education each evening as they conduct their interviews. My schedule will be extremely full; there are no breaks built in, not even for lunch. When there are rare reprieves, my time will be consumed preparing the notes from each stakeholder group's debrief session for presentation to the Board later that evening, following the Board's interview and debrief of each finalist.

Following the three days of interviews, I will meet with the Board of Education on a subsequent day and facilitate the very important process of the Board discussing the three finalists as the Board of Education tries to make a determination of which finalist they feel will best serve the New Haven Public Schools as superintendent. This is a process which is rarely simple, requires the consideration of Board feedback from each of the three interviews as well as a revisit of the feedback and contributions from all of the stakeholder interview teams. The process we will go through may utilize a rubric which includes the criteria established by the board regarding the qualities the Board is looking for in their next superintendent. Typically the decision-making process works most smoothly when there is an outside facilitator to assist the Board.

### Costs

Interviews--\$1,000 per day of finalist interviews

Facilitation of the Decision--\$500 (for three hours; additional hours @ \$150 per hour\*)

\**Not to exceed \$1,000.* 

Expenses--\$2,000\*\* (flight, hotel, transportation, meals, copies)

\*\*approximately

# AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION AND MCPHERSON & JACOBSON, LLC FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### A23-0049

# **PART I**

This Agreement, consisting of Parts I and II, Exhibit A and Rider 300, effective as of the 1<sup>ST</sup> day of November 2022, by and between the New Haven Board of Education having an address of 54 Meadow Street, New Haven, CT 06519 (hereinafter referred to as the "Board"), and McPherson & Jacobson, LLC, with address of 11725 Arbor St. Ste.220, Omaha, NE 68144 (hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor").

### WITNESSETH THAT:

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that it requires the services an executive search firm for the New Haven Public Schools superintendent search; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor is qualified to provide the services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has selected the Contractor pursuant to RFP #2022-10-1486 and the Contractor has agreed to perform the services for the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

**WHEREAS**, funds for this Agreement are available from account number 19040100-56694 - PurchaseOrder No. 60230187-000 FY 2023.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board and the Contractor hereby agree as follows:

# **SECTION 1: ENGAGEMENT**

- 101. The Board hereby engages the Contractor and the Contractor hereby agrees to perform the services set forth herein in accordance with the terms and conditions and for the consideration set forth herein.
- 102. The person in charge of administering the services described under this Agreement on behalf of the Board shall be *Yesenia Rivera* or such other person as designated in writing.

103. The person responsible for the services to be performed by the contractor shall be *Dr. Norman Ridder*. The Contractor shall not subcontract any of the professional services to be performed by it under this Agreement.

# **SECTION 2: SCOPE OF SERVICES**

- 201. The Contractor shall perform the services set forth under this Agreement, including Exhibit A, in a satisfactory manner, as reasonably determined by the Board. The Contractor shall make such revisions or modifications to its work, at its own cost and expense, as may be required by the Board; provided, however, the Contractor shall not be required to make revisions at its sole cost and expense where the revisions are based upon considerations outside the scope of services initially given to the Contractor.
- 202. All drawings, reports, and documents prepared by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be submitted to the Board for review and approval. The Board shall review and respond to materials submitted by the Contractor within thirty (30) calendar days. In the event the Board disapproves of any of the submitted materials, or any portion thereof, or requires additional material in order to properly review the submission, the Contractor shall revise such disapproved work at its own cost and expense and submit the revised work or the additional required material for review and approval.
- 203. In performing the services required under this Agreement, the Contractor shall consult with New Haven Board of Education, and shall meet, as appropriate, with other Board employees or officials and with other persons or entities, as necessary, including State and Federal officials and/or neighborhood groups or organizations.
- 204. The services to be performed by the Contractor are set out in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. In the event any provision of Exhibit A conflicts with any provision of Part I or Part II of this Agreement, said Part I or Part II shall be controlling.

# SECTION 3: INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED TO THE CONTRACTOR

301. The Board will provide the Contractor with all documents, data, and other materials in its possession appropriate to the services to be performed hereunder and will endeavor to secure materials or information from other sources requested by the Contractor for the purpose of carrying out services under this Agreement.

# **SECTION 4: TIME OF PERFORMANCE**

401. The Contractor shall perform the services set forth in Section 2 of this Agreement at such times and in such sequence as may be directed by the Board.

- 402. This Agreement shall remain in effect until the services required hereunder are completed to the satisfaction of the Board, unless otherwise terminated by the parties hereto, but in any event shall terminate no later than June 30. 2023. If applicable, the Board, in its sole and absolute discretion, may renew this Agreement at the same rate, terms, and conditions in accordance with the relevant provisions of the RFP, but only to the extent that such provisions exist in the RFP.
- 403. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the Board reserves the right to terminate this Agreement for any reason upon twenty-one (21) days written notice to the Contractor. The Contractor shall be paid for satisfactory services rendered up to the termination date upon submission to the Board of all written memorandums, reports or other partially complete or incomplete documents, and such other materials as will reasonably facilitate transfer to a new Contractor.

# **SECTION 5: COMPENSATION**

- 501. The Board shall compensate the Contractor for satisfactory performance of the services required under Section 2 of this Agreement in a maximum amount not to exceed Thirty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$32,900.00)
- 502. Compensation provided under this Section 5 constitutes full and complete payment for all costs assumed by the Contractor in performing this Agreement including but not limited to salaries; consultant fees; costs of materials and supplies; printing and reproduction; meetings, consultations, and presentations; travel expenses; postage; telephone; clerical expenses; and all similar expenses. No direct costs shall be reimbursed by the Board other than as provided in Section 501.
- 503. Payments to the Contractor under this Agreement shall be made by the Board on approval of payment requisitions certified by a principal of the Contractor submitted not more often than once a month and in accordance with the City's Electronic Invoicing and Invoice Submission & Payment Policy. Each requisition shall be in a form acceptable to the Board and shall set forth the services performed, the percentage of completion of the work, and the compensation due the Contractor based upon the fee amount set forth in Section 501. The Board may, prior to making any payment under this Agreement, require the Contractor to submit to it such additional information with respect to the Contractor's costs as the Board deems necessary.
- 504. No contract for employment is intended or implemented by this Agreement and no fringe benefits will be paid to the Contractor hereunder. The Contractor's relationship to the Board is that of an independent contractor.

# **SECTION 6: INSURANCE**

601. The Contractor shall indemnify, defend and save harmless the New Haven Board of Education and its officers, agents, and employees from and against all actions, lawsuits, claims, damages, losses, judgments, liens, and expenses, including but not

limited to reasonable attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting directly or indirectly from the performance of services of the Contractor set forth under this Agreement.

602. Insurance requirements are set forth in the attached Rider 300. In the event of any conflict between Rider 300 and this Section 6, Rider 300 shall control.

