

An invitation to apply...

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



HOME OF THE WILDCATS



Message from the BOE...



December 2016

Schodack Central School District is seeking an innovative, community-minded and student-focused educational leader to become superintendent of one of the top small school districts in New York's Capital Region.

Ranked in the top 20 regionally by The Business Review for five straight years, Schodack CSD offers a strong and diverse academic program that is competitive with much larger school districts.

Schodack CSD is a welcoming, tight-knit community that fosters innovation, rigor and opportunities for all students. The community is one of the district's strongest assets and incredibly supportive of its schools.

The Board of Education seeks a school administrator who is passionate about education and embraces the district's focus to create student opportunities through inventive teaching methods, particularly those that create engaged learning.

The Board of Education will offer a competitive salary of no less than \$145,000 with an attractive benefits package based on professional qualifications and record of accomplishment.

Questar III BOCES is assisting the Board of Education with its search process, which engages all stakeholders in the community.

To learn more about the Schodack Central School District, please visit:

- www.schodack.k12.ny.us
- www.facebook.com/SchodackCSD
- www.twitter.com/SchodackCSD

SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

About the District...

Schodack Central School District is a rural public school district located in Rensselaer County, approximately 10 miles southeast of Albany, New York.

The District currently uses three buildings and educates approximately 900 students K-12. A \$20.1 million Capital Project, to be completed in 2018, will move the district to a Gr. 7-12 and K-6 model, transforming its High School into a state-of-the-art Gr. 7-12 school with an enriched and supported emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) curriculum.

Community outreach and program-focused planning went into the design of the Capital Project to create a student-focused school that will support the outstanding academic programs offered by faculty and staff.

The District's Middle School is being preserved and rented for community use and the first of its kind incubator space for startup companies. The incubator space is a designated Start-Up NY site affiliated with Hudson Valley Community College.

While relatively small, Schodack offers students opportunities comparable to much larger districts by embracing creative educational initiatives. It pioneered Distance Learning, uses videoconferencing to connect students with authors, museums and schools from around the country, offers online and blended learning, and is on a path to be 100% digital by 2019. Most importantly, the district is transforming instruction and teaching pedagogy through the use of technology.

Schodack believes in offering a rich and diverse array of opportunities for its children. This includes rigorous academic courses, AP and dual enrollment college courses, and CTE and other programs offered through BOCES. Students enjoy interscholastic sports, visual and performing arts, co-curricular activities, and giving back to their community through service. Schodack wants to enable its children to explore, experience, and learn.

A hallmark of Schodack CSD is a commitment to continuous improvement, a willingness to try what is new and different, and a belief that "we make a difference every day in the life of every child."



Who Should Apply...



Schodack Central School District seeks a school administrator who is passionate about education and embraces the district's focus to explore innovative instruction to create opportunities for students. The superintendent will work in partnership with the Board of Education and administrative team to lead the district's transition to a K-6 and Gr. 7-12 school model in 2018.

Our superintendent must be an experienced leader and a certified New York State school district administrator. Candidates must:

- be student-oriented and enjoy visiting classrooms to observe first-hand how students are learning;
- engage not only staff and students but all community stakeholders in an approachable manner to create a student-centered, developmentally supportive and academically rich environment;
- embrace creative teaching methods, particularly in areas of technology that engage students;
- possess outstanding communication skills and an ability to articulate an educational vision and the district's goals and mission;
- provide inspirational and ethical leadership and attract and retain a strong and committed teaching staff and administrative team;
- understand the financial challenges of a small school district and work closely with the district's business official to advance innovative ways to create and expand opportunities for students.

TIMELINE:

December 28, 2016 Deadline for applications

February 2017 Interviews

April 2017 Board appoints new superintendent

July 1, 2017 Start date of new superintendent

APPLICATION:

Candidates should submit the following materials by **December 28, 2016**:

- Letter of interest
- Completed application and current resume
- Placement folder and academic transcripts
- Copies of administrative certification(s)

SEND MATERIALS TO:

Dr. Gladys I. Cruz, *District Superintendent*

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SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Highlights...

