

Bessemer City Schools



CSFOSEARCH



Application Window: September 3 - 16, 2024 **Interviews:** September 20 - Sept 24, 2024

CSFO Start Date: October 2024

About Bessemer Community & City Schools

Named for inventor and engineer Sir Henry Bessemer, it was founded on the site of Fort Jonesboro in 1887 by Henry F. DeBardeleben, a local coal and iron baron who built the first steel plant in the area. Bessemer is located in southwestern Jefferson County in the heart of central Alabama. It is nestled in the Jones Valley at the end of the foothills of the Appalachian Chain and is the home to some 27,000 residents. It sits strategically in Central Alabama and is the hub of western Jefferson County.

Bessemer is a city of economic growth and development. Our city is home to several major industries and companies. Companies such as Amazon, Steyr Arms USA, BLOX, Milo's Tea and Dollar General have facilities in our city to take advantage of our great location. Where Bessemer once thrived through iron ore manufacturing, the city is now home to a diverse blend of industry. And there is still room to grow!

Bessemer is home to great restaurants, awesome recreational amenities and a distinguished list of famous natives.



The purpose of Bessemer City Schools is to educate and empower our students to successfully compete in a global society.

The vision of Bessemer City Schools is to serve as a model of excellence by preparing all students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be successful in their unique endeavors.

Bessemer City Schools places a strong emphasison on its academic achievements, extracurricular involvement and athletic programs. We boast a variety of sports and clubs that have achieved significant success at regional and state levels.

By focusing on academic excellence, extracurricular involvement, and student well- being, our system has created a nurturing and empowering environment for all students.

<u>Schools</u>

- Abrams Elementary
- Charles F. Hard Elementary
- Greenwood Elementary
- New Horizon Alternative School
- Jonesboro Elementary
- Westhills Elementary
- Bessemer City Middle School
- Bessemer Center for Technology
- Bessemer City High School

Looking at the Numbers

Schools

High School 1

Middle School 1

Elementary Schools 5

Career Center 1

Alternative 1

Transportation

Average Daily Ridership 850

Number of Bus Routes 33

Demographics

White 2.1%

Black 78.7%

Hispanic 16.2%

Other 3%

Free/Reduced Lunch

100%

Total Enrollment 2,972

Personnel

Certified **260**

Classified 180

Total Employees 440

Financial

Total Budget: \$21.3 million

Instruction 61%

Administrative 7%

Capital Outlay 7%

Other 25%

State
42%

Fed.
34%

Per-Pupil Expenditure: \$13,829



School System Snapshot





View School System Snapshot for Bessemer City Schools.



Qualifications and Duties

A local board of education shall appoint a chief school finance officer that meets the qualifications and certification requirements established by the State Department of Education and Act No. 2006-196.

290-2-5-.03 Qualifications for CSFO

An officer or employee assigned the duties of a chief school finance officer of the local board of education after June 30, 2003 shall have at least three years of experience in a business-related field, meet the requirements for a certified chief school finance officer specified in Rule 290-25-.04

Qualifications consist of one or more of the following:

- (a) Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university with a concentration in a business-related curriculum (accounting, finance, business administration, etc.) including at least 9 semester hours in accounting;
- (b) Hold an MBA or other graduate degree in a business-related field from a regionally accredited institution;
- (c) Is a Certified Public Accountant; or
- (d) Hold a baccalaureate degree in a concentration other than a business related curriculum but has at least 24 semester hours of business-related courses, with at least 18 hours in the following courses (or course equivalent):
 - 1. Principles of Accounting I (3 semester hours).
 - 2. Principles of Accounting II (3 semester hours).
 - 3. Intermediate Accounting (3 semester hours).
 - 4. Cost Accounting (3 semester hours).
 - 5. Governmental Accounting (3 semester hours).
 - 6. Financial Management (3 semester hours).
 - 7. General Management (3 semester hours).
 - 8. Business (or Organizational) Communications (3 semester hours).

Alabama law requires school boards to have a bondable chief school financial officer (CSFO) who works under the direct supervision of the local superintendent of education but shall have a fiduciary responsibility to the local board of education.

290-2-5-.02 Duties and Responsibilities of CSFO

The chief school finance officer is responsible for a financial management system that ensures the proper accountability for funds administered by a local board of education and its schools. The financial management system shall reflect the financial condition of the local board of education on a timely and accurate basis. The local board of education shall provide the resources necessary for the chief school finance officer to operate an effective financial management system.

An effective financial management system will require the chief school finance officer and other personnel to:

- 1. Maintain an accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and governmental accounting standards.
- 2. Maintain a school payroll accounting system in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- 3. Prepare financial reports annually and at other times as requested by the local school superintendent, the local board of education, and other agencies.
- 4. Prepare reports as required by other agencies.
- 5. Maintain an adequate system of internal controls including property and inventory accounting.
- 6. Maintain a sound system of cash management.
- 7. Maintain a sound accounting system in the individual local schools.
- 8. Maintain a system of contracting and purchasing procedures.
- 9. Coordinate the preparation of the annual budget and any amendments as appropriate.
- 10. Maintain the financial operations of the child nutrition program and other special programs in accordance state and federal requirements.
- Carry out assigned responsibilities in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and with applicable rules and regulations.
- 12. Perform other duties as may be assigned to the position by law, by the local school superintendent and local board of education, and by rules and regulations of the State Board of Education and the local government.
- 13. Attend board meetings and report to the board as directed by the Board of Education and Superintendent.

Search for a Visionary Leader



The Bessemer City Board of Education is seeking an experienced leader to serve as its next Chief School Financial Officer and work efficiently with the superintendent and board in building and maintaining a high-performing school system.

Desired skills and traits:

- Considerable knowledge of school laws, regulations, and School Board policies and procedures as they apply to finance and payroll services
- Candidates must also demonstrate a strong commitment to ethics and professionalism.
- They should have the ability to direct the work of subordinates in a manner conducive to efficiency and high morale.
- ✓ Must possess the ability to work effectively with the local superintendent and local board of education to assist and facilitate the accomplishment of school system goals and objectives in both the short-term and long-term goals.

Salary

The salary as determined by the Bessemer **City Board of Education**

- **Terms of Employment**
- **12 Months (240 days)**

Application Process

The Alabama Association of School Business Officials is assisting Bessemer City Board of Education in the posting for their CSFO position. *All applications will be taken* through Bessemer City Schools HireTrue platform which is www.bessk12.org/employmentcategorized

If this is your first time applying via HireTrue, please create a user account and password. Next, log in, complete the online profile, choose to apply for this search and upload a cover letter, resume and transcripts.

If you have previously applied and already have a HireTrue account, simply log in, choose to apply for this search.

The board may interview some or all of the applicants. State law requires that these interviews be public.

SEARCH TIMELINE

- Application deadline: September 16, 2024
- **Interviews: September 20 24, 2024**
- CSFO Start Date: October 2024

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