# **SECTION 7: TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- 701. This Agreement is subject to and incorporates the provisions attached hereto as New Haven Board of Education Contract for Professional or Technical Services Part II, Terms and Conditions. In the event any provision of said Part II conflicts with any provision of this Part I of this Agreement, Part I shall be controlling.
- 702. This Agreement, its terms and conditions and any claims arising therefrom, shall be governed by Connecticut law. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and codes of the State of Connecticut and the New Haven Board of Education.
- 703. The parties agree that they waive a trial by jury as to any and all claims, causes of action or disputes arising out of this Agreement or services to be provided pursuant to this Agreement. Notwithstanding any such claim, dispute, or legal action, the Contractor shall continue to perform services under this Agreement in a timely manner, unless otherwise directed by the Board.
- 704. The Board and the Contractor each binds itself, its partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives to the other party to this Agreement and to the partners, successors, assigns and legal representatives of such other party with respect to all covenants of this Agreement.
- 705. This Agreement incorporates all the understandings of the parties hereto as to the matters contained herein and supersedes any and all agreements reached by the parties prior to the execution of this Agreement, whether oral or written, as to such matters.
- 706. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the balance of the provisions of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby if the balance of the provisions of this Agreement would then continue to conform to the requirements of applicable laws.
- 707. Any waiver of the terms and conditions of this Agreement by either of the parties hereto shall not be construed to be a waiver of any other term or condition of this Agreement.
- 708. The Board may, from time to time, request changes in the scope of services of the Contractor to be performed hereunder. Such changes, including any increase or decrease in the amount of the Contractor's compensation, which are mutually agreed

upon by and between the Board and the Contractor, shall be incorporated in written amendments executed by both parties to this Agreement.

- 709. References herein in the masculine gender shall also be construed to apply to the feminine gender.
- 710. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, whenever under this Agreement approvals, authorizations, determinations, satisfactions or waivers are required or permitted, such items shall be effective and valid only when given in writing signed by a duly authorized officer of the Board or the Contractor, and delivered in hand or sent by mail, postage prepaid, to the party to whom it is directed, which until changed by written notice, are as follows:

Contractor:	Dr. Norman Ridder McPherson & Jacob 11725 Arbor St. Ste.220 Omaha, NE 68144
Board:	Thomas Lamb, COO New Haven Board of Education 54 Meadow Street New Haven, CT06519

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement A23-0049 as of the day and year first above written.

Y:
Y OF NEW HAVEN ARD OF EDUCATION  Usunia Kiwra, frusidunt, BOE  Yesenia Reivera President  February 21, 2023   11:06 AM EST  E:  Proved as to Form and Correctness:  S A. Alexiades istant Corporation Counsel

# CITY OF NEW HAVEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL SERVICES PART II - TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. <u>Personnel</u>. (a) The Contractor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the services under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the City.
- (b) All the services required hereunder will be performed by the Contractor or under its supervision and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized or permitted under State or local law to perform such services.
- (c) No person who is serving a sentence in a penal or correctional institution shall be employed on work under this Agreement. The foregoing sentence shall not be interpreted to interfere with the Contractor's compliance with the City's Ban the Box requirements.
- 2. Anti-Kickback Rules. Salaries of architects, draftsmen, technical engineers, and technicians performing work under this Agreement shall be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a month without deductions or rebate on any account except only such payroll deductions as are mandatory by law or permitted by the applicable regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the "Anti-Kickback Act" of June 13, 1934, as now codified in 18 U.S.C. § 874 and 40 U.S.C. § 3145. The Contractor shall comply with applicable "Anti-Kickback" regulations and shall insert appropriate provisions in all subcontracts covering work under this Agreement to ensure compliance by subcontractors with such regulations, and shall be responsible for the submission of affidavits required of subcontractors thereunder except as the Secretary of Labor may specifically provide for variations or exemptions from the requirements thereof.
- 3. <u>Withholding of Salaries</u>. If, in the performance of this Agreement, there is any underpayment of salaries by the Contractor or by any subcontractor thereunder, the City shall withhold from the Contractor out of payments due to him an amount sufficient to pay to employees underpaid the difference between the salaries required hereby to be paid and the salary actually paid such employees for the total number of hours worked. The amounts withheld shall be disbursed by the City for and on account of the Contractor or subcontractor to the respective employees to whom they are due.
- 4. <u>Claims and Disputes Pertaining to Salary Rates</u>. Claims and disputes pertaining to salary rates or to classifications of architects, draftsmen, technical engineers, and technicians performing work under this Agreement shall be promptly reported in writing by the Contractor to the City, and the City's decision regarding such claims and disputes shall be final. Particularly with respect to this Section and Section 5 above, the City reserves the right to inspect Contractor's records with respect to this

Agreement and specifically, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, payroll and employee records with respect to the work performed pursuant to this Agreement.

# 5. <u>Equal Employment Opportunity</u>.

- A. During the performance of this Agreement, the Contractor agrees as follows:
  - i) To comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 and Executive Order 11375, the Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46a-51 et seq., the Equal Opportunities Ordinance of the City under Chapter 12 ½ et seq., the Contract Compliance Ordinance of the City under Article III of Chapter 12 ½, including all standards and regulations which are promulgated by the government authorities who established such acts and requirements, and all standards and regulations are incorporated herein by reference;
  - ii) Not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, age, sex, physical disability, national origin, or any other State or Federal protected class status. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical handicap, or any other State or Federal protected class status. Such action shall include, but is not limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of any or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship;
  - iii) To post, in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notice is to be provided by the Contractor setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause;
  - iv) To state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the Contractor, that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, physical disability, national origin, or any other State or Federal protected class status;
- B. And where this contract involves construction, or is a "public contract" as defined in section 12 ½ -19(o) of the City's Code of General Ordinances, then the contractor additionally agrees:
  - i) To send to each labor union or representative of workers with whom the Contractor has a collective bargaining agreement, or other contract or understanding, a notice advising the labor union or worker's

representative of the Contractor's commitments under the equal opportunity clause of the City, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment. The Contractor shall register all workers in the skilled trades, who are below the journeyman level, with the Apprentice Training Division of the Connecticut State Labor Department;

- ii) To utilize State of Connecticut Labor Department and City sponsored manpower programs as a source of recruitment and to notify the contract compliance unit and such programs of all job vacancies;
- iii) To take affirmative action to negotiate with qualified minority contractors, women business enterprises and disadvantaged women business enterprises, for any work which may be proposed for subcontracting, or for any additional services, supplies, or work which may be required as a result of this Agreement;
- iv) To cooperate with City departments in implementing required Agreement obligations for increasing the utilization of minority business enterprises, women business enterprises and disadvantaged business enterprises;
- v) To furnish all information and reports required by the contract compliance director pursuant to sections 12 ½-19 through 12 ½-33 of the City's Code of General Ordinances and to permit access to the Contractor's books, records, and accounts by the contracting agency, the contract compliance officer, and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigations to ascertain compliance with the program;
- vi) To take such action, with respect to any subcontractor, as the City may direct as a means of enforcing the provisions of sub-paragraphs (1) through (8) herein, including penalties and sanctions for noncompliance, provided however that, in the event the Contractor becomes involved in or is threatened with litigation as a result of such direction by the City, the City will intervene in such litigation to the extent necessary to protect the interest of the City and to effectuate the City's equal employment opportunity program. In the case of contracts funded directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, under one or more federal assistance programs, the Contractor or the City may ask the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interest of the United States;
- vii) To file, along with its subcontractors, if any, compliance reports with the City in the form and to the extent prescribed in this Agreement by the contract compliance director of the City. Compliance reports filed at such times as directed shall contain information as to the employment

- practices, policies, programs and statistics of the Contractor and its subcontractors, if any;
- viii) To include the provisions of sub-paragraphs (1) through (9) of this equal opportunity clause in every subcontract or purchase order so that said provisions will be binding upon each such subcontractor or vendor;
- ix) That a finding, as hereinafter provided, of a refusal by the Contractor, or subcontractor, to comply with any portion of this program as herein stated and described, may subject the offending party to any or all of the following penalties:
  - (a) Withholding of all future payments under the involved public contract to the Contractor in violation, until it is determined that the Contractor, or subcontractor, is in compliance with the provisions of this Agreement;
  - (b) Refusal of all future bids for any public contract with the City, or any of its departments or divisions, until such time as the Contractor, or subcontractor, is in compliance with the provisions of this Agreement;
  - (c) Cancellation of this Agreement;
  - (d) Recovery of specified monetary penalties;
  - (e) In case of substantial or material violation, or the threat of substantial or material violation of the compliance procedure or as may be provided for by contract, appropriate equitable or legal proceedings may be brought to enforce these provisions against contractors, subcontractors, or other organizations, individuals or groups who directly or indirectly are not in compliance with the policy as herein outlined.
- 6. <u>Discrimination Because of Certain Labor Matters Related to Construction Contracts</u>. No person employed on the work covered by this Agreement shall be discharged or in any way discriminated against because it has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding or has testified or is about to testify in any proceeding under or related to the labor standards applicable hereunder to its employer.
- 7. <u>Assignability</u>. The Contractor shall not assign any interest in this Agreement, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or novation) without the prior written approval of the City, <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that claims for money due or to become due the Contractor from the City under this Agreement

may be assigned to a bank, trust, company, or other financial institution, or to a Trustee in Bankruptcy, without such approval. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the City.

