



# Bexley City Schools

## ENGAGE • EQUIP • EMPOWER

---

I am writing as the president of the Board of Education to give our community another update regarding our search for a new superintendent.

As you have likely seen from my communication last week, it was with deepest sorrow and regret that I accepted Ms. Abraham's withdrawal of her candidacy last Thursday. With the benefit of hindsight, I want to acknowledge that our process did not meet all community expectations, but I also want to assure you that as board members with over 20+ years of collective experience, we firmly believed we made the right decision in our unique circumstances.

As leaders of this district, we are now ready to take up this process again and restart our search to find a superintendent. We remain dedicated to, and focused on, finding and hiring the best possible candidate for this key position at Bexley Schools.

Per previous protocol, I asked our treasurer, Mr. Smith, to provide the board with information on firms that could conduct the search on our behalf. We met in a [public meeting on Saturday morning](#) to review those firms and have now selected three finalist firms that will be interviewed at a special meeting this Thursday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m. It will be live (and also recorded) on Zoom, and I encourage everyone to join us.

The board is asking each of the finalist firms -- Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, K-12 Business Consulting, and Ray and Associates -- to come prepared this Thursday to show our board how their process will 1.) include the voice and opinions of all our community 2.) be well communicated 3.) reflect our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and 4.) be cost-effective. I anticipate that the board will make a final choice of firms at the end of that meeting.

Once hired, as is best practice, that search firm will lead the process. As professionals who are experts in this area, they are best suited to conduct the collection of data from our stakeholders and seek qualified candidates for our review. The firm will offer guidance and direction from the time of their selection through the final contract negotiations with the superintendent candidate selected by the board.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage us all as we move forward to attract the best candidate to our district, to demonstrate the grace, dignity, and thoughtful inclusiveness that makes Bexley the extraordinary district it is. I want to assure you the board is committed to this process and looks forward to a positive, thoughtful, and engaged search as we select our next superintendent.

Best,

Marlee Snowdon

President, Bexley Board of Education