Schodack Central School District is an innovative, student-centered district which provides competitive academic rigor with a caring and vested community. Highlights include:

- U.S. News and World Report on College Readiness ranked Maple Hill High School highest in the county and second in Questar III BOCES.
- Maple Hill High School offers a robust academic program including 11 Advanced Placement courses (with 32% of students enrolled), 9 College in the High School Courses, and a Career Exploration Internship Program.
- The district started a 1-to-1 Chromebook program for students in grades 7-12 this year.
- Castleton Elementary School has an acclaimed library program which is integrated into school curriculum. Students often Skype with authors, leading to a visit by Newbery Award winning author Kwame Alexander in 2015.
- All three schools embrace Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM). An annual STEAM Day engages Middle School students in hands-on learning with the help of local businesses and colleges.
- Schodack CSD is the only district in New York to start a business incubator program that offers start-up businesses unused space in exchange for providing hands-on learning opportunities for students.
- The community has passed every school budget, Capital Project and referendum for the past nine years.
- The graduation rate for the Class of 2016 was 98.5 percent. Approximately 90 percent of graduating seniors pursued higher education.
- The Maple Hill boys varsity soccer team won a Section II title in 2016. Students in cross country and swimming advanced to states as well.
- Students in the district's impressive music program have received numerous accolades and perform in school and regional concerts.
- The Schodack Wildcat Foundation is a registered non-profit organization that supports the district's academic programs.
- The district is a leader in clean energy. It was one of the first districts in the region to have solar panels installed on school building roofs and purchase propane-powered school buses.
- The district embraces social media to connect with its community, including a district Facebook page (first in the county) and Twitter accounts for each school building.

ACADEMICS

Schodack CSD is incredibly proud of the academic achievements of its students. The district's school report card can be viewed online at <http://data.nysed.gov> under "Schodack Central School District" in Rensselaer County.



About the Community...



One of Schodack Central School District's strongest assets is its community.

Located 10 miles southeast of Albany on the shores of the Hudson River, Schodack CSD is the heart of its tight-knit rural community.

Whether it's supporting new educational initiatives such as 1-to-1 technology for students or filling a gym for a district charity basketball game benefiting the local food pantry, Schodack CSD enjoys enormous support from its community.

The welcoming community truly has a home-town feel which enjoys coming together for the annual community fair at Castleton Elementary and supporting the local Kiwanis through its chicken barbecues. Residents are quick to volunteer for a community project to improve the school's softball and baseball fields or to help out in all three school buildings.

The district is located in rural Rensselaer County, a short drive to cities such as Albany, Troy and Saratoga Springs which offer numerous activities and diverse restaurants.

The region offers sports teams including The ValleyCats minor league baseball team and successful college basketball and hockey programs. Saratoga Racecourse offers some of the most renowned horse racing in the country at its historic track in Saratoga Springs.

The area hosts national music acts at venues such as the Times Union Center and Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady features large Broadway productions including in recent years, The Lion King and The Book of Mormon.

Located just an hour south of New York State's vast Adirondack Park, the region offers stunning mountains, lakes and rivers for all types of outdoor recreation. The area is also steeped in history including sites such as the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site and Saratoga National Historical Park.

Schodack CSD is conveniently located to major metropolitan areas as well, including New York City and Boston within a three-hour drive.

District Facts...

SCHOOLS:

- 3 school buildings (Castleton Elementary, Maple Hill Middle and Maple Hill High School)

STUDENT ENROLLMENT:

- Approximately 900 students

STAFF:

- 92 Teachers
- 25 Teaching Assistants (full- and part-time)
- 68 Support Staff
- 6 Administrators

DISTRICT SIZE:

- The district includes 34 square miles, including much of the town of Schodack and a small part of Stuyvesant.

FINANCES:

2016-2017 School Budget..... \$22,075,681

PER PUPIL COST*:

	General Education	Special Education
Schodack.....	\$10,430	\$26,758
Similar Districts.....	\$10,677	\$30,207

* Per 2014-2015 New York State Report Card Fiscal Supplement



Mission Statement...



It is the mission of the Schodack Central Schools to develop our students to become active, reflective, creative learners. In our schools, they will engage in rewarding work and practice behaviors that are intelligent in both an academic and a practical sense. Students will develop the attitudes, skills and understandings that will allow them to fulfill their potential and to function successfully in their individual and social roles.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Michael Hiser, *President*
Michael Charsky, *Vice President*
Vicki Adler
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www.schodack.k12.ny.us/

www.facebook.com/SchodackCSD

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Schodack Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, sex, age or disability as defined by law, and is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Produced in cooperation with Questar III's Communications Service.