- 8. <u>Interest of City Officials</u>. No member of the governing body of the City, and no other officer, employee, or agent of the City who exercises any functions or responsibilities in connection with the carrying out of the project to which this Agreement pertains, shall have any personal interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement.
- 9. <u>Interest of Contractor</u>. The Contractor covenants that it presently has no interest and shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in the above-referenced project or any parcel of land therein or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of its service hereunder. The Contractor further covenants that in the performance of this Agreement no person having any such interest shall be employed.
- 10. <u>Findings Confidential</u>. All of the reports, information, data, etc., prepared or assembled by the Contractor under this Agreement are confidential and the Contractor agrees that they shall not be made available to any individual or organization without the prior written approval of the City.
- 11. <u>Audit</u>. The City reserves the right to audit the Contractor's books of account in relation to this Agreement any time during the period of this Agreement or at any time during the twelve-month period immediately following the closing or termination of this Agreement. In the event the City elects to make such an audit, the Contractor shall immediately make available to the City all records pertaining to this Agreement, including, but not limited to, payroll records, bank statements, and canceled checks.

Exhibit A

RFP 2022-10-1486

A Proposal Prepared for

# New Haven, Connecticut

for

# The Search and Selection of a Superintendent of Schools

submitted by



**EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT** 



11725 Arbor Street, Suite 220 Omaha, Nebraska 68144 Phone: 888-375-4814/402-991-7031 Fax: 402-991-7168

> Email: <u>mail@macnjake.com</u> Website: <u>www.macnjake.com</u>

11725 Arbor Street, Suite 220 ◆ Omaha, Nebraska 68144 ◆ 402-991-7031/888-375-4814 Fax: 402-991-7168 ◆ Email: <a href="mail@macnjake.com">mail@macnjake.com</a> ◆ Website: www.macnjake.com

October 26, 2022

Board of Education New Haven Public Schools 54 Meadow St. New Haven, Connecticut 06519

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your RFP. The enclosed proposal describes the professional services McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. will provide New Haven Public Schools in ensuring your superintendent search secures quality leadership for the district.

McPherson & Jacobson will work with the board to design a search that meets the unique needs of your school district. Our firm's five-phase protocol allows the board to concentrate on the most important segments: the interview and selection of the successful candidate. Our team of consultants, working in conjunction with the board and diverse stakeholder groups you identify, will implement a systematic, comprehensive process culminating in the hiring of the most qualified candidate for your district.

At the core of our firm's work is the belief that every student is entitled to high quality education and that this is dependent upon quality leadership. We understand that students have diverse needs, thus, we focus on the intentional recruitment of a diverse candidate pool that includes ethnic and cultural identity as well as experience in culturally proficient practices that have proven successful in addressing educational equity gaps. This unique approach is made possible through the diverse and extensive network of our consultants who have various levels of expertise in the school system from superintendents, to school board members, to educational equity experts. We believe this has contributed to our successful placement of qualified candidates around the nation who have met extensive equity focused criteria and continue to make an impact in the districts they serve.

With over 130 consultants across the United States, McPherson & Jacobson has been successfully conducting searches for governing boards since 1991.

# Our contact information:

McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. 11725 Arbor St., Suite 220 Omaha, Nebraska 68144

Telephone: 402-991-7031/888-375-4814

Fax: 402-991-7168

Email: mail@macnjake.com

We welcome the opportunity to meet with your board to present our proposal and discuss our proven search process.

Sincerely,

# Dr. Norm Ridder

McPherson & Jacobson L.L.C.

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# **Executive Summary**

McPherson & Jacobson L.L.C. provides a comprehensive search process. Below are some of the highlights of our process:

- Our process is comprehensive and provides critical support for the most timeconsuming aspects of recruiting and screening the candidates, so the board can focus on interviewing and selection.
- Transparency is a hallmark of our protocol. Stakeholder participation emphasizes the transparency of our process.
- We take the entire board through a consensus decision-making process to identify the top criteria for the selection of the new superintendent.
- We meet with groups to ensure broad-based stakeholder input in the selection process. In addition, we provide an online survey to reach out to anyone who could not attend a stakeholder meeting. The consultants will present a comprehensive written report to the board, which includes all of the comments recorded during the input sessions.
- McPherson & Jacobson's consultants actively recruit candidates that meet the selection criteria. If desired, we will recruit non-traditional candidates.
- Applicant confidentiality is important to attract top candidates. Names remain confidential until the board selects their finalists.
- We continue to work with your school district until a superintendent is hired and in place.
- Phase V provides a continued commitment to work with your board and new superintendent for one year. We help you collaboratively establish annual performance objectives for the new superintendent's first year. Evidence from previous searches shows this phase to be very positive as it fosters a good transition.
- We are so confident of our ability to identify the district's criteria, recruit and screen
  applicants against those criteria, and assist during the transition period, that we
  guarantee our service. If your superintendent leaves for whatever reason during the
  guarantee period, we will repeat the process for no charge except for actual expenses.

Our mission is to ensure your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

# About McPherson & Jacobson

# The McPherson & Jacobson Difference

# "It's About the Kids"

- WE BELIEVE every student is entitled to a high-quality education. We strongly believe quality education is dependent upon quality leadership.
- OUR MISSION is to ensure your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

McPherson & Jacobson has developed a protocol that provides for high involvement of stakeholders, while keeping the board in complete control of the process.

One of the hallmarks of McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. is the belief that the search for a public executive should be conducted with as much transparency as possible. We have designed a process, which keeps the board in complete control of the search, while inviting various stakeholder groups to provide input and become meaningfully involved in the process.

# Qualifications and Background of McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C.

# **Leading National Search Firm**

McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. has been conducting national searches for governing boards since 1991. The firm has placed **over 940 superintendents** and other officials in public and non-profit organizations across the United States. **McPherson & Jacobson is one of the leading national superintendent search firms.** 

# **Nationwide Network of Experienced Consultants**

McPherson & Jacobson has **over 130 consultants** across the nation. Over one-fourth of McPherson & Jacobson consultants are minorities or female. Our diverse group of consultants has extensive backgrounds in education and public service including current and former superintendents, assistant superintendents, university professors, and school board members. Over sixty percent have a doctorate degree. Their diversity and expertise ensures your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

# Sustainability in Leadership

Waters and Marzano review of 3.4 million students' achievement scores found that Superintendents' tenure is positively correlated with student achievement.

