

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

### WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

The Watauga County Board of Education is seeking a superintendent to lead the Watauga County Schools. Prior experience or a doctoral degree is preferred but not required. The individual chosen will be required to either presently live in or relocate to Watauga County.

Candidates should demonstrate a strong ability in: (1) instructional and administrative leadership; (2) partnering with community members, school personnel and government officials; (3) public relations; (4) administration and organization; (5) long and short-term planning; (6) budgeting; (7) personnel management and staff development; (8) facility management; and (9) community involvement.

Watauga County has a population of approximately 54,000 people and serves over 4,600 students in eight K-8 schools spread throughout the County and one comprehensive high school that also houses an innovative and cooperative high school. These schools represent the future and pride of Watauga County. The area's hallmarks include a notable combination of businesses, amenities and other opportunities that allow its citizens to enjoy a high quality of life with the peace and natural wonder that only this region can provide. Additionally, Appalachian State University and Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute are located in Watauga County.

Located in the Appalachian Mountain range about one and one-half hours northeast of Asheville and the same distance west of Winston-Salem, Watauga County is rural and mountainous. Watauga County is well-known for its immense natural beauty, Christmas tree farms and unique mountain heritage. Skiing is a favorite past-time in the winter with three-state-of-the-art ski resorts – Appalachian Ski Mountain, Beech Mountain Resort and Sugar Mountain Resort. Activities include hiking, fly fishing, biking, golfing, rafting, tubing, and art galleries to name a few of the numerous activities you can participate in throughout the year. For the more adventurous, you can cross a mile-high swinging bridge at Grandfather Mountain or zipline one of the longest ziplines on the East Coast. Watauga County is a multi-layered, diverse community: in addition to prosperous urban areas and advanced academics, the County has a prominent percentage of people living below the poverty level. We combine an appreciation for opportunities for growth with our pride in mountain heritage and traditions.

The Watauga County Schools are governed by an elected five-member board. The Watauga County Board of Education is consistently recognized as progressive leaders in the community who enjoy a strong relationship with county government and the citizens of Watauga County. Watauga County School students consistently outperform their statewide peers on the state's required tests of academic proficiency. Students at the high school rank highly throughout the state, having recently achieved the second highest SAT scores out of the 115 school districts in NC. Much of this can be attributed to the outstanding quality of teachers. The faculty demonstrates exceptional caring and commitment in their work, backed up by strong professional credentials. A higher percentage of the faculty has completed an advanced degree than have teachers statewide and have 92 teachers with National Board Certification (the highest professional credential available in the profession).

Applications must be received by no later than **March 1, 2023**. **Electronic versions of the application are available by clicking on this link:** [Application](#) Completed applications should be mailed or emailed to Paula Lovitt at [paula@csedlaw.com](mailto:paula@csedlaw.com). If you have any questions please contact John Henning, Board Attorney, Campbell Shatley, PLLC, 674 Merrimon Ave., Ste. 210, Asheville, NC 28804 via email [John@csedlaw.com](mailto:John@csedlaw.com).

All applications will be kept confidential. Candidates must be prepared to take office July 1, 2023.