Organizations using the McPherson & Jacobson protocol have enjoyed sustainability of leadership. Over the last five years, **over eighty-five percent** of administrators are in the position for which they were hired. **Almost sixty percent** of administrators are still in the position for which they were hired within the past ten years. **Over forty percent** of the administrators selected by governing boards within the past 15 years continue in the position for which they were hired.

# McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. Non-Discrimination Policy

McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. is dedicated to serving school districts by supporting all candidates regardless of cultural and ethnic diversity

As an organization, we are committed to equitable practices that will ensure the equal access for all candidates. This commitment means that success will not be predicted nor predetermined by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, cognitive/physical ability, language, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion.

Every decision McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. makes will be committed to the following foundational beliefs:

- 1. Consultants share the moral imperative and collective ownership to identify and eliminate disparities to ensure all candidates have an equal opportunity regardless of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, cognitive/physical ability, language, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion;
- 2. Eliminate barriers in recruitment, hiring, retention, and internal processes;
- 3. Utilize culturally relevant practices that do not discriminate based upon language, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, cognitive/physical ability, or religion;
- 4. Promote catalytic leadership for educational and community partners;
- 5. Support the continuing development of all personnel with a focus on their mindset, beliefs, knowledge, and skills, including an understanding of implicit bias and racial identity;
- 6. Incorporate the voices, cultures, and perspectives of diverse students, families, and communities into decision making to create a sense of belonging for all;
- 7. Support and comply with State and District policies.

# **Applicant Diversity**

While McPherson & Jacobson does not represent candidates, we keep a data bank of quality candidates. Once a board identifies the characteristics it desires in its new superintendent, the consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. will identify and aggressively recruit, on a national level, candidates who match the board's identified criteria.

McPherson & Jacobson has **over 130 consultants** across the nation. Our diverse group of consultants has extensive backgrounds in education and public service including current and former superintendents, assistant superintendents, university professors, and school board members. Over fifty percent have a doctorate degree. Their diversity and expertise ensures your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

We use our consultant network to track the careers of successful administrators. We also work closely with universities, colleges, and professional organizations that represent and promote minority and female applicants.

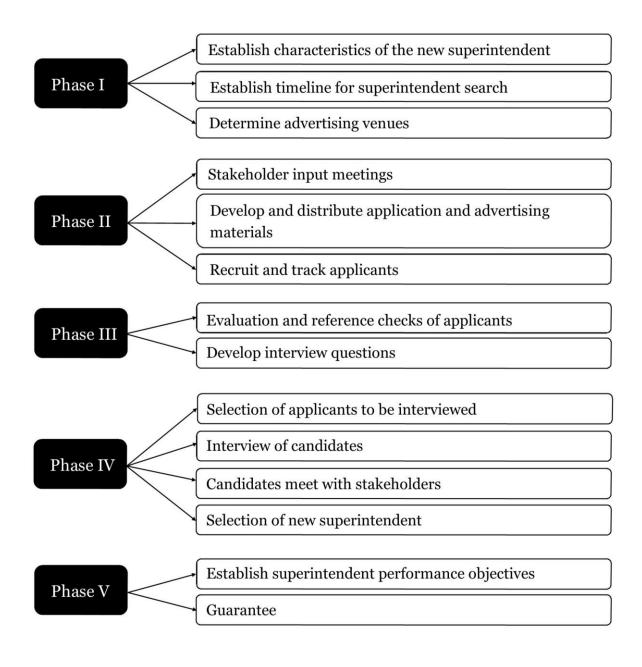
For the past five years, approximately **one-third** of our applicants have been female and almost **one-fourth** of our applicants have been ethnically diverse.

In the past ten years, **one-third** of the boards we have represented have placed women or ethnically diverse candidates.

McPherson & Jacobson recruits from a diverse pool of applicants. McPherson & Jacobson lead the search for the first black woman superintendent hired in Nebraska.

# **Search Process**

# Five Phases of a Superintendent Search



# Phase I—Initiating the Search Process

# ✓ Using a group process with the board, identify the most important characteristics of the future superintendent.

The consultants will assist the board in identifying the most important characteristics the board would like the new superintendent to possess. These characteristics will be used as a template for recruiting and selecting candidates.

# **✓** Establish appropriate timelines and target dates for the selection process.

The consultants will prepare a proposed calendar for the search process. Dates for advertising the announcement of vacancy, closing date, dates for interviewing, a target date for selecting the new superintendent, and a date for the new superintendent to begin will be determined.

# **✓** Determine, with the board, appropriate advertising venues.

The consultants will assist the board in determining the scope of the search. Appropriate media venues (professional journals, trade papers, newspapers, and websites) and associated costs will be presented for consideration.

# **✓** Identify appropriate stakeholder groups.

The board will identify the various stakeholder groups that they want McPherson & Jacobson's consultants to meet with to solicit input into the process.

# **✓** Assist the board in determining compensation parameters.

In order to recruit and select top candidates, compensation packages need to be competitive. Our consultants will present data indicating what districts in the same geographic region and similar size are paying superintendents. Whenever possible, they will also present compensation information for districts that recently hired a superintendent. This information is provided for the board's consideration of compensation parameters.

Final compensation decisions will be determined by the board and the selected candidate.

# ✓ Identify the point of contact for the district

The board will identify an appropriate staff person to work with the consultants to coordinate the logistics of the search. This includes tasks such as assisting with information for the promotional brochure and coordinating details for stakeholder input and other meetings within the district.

# Phase II—Stakeholder Input, Advertising the Position, Recruiting Applicants

# **✓** Work with the district to schedule the stakeholder input meetings.

The consultants will work with the district's point of contact to determine the stakeholder input schedule and coordinate notifying the stakeholders about the meetings.

# ✓ Meet with groups identified by the board to provide stakeholder input into the selection process.

The consultants will meet with the stakeholder groups identified by the board and solicit their input into the selection process. Each group is asked to identify the strengths of the school district and community, the issues facing the new superintendent, and the characteristics they would like to see the new superintendent possess.

The board chooses which groups it would like the consultants to meet with, but the most common groups include central office administrators, building administrators, teachers, classified staff, students, and community and business groups. The consultants will assist the board in choosing which groups it wishes to include.

For any unable to attend a stakeholder meeting, we provide an online version of the questions we ask the groups. At the request of the district, the survey can be available in multiple languages.

The results of the stakeholder meetings and online stakeholder input are summarized by the consultants and presented to the board.

# **✓** Develop promotional literature and brochures announcing the vacancy.

In order to attract quality applicants, it is important to promote your school system and community. With on-site assistance from the district, the consultants will assist in preparing an announcement of vacancy that highlights the strengths of your school system and community. Our graphic artist will prepare a professional color brochure that highlights the school district and community, including the board's selection criteria, the board members, and the application procedures and timelines.

# **✓** Prepare and place announcement of vacancy.

McPherson & Jacobson's staff will prepare and place the announcement of vacancy. It will be sent to the state school board and administrator associations, as well as media venues selected by the board. Additionally, McPherson & Jacobson maintains an interactive website (www.macnjake.com) that allows applicants to access all the application materials and apply online. The website averages over 225,000 hits per month.

# ✓ Develop an application unique to your vacancy that reflects the selection criteria determined by the board.

McPherson & Jacobson's staff will create an application form requiring applicants to describe their strengths and experiences relating to each criterion identified by the board. This will be one of the preliminary screening devices used by the consultants when assessing potential candidates.

# **✓** Post application information and notify interested applicants.

McPherson & Jacobson's staff contacts potential applicants and manages all the application materials using our online application software. Our office staff handles this task without assistance from your district.

# **✓** Actively recruit applicants who meet the district's needs.

While McPherson & Jacobson does not represent candidates, we actively maintain a data bank of quality candidates. Once the board has chosen its selection criteria, we will send the information to all of our consultants across the United States, asking them to nominate candidates who would be a good match. We will encourage those candidates to apply. Some of the best candidates may not be actively seeking another position and will need to be recruited.

McPherson & Jacobson stays current with trends in educational leadership by being an active participant and presenter at national and state education conferences. We participate in Job Central at the American Association of School Administrators conference, the National School Boards Association annual conference, and others such as the AASA Women's Leadership Conference.

# **✓** Confidentiality of Applicants

McPherson & Jacobson proposes an open process for the search. We believe the public business should be done in public with transparency. We also understand the need for applicants' confidentiality. Our process keeps the names of all applicants confidential until they are named a finalist for the position, at which time the names of the finalists are made public.

If the board believes that the names of the finalists should be kept confidential until they make their selection, we can do that. This is your search and we will adapt our process to fit your unique needs.

# **✓** Keep all applicants informed of their status in the selection process.

During the application process, McPherson & Jacobson's staff monitors applicants and notifies them of what is still needed to complete the process.

# **✓** Communicate with all Board Members in a timely manner

The consultants will communicate with all board members keeping them informed of the status of the search throughout the process.

# Phase III—Applicant Screening

# ✓ Evaluate each applicant against the selection criteria.

The consultants will read and evaluate all of the completed files submitted by applicants. They will read the application form and all of the additional material in each file and begin reviewing against the selection criteria.

# **✓** Conduct reference checks.

We understand that applicants do not submit references who will not speak highly of them. We begin with the references given and ask them a list of questions relevant to the selection criteria. After asking those questions, we ask each reference to give us the names of other people who can speak of the applicant's qualifications. We then call those individuals and ask them the same set of questions, including asking them to give us the

names of other people who can speak of the applicant's qualifications. We go a minimum of three people removed from the primary references. What we are looking for is consistency of answers that will verify the applicant's strengths and weaknesses.

In addition to contacting references, the consultants conduct an extensive Internet search of the applicants.

# **✓** Pre-Interview and Video of Shortlist Applicants.

The consultants will pre-interview applicants to be submitted on the shortlist. We will have these applicants submit a video which the consultants can share with the board.

# ✓ Assist the board in developing a set of interview questions that reflect the identified selection criteria and characteristics.

The consultants will present an extensive list of potential interview questions that reflect the selection criteria and characteristics desired by the board. The board members choose interview questions that reflect their criteria and priorities.

If the board chooses to conduct two rounds of interviews, the consultants will assist in developing interview questions for both rounds of interviews.

# Phase IV—Reviewing Candidates with the Board, Interviews

# **✓** Review candidates with the board and assist board members in determining which candidates they will interview.

The consultants will present a complete list of applicants, who completed the application process, to the board for its review. We do not eliminate any applicants; however, a short list will be submitted of those applicants who we found most closely met the district's criteria. The consultants will present a reference profile demonstrating the consistent feedback for each short list applicant, along with a video from the short list applicants.

Upon reviewing the recommendations, the consultants will assist the board members in identifying which applicants they wish to consider as candidates for interviews.

# **✓** Assist the board in determining interview procedures.

After the board selects their final candidates to interview, the names of these candidates will be made public upon confirming the interviews (if the board chooses to release the names). During the interview process, the stakeholder groups will have an opportunity to meet the individual candidates.

If the board chooses to conduct semi-finalist interviews, the candidates will only meet with the board. The names of the semi-finalist candidates will remain confidential (in states where an executive session is allowed), and stakeholders will not meet the semi-finalists. The finalist interviews will be conducted as described in the paragraph above.

# **✓** Coordinate interview and visitation procedures.

If the board chooses, McPherson & Jacobson will schedule semi-finalist interviews. Semi-finalist interviews are typically conducted with the board only. After the semi-finalist interviews, the board will select their finalists.

If the board chooses to involve stakeholder groups in the interview process, the consultants will assist in establishing the finalist interview schedule that includes district staff, students, and community groups. A typical interview day will include a tour of the district and community, meeting with stakeholder groups, and a formal interview with the board.

# ✓ Assist the groups identified by the board in planning for meeting each candidate and providing feedback to the board.

If the board chooses to involve stakeholder groups in the interview process, representatives will be selected from the stakeholder groups identified by the board. The purpose of these groups is two-fold: 1) to promote the school district and community to the candidate; and 2) to form an impression of each candidate, which they will share with the board. The board will identify chairpersons for each stakeholder group. The consultants will meet with the chairpersons to discuss their roles and responsibilities. The consultants will also provide the chairpersons with a form to record the group's consensus impressions of each candidate's strengths and any concerns or questions the group may have. Each form will be sealed in an envelope and turned in to the district contact person.

# ✓ Coordinate visitation procedures for the candidate's spouse/significant other.

We encourage boards to invite spouse/significant others to attend the interview day. The consultants will coordinate, with the point of contact, a portion of the interview day for the spouse/significant other to have an expanded visitation of the community. Tours typically include available housing, medical facilities, churches, recreational opportunities, and areas of interest unique to your community.

# ✓ Assist the board in making final arrangements for each candidate's visit.

It is common practice for the district to pay interview expenses for the candidates and their spouse/significant others. To ensure that expenses stay within established guidelines, the consultants will assist the point of contact in making lodging and travel arrangements for each candidate.

# ✓ Contact all finalists and schedule their interview dates.

The consultants will contact the final candidates, notifying them they are finalists for the position and scheduling their interview dates. The consultants will be the contact for answering any questions and coordinating the candidates' visits to the district.

# ✓ Notify all applicants not selected for an interview.

Once the board has selected its final candidates, all other applicants will receive, on behalf of the board, a personalized notification thanking them for taking the time to complete the application materials and notifying them that they are not a finalist.

# **✓** Conduct background checks.

Included in the expenses are criminal/financial/educational degree verification background checks for the finalists selected to be interviewed.

# **✓** Personally contact each finalist who was not offered the position.

Once a contract has been offered by the board and accepted, the consultants will call each of the other final candidates and thank them on behalf of the board for interviewing for the position. *These candidates are not notified until an offer has been accepted*. If by chance you lose your top candidate, we want to keep viable candidates available.

# Phase V—Transition with Success

# **✓** Establish performance objectives for new superintendent.

Working with the board and new superintendent, the consultant will assist in establishing two or three performance objectives the board wants the superintendent to focus on during the first year. These objectives are beyond the day-to-day school district operations.

Once the performance objectives have been identified, board members will be asked what they will accept as evidence of progress towards the accomplishment of the identified objectives.

The superintendent will take the information generated from this session and develop an action plan for achieving the performance objectives.

# **✓** Provide a guarantee.

If the board chooses to use our complete service, we will guarantee our process for **two** (2) **years**. If the person selected leaves the position, *FOR WHATEVER REASON*, within the guarantee period, we will repeat the process at no charge except actual expenses.

We are convinced that our process of identifying your most important selection criteria, meaningfully involving stakeholders, screening candidates against the criteria, and working with you during the critical first year, will ensure your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

# **Timeline**

The timeline for the search process is established when we meet with the board, so we can address the unique needs of the district. However, the time from our first meeting with the board until the finalist is selected is typically a minimum of two to three months.

**Possible timeline:** (can be adjusted to meet the needs of the district)

- ➤ At the beginning of the search (early December 2022)
  - The qualities for the new superintendent are identified
  - A formal timeline is established
  - Advertising decisions are made
  - Application information is posted
  - A brochure is created to advertise the district and the vacancy
- ➤ At the time designated by the board (**December 2022**)
  - Stakeholder group meetings are held
  - A summary of stakeholder input is presented to the board
- ➤ As applications arrive in our office
  - Applications are monitored and applicants are notified of the deadlines to submit their materials
- ➤ After the closing date (late-January 2023)
  - All the completed applicant files are forwarded to the consultants
  - The consultants begin the review and pre-interview process
- > Approximately two to four weeks after the closing date (mid-February 2023)
  - Consultants provide information to the board on all applicants who completed the process
  - Consultants present summary profiles and video interviews of qualified candidates to the board
  - The board selects the candidates it wants to interview
  - Criminal/financial/educational degree verification background checks are conducted on the selected finalists
  - McPherson & Jacobson notifies each applicant not selected for an interview
- ➤ Soon after the board selects their candidates (February-March 2023)
  - Semi-finalist interviews are conducted (if chosen by the board)
  - The board interviews its final candidates
  - The board selects their new superintendent
  - McPherson & Jacobson's consultants contact each candidate who was interviewed to notify them of their status

# Responsibilities of New Haven Public Schools and McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C.

Event	McPherson & Jacobson's Tasks	School District's Tasks
1 <sup>st</sup> board meeting	<ul> <li>□ The consultant guides the board in determining the following items</li> <li>○ Characteristics for the new superintendent</li> <li>○ The search calendar</li> <li>○ Compensation parameters</li> <li>○ Identify the appropriate constituent groups for stakeholder input</li> <li>○ Advertising venues</li> <li>□ The consultant works with the Point of Contact to compile:</li> <li>○ Information to create the brochure announcing the vacancy</li> <li>○ The list of names to be invited to the community input meetings</li> </ul>	of the Point of Contact; and the Board Contact List
After 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting	<ul> <li>□ Application link is posted online</li> <li>□ Brochure announcing the vacancy is created</li> <li>□ Advertising is started</li> <li>□ Vacancy announcements are sent out</li> <li>□ E-mails are sent to applicants registered with McPherson &amp; Jacobson notifying them about the opening</li> <li>□ E-mails are sent to consultants regarding the opening, requesting they invite candidates to apply for the position</li> <li>□ Opening is posted on social media and additional venues</li> </ul>	☐ Edit the brochure
During application period	<ul> <li>Consultants recruit candidates that fit the position</li> <li>Monitors applicants and where they are in the application process</li> <li>Notifies applicants of the closing date for submitting their materials</li> <li>Lead consultant keeps the board up to date on the search</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Posts a link to the McPherson &amp; Jacobson website</li> <li>Posts the brochure (announcement of vacancy) on their website</li> <li>Advertises the opening on the district's social media platforms</li> </ul>

Event	McPherson & Jacobson's Tasks	School District's Tasks
Stakeholder meetings are scheduled	☐ Home Office sends out invitations to the community stakeholder meeting(s) after receiving the information from the consultant and the district	<ul> <li>□ Assists in organizing stakeholder focus groups and meeting schedule</li> <li>□ Names and addresses are sent to Home Office for community meeting invitations</li> <li>□ Posts meeting dates, times, and locations as open public forum</li> <li>□ Assists in translating stakeholder input survey into the additional language(s) requested by the school district</li> </ul>
Stakeholder meetings	<ul> <li>Consultants facilitate the stakeholder meetings, recording the input</li> <li>An online stakeholder input survey is created, the link is posted on the McPherson &amp; Jacobson website and also provided to the district to post</li> </ul>	☐ Link to online stakeholder input form(s) is (are) posted on the school district website
Stakeholder meetings completed	<ul> <li>□ Consultant summarizes key themes and gives the results to the district</li> <li>□ Copy of summary is sent to Home Office</li> <li>□ The stakeholder input summary report is created</li> </ul>	☐ "Stakeholder Input Report" is posted on the school district website
2 <sup>nd</sup> board meeting	<ul> <li>□ Review stakeholder input summary report and provide copies to the district</li> <li>□ The consultant guides the board in determining the following items         <ul> <li>Interview questions</li> <li>Length of contract, moving and interview expenses</li> <li>Spouse/significant other's involvement in interview process</li> <li>District Interview Schedule</li> <li>Candidate Daily Interview Schedule</li> </ul> </li> <li>□ Interview questions are sent to Home Office to be formatted</li> </ul>	
Prior to 3 <sup>rd</sup> board meeting	<ul> <li>□ Applicant packets are reviewed by the consultants and reference checks are performed</li> <li>□ Contact candidates on short list and verify their interest in the position</li> <li>□ Meet with stakeholder group chairs to review schedule, procedures, and screen questions</li> </ul>	

Event	McPherson & Jacobson's Tasks	<b>School District's Tasks</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> board meeting	<ul> <li>□ The consultant facilitates the board's         <ul> <li>Review of the list of all applicants</li> <li>Overview of candidates on short list</li> <li>Selection of finalists</li> <li>Finalizing of interview dates &amp; schedule</li> <li>Review of interview questions &amp; procedures</li> <li>Finalizing candidate &amp; spouse/significant other arrangements</li> <li>Contact finalists and schedule interview dates, review schedule, discuss compensation and contractual issues</li> <li>□ Work with Point of Contact to coordinate interviews (transportation, lodging, interview locations, etc.)</li> <li>□ Send Candidate Daily Interview Schedule to each finalist</li> <li>□ Conduct criminal/financial/educational degree verification checks on finalists selected to be interviewed</li> <li>□ Notify the applicants who were not selected to be interviewed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Assist with lodging arrangements and welcome gifts</li> <li>□ Arrange for spouse/significant other tour</li> </ul>
Interviews	<ul> <li>□ Call Point of Contact after 1st interview to learn how it went</li> <li>□ Call 1st candidate to learn their perspective and how the interview went</li> <li>□ Suggest any possible improvements</li> <li>□ Be available for questions</li> <li>□ Be present at interviews if request is made by school district (additional fee for this service)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>One candidate per day</li> <li>Board member greets each candidate upon arrival to district</li> <li>Informal interview-social setting</li> <li>Formal interview</li> <li>Spouse/significant other's visitation is coordinated</li> </ul>
Finalist selected and accepted	<ul> <li>□ Call and make offer to candidate</li> <li>□ Verify acceptance</li> <li>□ Call other finalists</li> <li>□ Sends out letter of congratulations to candidate who was chosen</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Board meets and discusses each candidate individually</li> <li>□ Read input forms submitted by stakeholder input groups</li> <li>□ Have each board member rank order candidates</li> <li>□ Select minimum of #1 and #2 candidate</li> <li>□ Call and make offer to candidate</li> <li>□ Send interview forms and files to the Home Office</li> <li>□ Board evaluates our services</li> </ul>
Phase V	<ul> <li>□ Facilitate board and superintendent's identification of 2-3 performance objectives and evidence of progress the board will accept</li> <li>□ Consultant reviews superintendent's plan</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Superintendent creates plan with target objectives and timelines</li> <li>□ Plan is sent to consultant to be reviewed</li> <li>□ Board adopts plan</li> </ul>

# Communicating and Working with the Board

The consultants will be in contact with the board president during the search as necessary to give updates on the progress. The consultants are available by phone or email to address any concerns or answer any questions the board has during the search process.

The McPherson & Jacobson consultants will meet with the entire board for three meetings:

- 1. Initial meeting to determine the criteria for the new superintendent, advertising venues, and stakeholder groups for input meetings.
- 2. Review of stakeholder input. At this meeting, the input obtained from the stakeholder meetings will be presented to and reviewed with the board. In addition, the interview schedule, interview questions, and salary for the new superintendent will be discussed at this meeting.
- 3. Presentation of the candidates to the board. At this meeting, the consultants will give the board a complete list of those who completed the application process, and will present additional information about the applicants that most closely meet the district's criteria. The consultants will assist the board in determining which applicants it wishes to interview.

In addition, the consultants will send regular emails to the board members keeping them abreast of the status of the search.

The consultants are available to meet with the board for additional issues, if the board desires; however, there is an additional fee for these meetings.

# Stakeholder Involvement

Obtaining stakeholder input is an integral part of McPherson & Jacobson's search process. Since 1991, McPherson & Jacobson has conducted over 940 superintendent searches for school districts ranging from 10 to over 300,000 students. For each search, we have coordinated stakeholder input sessions. Besides meeting with stakeholder groups designated by the board, an online input survey is also available for those who cannot attend the meetings. After the meetings have been completed, the board will receive a written report with the findings of the meetings and online input.

### **Initial stakeholder input sessions**

The consultants will meet with groups identified by the board to solicit their input into the selection process. Each group is asked to identify the strengths of the school district and community, the characteristics they would like to see the new superintendent possess, and the issues facing the new superintendent. The results of these meetings are summarized by the consultants and presented to the board. The board chooses which groups it would like the consultants to meet with, but the most common groups include central office administrators, building administrators, teachers, classified staff, students, and community and business

groups. The consultants will assist the board in choosing which groups it wishes to include. An online survey option will be provided to stakeholders who are unable to attend the scheduled meetings.

# Meeting the candidates

A representative group of eight to twelve people will be selected to represent each of the groups identified by the board. The consultants will meet with a chairperson for each group to discuss their roles and responsibilities. The purposes of these groups are two-fold: one, to promote the school district and community to the candidate; and two, to form an impression of each candidate, which they will share with the board. The consultants will coach each group on how to conduct the meeting with each candidate and what questions they can or cannot ask. The consultants will also provide the chairpersons with a form in which, using group consensus, they will record their impressions of each candidate. The forms will be sealed in an envelope after meeting with each candidate and turned in to the district contact person. Upon completing the interview process with all candidates, the board will receive and open the forms from each group.

# **Process for Obtaining Staff Input**

The consultants will meet with central office administrators, building administrators, teachers, classified staff, and students, to solicit their input into the selection process. Each group is asked to identify the strengths of the school district and community, the characteristics they would like to see the new superintendent possess, and the issues facing the new superintendent. The results of these meetings are summarized by the consultants and presented to the board.

Our normal protocol is to host meetings for the teachers and classified staff in the afternoon, right after school dismissal to give the maximum opportunity for the staff to participate. Central office and building administrator meetings are scheduled at multiple locations to maximize the opportunities for their input. Student input sessions are not scheduled during class time, they are normally held during lunch breaks.

# **Process for Obtaining Parent and Community Input**

The consultants will meet with parents and community stakeholders, to solicit their input into the selection process. Each group is asked to identify the strengths of the school district and community, the characteristics they would like to see the new superintendent possess, and the issues facing the new superintendent. The results of these meetings are summarized by the consultants and presented to the board.

Our normal protocol is to host meetings for the parents and community stakeholders in the evenings at multiple locations to allow as many stakeholders as possible to give their input.

# **Process for Including Ethnically Diverse Communities**

McPherson & Jacobson will work with the district to determine the best practices to obtain input from ethnically diverse communities in the district. If in-person meetings are required, McPherson & Jacobson will work with the district to obtain the necessary translators.

# **Process for Obtaining Online Stakeholder Input**

McPherson & Jacobson will create an online input survey to allow stakeholders to submit their input. At the request of the district, surveys for multiple languages can be developed and posted.

# Recruiting, Identifying, and Screening Applicants

# Advertising the Position

The consultants will discuss with the board the advertising options available and the pricing for them. The minimum advertising we recommend are the following online venues: AASA, *TopSchoolJobs.org*, ALAS (Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents), and NABSE (National Alliance of Black School Educators).

McPherson & Jacobson will not place any media advertising without approval from the board.

Additional advertising/recruiting tools provided at no additional cost to the district:

- The opening and application materials will be posted on the McPherson & Jacobson website which averages 225,000 hits per month
- Information regarding the position will be sent to the over 125 McPherson & Jacobson consultants located nationwide asking for names of potential applicants
- The over 1,000 potential applicants registered with McPherson & Jacobson will receive an email giving them opportunity to apply
- Posted on McPherson & Jacobson's social media accounts: Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter
- Vacancy announcements sent to school board and school administrator associations

# **Identifying and Recruiting Applicants**

While McPherson & Jacobson does not represent candidates, we keep a data base of quality candidates. Once a board identifies the characteristics it desires in its new superintendent, the consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. will identify and aggressively recruit, on a national level, candidates who match the board's identified criteria.

Over one-fourth of McPherson & Jacobson consultants are minorities or female. We use our consultant network to track the careers of successful administrators. We also work closely

with universities, colleges, and professional organizations that represent and promote minority and female applicants.

McPherson & Jacobson stays current with trends in educational leadership by being an active participant and presenter at many national and state education conferences. We participate in Job Central at the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) Conference, the National School Boards Association annual conference, and others such as the AASA Women's & Minority Leadership Conference. In addition, McPherson & Jacobson consultants are members of the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NASBE), and the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS).

Once the board has identified its selection criteria, the consultants of McPherson & Jacobson will immediately begin to identify potential applicants both locally and nationally. McPherson & Jacobson has over 130 consultants across the United States; we will send the information to all of our consultants across the United States, asking them to nominate candidates who would be a good match. Those candidates will be invited to apply. Some of our best candidates may not be actively seeking another position and will need to be recruited.

We do not maintain a stable of candidates, but we do follow the careers of successful administrators. Individuals who are currently looking to take a new position are encouraged to register with us so they can receive notification of the vacancies we are representing. We have over 1,000 potential applicants currently registered with McPherson & Jacobson who will receive notification of the superintendent opening. Additionally, we will vigorously pursue current or emerging leaders through personal contact.

We have maintained an ongoing presence at the American Association of School Administrators' Job Central at their annual conference where we have an opportunity to meet and interact with potential applicants. We maintain an ongoing presence at the National Association of School Boards' annual conference. We represent two state school board associations as their superintendent search process; therefore, we are the only private firm allowed to participate in their Job Central.

Our searches draw applicants from across the United States. Most searches have applicants from 10 to up to 25 states apply. Some of our searches also have applicants from outside the United States.

# **Applicant Diversity**

While McPherson & Jacobson does not represent candidates, we keep a data bank of quality candidates. Once a board identifies the characteristics it desires in its new superintendent, the consultants from McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. will identify and aggressively recruit, on a national level, candidates who match the board's identified criteria.

McPherson & Jacobson has **over 130 consultants** across the nation. Our diverse group of consultants has extensive backgrounds in education and public service including current and former superintendents, assistant superintendents, university professors, and school board members. Over fifty percent have a doctorate degree. Their diversity and expertise ensures your search results in quality leadership for education excellence. In addition, McPherson &

Jacobson consultants are members of the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NASBE), and the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS).

We use our consultant network to track the careers of successful administrators. We also work closely with universities, colleges, and professional organizations that represent and promote minority and female applicants.

For the past five years, approximately **one-third** of our applicants have been female and almost **one-fourth** of our applicants have been ethnically diverse.

In the past ten years, **one-third** of our placements have been women or ethnically diverse candidates.

# Screening, Reference Checks, Interviews of Final Applicants

The consultants will read and evaluate all of the completed files submitted by applicants. They will read the application form and all of the additional material in each file and begin comparing it against the selection criteria.

We understand that applicants do not submit references who will not speak highly of them. We begin with the references given and ask them a list of questions relevant to the selection criteria. After asking those questions, we ask each reference to give us the names of other people who can speak of the applicant's qualifications. We then call those individuals and ask them the same set of questions, including asking them to give us the names of other people who could speak of the applicant's qualification. We repeat the process until we have complete knowledge of the applicant's strengths and weaknesses. If we find any biases or controversial issues during this comprehensive vetting process, we will provide this information to the board.

The consultants will present a complete list of applicants to the board for its review. We do not eliminate any applicants. We will submit a short list of those applicants who we feel most closely meet the district's criteria and will present a written analysis for each.

Upon reviewing the applicants, the consultants will assist the board in determining which applicants it wishes to consider as candidates for interviews.

The consultants will assist the board in establishing the interview schedule. Working with the board, the consultants will set up an interview schedule that will give the candidate a tour of the district and community. The consultants will also help the board identify groups for each candidate to meet. Typically, the same groups the consultants met with to receive input into the selection process will also spend time with each candidate. Finally, the consultants will help coordinate the formal and informal interview process with the board.

The consultants will contact each final candidate; notifying them they are a finalist for the position and scheduling their interview date. The consultants will be the contact for answering any questions and coordinating the candidates' visits to the district.

Once the board has offered a contract to the final candidate, and it has been accepted by the candidate, the consultants will call each of the other final candidates and thank them on behalf of the board for interviewing for the position. *Final candidates are not notified until a contract has been signed*. If by chance you lose your top candidate, we want to keep viable candidates available.

# Cost Proposal

# Investment

# The fee for conducting the superintendent search is \$26,500 for Phases I-V.

McPherson & Jacobson has the tools to conduct all or some components of the search process electronically. We can work with the board to determine the best practices as the search progresses to determine if in-person or online meetings will best meet the needs of the district.

# The total not to exceed amount including expenses is \$32,900.\*

Included in the expenses is

- Thirty (30) days on AASA (American Association of School Administrators)
- Thirty (30) days on TopSchoolJobs (Ed Week online)
- Thirty (30) days of advertising on NABSE (National Alliance of Black School Educators)
- Six (6) weeks of advertising on ALAS (Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents)
- Two (2) consecutive days of in-person stakeholder meetings
- Online stakeholder input surveys
- Video interviews of candidates (five (5) video interviews are included in the not to exceed amount)
- Criminal/financial/credential verification background check for candidates chosen by the board for interviews (four (4) background checks are included in the not to exceed amount)
- Travel expenses for consultants for scheduled trips to the school district.
- Office expenses

### NOTE:

- Expenses may increase if the district chooses additional media advertising.
- Fees and expenses will increase if the district requests additional stakeholder input days.
- Interview expenses for the candidates are not included in the expenses listed.
- There is an additional fee and expenses for the consultants to attend the interview sessions.

McPherson & Jacobson is committed to working with the school district until a superintendent is identified and hired. If a second round of candidate selection is necessary, the only cost to the district would be the additional expenses, there is not an additional fee.

<sup>\*</sup>If the district chooses to do parts of the search using online meetings, the expenses may decrease.

# McPherson & Jacobson Guarantees

# **Client Satisfaction**

McPherson & Jacobson is committed to working with the school district until a superintendent is identified and hired. If a second round of candidate selection is necessary, the only cost to the district would be the additional expenses, there is not an additional fee.

If the board chooses to use our complete service, we will guarantee our process for **two** (2) **years**. If the person selected leaves the position, for whatever reason, within the guarantee period, we will repeat the process at no charge except actual expenses. The guarantee is valid only if the board is comprised of fifty (50) percent or more of the member who hired the superintendent.

We are convinced that our process of identifying your most important selection criteria, meaningfully involving stakeholders, screening candidates against the criteria, and working with you during the critical first year, will ensure your search results in quality leadership for education excellence.

# Price Match

McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C. will match the search fee for comparable services.

# Recruiting the Selected Candidate

McPherson & Jacobson consultants do not actively recruit administrators that have been placed in our searches. We would not have the retention rates for our placements if we recruited the administrators from our searches. Over the last five years, **over eighty-five percent** of administrators are in the position for which they were hired. **Almost sixty percent** of administrators are still in the position for which they were hired within the past ten years. **Forty percent** of the administrators selected by governing boards within the past 15 years continue in the position for which they were hired.

# Additional Services

In addition to the basic services provided, McPherson & Jacobson can provide at no additional charge the following services:

- Assist the board in revising and updating the superintendent's job description.
- Assist the board in developing an effective contract.
- Provide assistance in negotiating the contract with the finalist.
- Schedule an on-site visitation to the finalist's home district.

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# City of New Haven Risk Template (rev. 04/2022)

### Professional Services | Onsite Umbrella

Standard Professional Liability contracts

Contractor/Vendor shall agree to maintain in force at all times during the contract the following minimum coverage and shall name the City of New Haven as an Additional Insured (1) on a primary and non-contributory basis to all policies except Workers Compensation. All policies should also include a Waiver of Subrogation (1). Insurance shall be written with Carriers approved in the State of Connecticut and with a minimum AM Best's rating of "A-"VIII.

		Minimum Limits (dollar amount indicates required minimum)	Additional Insured (Y indicates	Waiver of Subrogation (Y indicates
		required minimum)	required)	required)
General Liability			- roquirou)	roquirou)
	Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000	Y	Υ
	Combined Aggregate	\$2,000,000	Υ	Υ
	Products/Completed	, , ,		
	Operations Aggregate	\$2,000,000	Y	Y
	Abuse & Molestation			
Auto Liability (includes all	Combined Single Limit			
owned, hired & non-owned	Each accident including	\$1,000,000	Y	Y
autos	endorsements			
Excess/Umbrella Liability		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
	Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000	Y	Y
	Combined Aggregate	\$1,000,000	Y	Y
Workers' Compensation &	Statutory Limits			
Employers' Liability (EL)	EL EAGU	<b>#</b> 500.000		
	EL EACH	\$500,000		Y
	EL DISEASE	\$500,000		Y
	EL POLICY	\$500,000		Y
Professional Liability		\$1,000,000		
. refectional Elability		Ψ.,σσσ,σσσ		
Pollution Liability				
Cyber Liability				
Medical Malpractice				
Garage Keepers Liability				
Drone Liability				

If any policy is written on a "Claims Made" basis, the policy must be continually renewed for a minimum of two years from the completion date of this contract. If the policy is replaced and/or the retroactive date is changed, then the expiring policy must be endorsed to extend the reporting period for claims for the policy in effect during the contract for two) years from the completion date.

Original, completed Certificates of Insurance must be presented to the City of New Haven via CTRAXX prior to contract issuance. Contractor/Vendor agrees to provide replacement/renewal certificates at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the policies. Should any of the polices be cancelled, limits reduced, or coverage altered, 30 days written notice must be given to the City.

### Notes

- (1) Additional Insured & Waiver of Subrogation boxes must be checked off on the COI.
- (2) If contractor/vendor will be working with children or serving youth under the age of 21, Abuse and Molestation coverage must be included.
- (3) City of New Haven is the Certificate holder and the additional insured.

City of New Haven 200 Orange Street Rm 301 New Haven, CT 06510